



MINUTES

*of a meeting of the College Council held
at 1.10 pm on Tuesday 19 September 2023*

There were present the Master, Dr Beauregard, Ms MacDonald, Mr Matheson, Mr Nicholson, Dr O'Donnell, Dr O'Sullivan, Ms Phillips, Dr Reinbold, Dr Sewell, the JCR President, Ms Elina Smith and the MCR President, Mr Joel Kandiah. Dr Woodford was in attendance as secretary.

UNRESERVED BUSINESS

- cc2023.176 Starred Items*
Council confirmed that starred items should not be discussed.
- cc2023.177 Statement of Conflicts of Interest*
It was confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest arising from the Unreserved Agenda concerning any of those persons present.
- cc2023.178 Apologies for Absence*
Apologies were received from Dr V. Young, Dr Bardhan and the JCR Treasurer, Mr Ben Harper. The position of MCR Treasurer was vacant.
- cc2023.179 Minutes of the Unreserved Council meeting held on 11 July 2023*
The minutes were received and signed.
- cc2023.180 Matters arising*
There were no matters arising.
- cc2023.181 Investment Committee – Unreserved minutes*
The unreserved minutes of a meeting of the Investment Committee held on 20 July 2023 were received and noted (CP2023/80).
- cc2023.182 Financial Outturn 2022-23*
The Bursar reported that the provisional figures before audit for the management accounts show that the overall deficit had fallen slightly against the budget, standing now at £0.75m, which compares favourably to the deficit for 2021-22 of £1.54m. The operating cash is £0.83m better than the re-forecast (CP2023/81). The Bursar also noted that income indications for 2023-24 so far were positive: the volume of conference income over the summer has exceeded recent years, and income is expected to be increased as a result of the recent review of prices; accommodation income will match expectations when setting the budget; targets for academic fee income have been met. The College has just been notified of its

largest ever legacy, a bequest of £1.5m from R. Harvey (SE 1962). Costs, however, remained a challenge in the inflationary environment. Council noted an impairment in the accounts in relation to 1 Selwyn Gardens but pointed out that its refurbishment added long-term value as a result of its high environmental standards.

cc2023.183

Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and College Buildings

The Bursar reported that the maintenance team has reviewed the possibility of RAAC in College and has noted in terms of risk assessment that Cripps Court and the Bar/Harrison Room infill corner were built during 1950-90s when RAAC was in use. However, both of these buildings were extensively refurbished during the 2010s, minimizing the risk, given that the works undertaken were sufficiently intrusive to expect to identify any failing materials. No RAAC had been identified. A watching brief would be maintained.

cc2023.184

Committee on Committees

The list of committees and other appointments for 2023-24 were noted (CP2023/82). Chairs were reminded that all committees of the Council and the Governing Body are required to review their terms of reference in their Michaelmas Term meeting.

cc2023.185

Report on Admissions

The Senior Tutor reported that postgraduate admissions had been made more challenging because of the Marking and Assessment Boycott. There would be a slightly larger cohort of postgraduates than usual. The College's accommodation is almost fully occupied. The very small number of empty rooms which remain available will be filled in mid-year by new doctoral students starting in January and, on the undergraduate side, by the anticipated return of intermitting students. Any further remaining rooms will be set aside for short-term rental for part-time postgraduate students. Dr Beauregard reported as Admissions Tutor that undergraduate admissions exceeded all the Office for Student targets, with 116 first-year undergraduates. In December 2023, during the period advertised in the College diary, undergraduate admissions would be run in person for the first time since 2019. Thanks were extended to the Tutorial and Admissions Offices, the Undergraduate Admissions Team and Professor Webb, Admissions Tutor for Postgraduate Students.

cc2023.186

JCR and MCR Freshers' Plans

The plans for student-led freshers' induction events were noted and the College induction programme circulated (CP2023/83). It was noted that the MCR had added some research talks in response to student feedback.

cc2023.187

UCU Industrial Action

The Senior Tutor reported that the Marking and Assessment boycott has been lifted, with all except two Faculties (History and English) intending to publish class lists by 16 October in time for students to graduate (in absence where they celebrated the completion of their studies in June) at the October degree congregation. The possible impact of a proposed UCU supervision boycott was not known at that moment. Council endorsed the Senior Tutor's plan to discuss with Directors of Studies measures to be taken if necessary to mitigate the impact on undergraduates. Post-meeting note: the UCU boycott of undergraduate supervision was called off on 4 October 2023.

cc2023.188

Any Other Unreserved Business

- i. The Vice Master noted that on its completion, the Master's portrait would be unveiled and then displayed in the Fellows' parlour until it is hung in the Hall on Mr Mosey's retirement.
- ii. Mr Nicholson reported that a telephone campaign would be held in December.
- iii. The Master updated Council on the College plaques to commemorate Professor Chadwick and the Revd John Sweet, which have been ordered by Dr Millbank Robinson.