

Sidney Sussex College

The Minutes of
COLLEGE COUNCIL
Held in William Mong Hall
on 30 November 2022 at 2pm

In attendance:

Senior members:

The Master, Acting Vice-Master, Senior Tutor, Bursar, Ms Baskerville, Professor Eilstrup-Sangiovanni, Dr Fulda, Dr Groom, Dr Lambert, Dr Öner, Dr Ranasinghe, Dr Stasch

Student representatives:

Ms Horvat Menih (MCR President), Ms Lawson-Todd (JCR Vice-President), Mr Lu (JCR President), Mr Robertson (Student Representative)

Also present:

Ms Adams (College Registrar / Council Secretary), Ms Morgan (JCR President 2022-23)

UNRESERVED BUSINESS

1. INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

1.1 Introduction and apologies for absence

The Master welcomed Ms Morgan, the incoming JCR President, as an observer.

Apologies were received from the Vice-Master, Dr Bordin, Professor Garcia-Mayoral and Professor Reynolds.

1.2 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was **approved**.

1.3 Declarations of Interests

The Master, Ms Horvat Menih, Ms Lawson-Todd, Mr Lu and Mr Robertson had a conflict in Item 2.6g, June Event 2023 as likely recipients of free tickets, but Council **agreed** there was no requirement to withdraw.

1.4 Confirmation of the minutes of the unreserved business of the Meeting of Council on 9 November 2022 (CC.2022.11.30.1.4)

The minutes were **confirmed**.

a) **Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda**

i. **Head of Student Wellbeing**

Mrs Danielle Elliott had been appointed Head of Student Wellbeing from 30 January 2023. Council thanked all those involved in the successful appointment.

2. **REPORTS FROM OFFICERS**

2.1 **Master's Business**

a) **Inter-collegiate business**

The Master outlined the inter-collegiate business which had taken place since the previous Council meeting:

Bursars' Committee

- It had been agreed to support in principle the addition of an initial payment for new supervisors from 2023-24 which would be paid for training of new supervisors; and
- Cambridge University Press and Assessment had withdrawn from providing admissions assessments with effect from the 2024 admissions round. Colleges' Standing Committee had established a working group to consider future alternatives..

2.2 **Senior Tutor's Business**

a) **Arrangements for Examinations in College: Update**

Council, noting that the lighting would be improved beforehand, **agreed** that the Knox Shaw Room be reserved as an exam room during Easter Term 2023.

2.3 **Bursar's Business**

a) **Environmental Sustainability Outline Strategy**

(CC.2022.11.30.2.3a)

The Bursar presented the outline strategy:

- consultants had completed first phase of analysis of the overall carbon footprint, with a focus on reduction of emissions produced either directly by, or purchased on behalf of, the College (Scope 1 and 2 emissions);
- the review provided a basis for a decarbonisation strategy through building development works, plant and infrastructure works, and moving to renewable energy systems;
- the ambition was to reduce Scope 1 and 2 emissions to zero by 2048, in alignment with the University's aims;
- as part of the next phase of work, the consultants would calculate the expected operational and financial impacts of the programme both as proposed and if the College brought forward its deadline;

- the most pressing issue was the replacement of the Blundell Boiler, for which the recommended solution was a phased implementation of heat pumps with a gas boiler in the short term.

Council **noted** the outline environmental sustainability strategy.

b) Power Outages Contingency Planning (CC.2022.11.30.2.3b)

The Bursar presented contingency plans for the unlikely event of rolling three-hour power outages, as highlighted by the National Grid as its worst-case scenario for the winter months. The impact of power cuts on the lifts, and support for students with disabilities, would be reflected in the plans.

Action: Bursar

Council **noted** the plans and thanked the Domestic Bursar for their preparation.

c) Risk Register: Horizon Scan 2023 (CC.2022.11.30.2.3c)

The Bursar presented an overview of issues which could become risks or opportunities for the College in 2023. Council asked for the inclusion of health and safety risks to College members as a result of security breaches.

Council **noted** the horizon scan and thanked the Registrar for its preparation. The risks identified will be communicated to the risk owners for consideration at the reviews by appropriate Committees.

Action: Registrar

d) **Appeals and Charitable Donations (CC.2022.11.30.2.3d)

Council **approved** the recommendations of the Appeals Committee to give £300 each to Cambridge Student Community Action and to Cambridge and Ely Child Contact Centres.

2.4 Development Director's Business

There was no business.

2.5 Steward's Business

Council **noted** that the Master-Elect and his wife would be attending the Foundation Feast.

2.6 Student Business

a) June Event 2023 Proposal: Update (CC.2022.11.30.2.6a)

Council, having received confirmation of appointments to the June Event Committee, and of regular information sharing with the Domestic Bursar, and noting that no objections had been received

from the City Council, **endorsed** the proposal for a June Event on Saturday 17 June 2023.

Council asked to receive the names and roles of all June Event Committee members in the Lent Term progress report.

Action: June Event Co-Presidents

**b) Student Bar (CC.2022.11.30.2.6b.i)
(CC.2022.11.30.2.6b.ii)**

The JCR President reported that constructive conversations between students, the Domestic Bursar and Senior Tutor had taken place to focus on security for the student bar. The Bar Manager and the Domestic Bursar were discussing how to prevent large numbers of students from other colleges crowding the bar, causing disruption and fire safety risks. The Dean intended to circulate a reminder to all students to be mindful of their responsibilities not to grant entrance to large groups of external visitors.

Council **noted** the Open Letter of 13 November 2022 and the Joint Statement of 21 November 2022, and reaffirmed the College's commitment to the bar being a safe, legislation-compliant student-run facility for the benefit of Sidney students and their invited guests only.

3. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

3.1 Music Committee

**a) *Unreserved minutes of the meeting of 14 October 2022
(CC.2022.11.30.3.1a)**

Council **noted** the minutes.

**i. *Director of Music's Report 2021-22 (CC.2022.11.30.3.1a.i)
Council **noted** the report.**

**ii. *SSCMS Report 2021-22 (CC.2022.11.30.3.1a.ii)
Council **noted** the report.**

3.2 Investment Committee

**a) Unreserved minutes of the meeting of 2 November 2022
(CC.2022.11.30.3.2a)**

Council **agreed** to invest £6.5 million in the Cambridge University Endowment Fund (CUEF) over three quarters and **noted** that, as part of the onboarding process for investment in CUEF, publicly available information would be used to confirm that no Trustees were 'politically-exposed persons'.

Council **noted** the minutes.

- i. ****Investment Policy Appendix 3 (CC.2022.11.30.3.2a.i)**
Council **approved** the updated Appendix 3: Investment Policy Statement – June 2022 Data.

3.3 Student Wellbeing Initiative Governance Board

- a) ***Unreserved minutes of the meeting of 3 November 2022 (CC.2022.11.30.3.3a)**
Council **noted** the minutes.

3.4 IT Steering Group

- a) **Unreserved minutes of the meeting of 10 November 2022 (CC.2022.11.30.3.4a)**
Council **noted** the minutes, in particular that IT systems were designed to ‘fall over gracefully’ within a few minutes in the event of a power cut, and that options were being explored for maintaining WiFi for longer periods during power outages.

3.5 Building and Environment Committee

- a) ***Unreserved minutes of the meeting of 14 November 2022 (CC.2022.11.30.3.5a)**
Council **noted** the minutes.

3.6 Staff Liaison Committee

- a) ***Unreserved minutes of the meeting of 17 November 2022 (CC.2022.11.30.3.6a)**
Council **noted** the minutes.

3.7 Finance and Needs Committee

- a) ***Unreserved minutes of the meeting of 21 November 2022 (CC.2022.11.30.3.7a)**
Council **noted** the minutes.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

4.1 Any other business

The Master on behalf of Council thanked Mr Lu, JCR President, for his contributions to the Council during his tenure.

4.2 Date of next meeting

Wednesday 25 January 2023 at 2pm in the William Mong Hall.