

Sidney Sussex College
Unreserved business minutes of College Council on 24 January 2024

Present:

Ex officio members	Master, Acting Vice-Master, Senior Tutor, Bursar
Elected members	Professor Garcia-Mayoral, Dr Groom, Dr Ranasinghe, Dr Sunnall, Dr Wilson-Lee
Student members	Ms Hygate (Student Representative), Ms Mahmood (MCR President), Mr Nicholas (JCR President), Ms Woods (JCR Vice-President)
In attendance	College Registrar (Council Secretary)

Introductory business

401 Apologies for absence

Professor Biagini, Dr Bordin and Dr Lambert were on leave. Apologies were received from Dr Doran.

402 Approval of agenda

The agenda was **approved**. It was noted that feedback on the new format would be welcomed.

403 Declarations of Interests

None declared.

404 Unreserved business minutes of 29 November 2023 (CC.2324/404)
Confirmed by circulation.

405 Matters arising not elsewhere on the agenda (CC.2324/405)
The update was **noted**; additionally:

- Council **agreed** to remind the Muniments Room Standing Committee of its October 2023 request for details of security and the inventory of all College collections; **Action: Registrar**
- Council **noted** that the Statutes & Ordinances Committee would be considering the external feedback received on safeguarding measures in the absence of a formal complaint; and
- Council **discussed** the Admissions Director's draft response on behalf of the College, and **agreed** that the Admissions Director submit an updated version taking into account Council's feedback.

Action: Admissions Director

Decision items

406 Social Media Policy (CC.2324/406)
The policy was **approved**. Council **invited** the JCR and MCR Committees to review their social media policies and report back to Council on what arrangements they had adopted. **Action: JCR President / MCR President**

407 Multi-Faith Prayer and Reflection Room (CC.2324/407)
Council **agreed** to establish a working group, including the Chaplain, Head of Student Wellbeing and student representation, to explore the possibility of a

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multi-faith prayer and reflection room and to bring forward a specific proposal for further Council consideration.

408 Flag Flying Schedule 2024 (CC.2324/408)

The schedule was **agreed**, subject to amending the final day of February; and Council **noted** that:

- installation of new ironmongery to make access to the flagpole compliant with modern safety regulations had been delayed while planning permission was obtained, but should be installed in time for flying the College flag on 14 February; and
- flying the Rainbow Flag on 1 February would depend on weather.

409 Freedom of Information Act Annual Compliance Report and Disclosure Log 2023 (CC.2324/409)

The report was **noted**. Council **agreed** to publish the Disclosure Log on the College website and asked that more detailed records of staff time taken to respond to individual requests be kept in future.

Information items

410 Intercollegiate business and other relevant issues

Heads of House

- The University's revised Personal Relationships Policy was nearly ready for approval, after which the College would consider whether any changes to its policy would be required

Senior Tutors' Committee

- An Undergraduate Workload Working Group had been established, arising from the Justice 4 Supervisors campaign;
- The Committee received a presentation on the implementation of the University Mental Health Strategy including proposals for better integration between the upper levels of the stepped model and the NHS.

411 Data Protection Compliance Report 2023 and Data Protection Officer's Accountability Report 2023 (CC.2324/411)

The Registrar and Admissions Director confirmed that there was no pattern to the increase in subject access requests from current or former students for their interview scores. The reports were **noted**.

412 Development Quarterly Report 2023-24 (2nd Quarter) (CC.2324/412)

The Master reported that an unexpected £1.2 million legacy was likely to be received from an alumnus, which would factor into a future quarterly report. The report was **noted** and Council asked for additional detail in further reports, such as year-to-date, average quarterly numbers for the past five years.
Action: Acting Development Director

413 JCR MT23 Report and LT24 Plans (CC.2324/413)

Council **noted** the report and that, after historic underspends, all officers were being encouraged to spend their budgets. Council members asked that details of sports fixtures be communicated more widely, including on the website.

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Action: JCR President / MCR President / Head of Communications

- 414 MCR MT23 Report and LT24 Plans (CC.2324/414)**
Council **noted** the report and that a keynote speaker was sought for the MCR Conference in March.
- 415 May Ball 2024 Update (CC.2324/415)**
The theme would be unveiled at the Formal Hall tonight. The May Ball would be one of the most affordable such events in Cambridge. The report was **noted**.
- 416 Use of College Seal**
Noted:
- Transfer – Sale of Adnams B Shares
- 417 Development Committee 23 November 2023 (CC.2324/417)**
Received.
- 418 Library Committee 30 November 2023 (CC.2324/418)**
Received.
- 419 Any other business**
None.
- 420 Date of next meeting**
Wednesday 21 February 2024 in the William Mong Hall following the meeting of the Governing Body.