

# KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

At a meeting of the Council held  
on Tuesday 4 February 2024 at 14:00 in the Audit Room

Present:	Provost	In	Vice Provost
	Dr Good	Attendance:	Senior Tutor
	Dr Russell		First Bursar
	Dr Sarkovic		Domus Bursar
	Professor Giannitsarou		Mr Warner*
	Ms Headen		
	Professor Foley		Registrar
	Professor Gross Ruse-Khan		
	Mr Ajanaku*		Ms Mueller-Koegler (King's Affair Chair), Ms Welbrock (2024 King's Affair Chair)- Item 52 only.

\*Open Business

## 45. **Apologies for Absence**

Professor Bullock and Professor Hall apologised for their absence. Dr Knox was on leave.

The election of KCGS representatives by the College's graduate students remains in progress.

### **OPEN BUSINESS**

## 46. **Declarations of Interest**

None.

## 47. **Minutes of Open Business 21 January 2025**

Approved.

## 48. **Matters arising**

At its previous meeting Council had queried whether they were required to complete safeguarding training. The Registrar had made enquiries and explained that this requirement had been initiated in approximately 2021 on the suggestion of the First Bursar. Council asked the College's Safeguarding Officer (Welfare Tutor) and Deputy Safeguarding Officer (Head of HR) to consider whether this requirement was appropriate.

## 49. **Oral reports**

None.

## 50. **Council Timetable – Open Matters**

No Lent Term papers required. Report on Restricted funds (Michaelmas term) not yet received.

51. **Council Action List – Open Matters**

Paper on chestnut railings in agenda.

Remaining actions due to be completed in Lent term:

- Provide updated Hackathon proposals (E-Lab Directors)
- Return revised Unacceptable and Unreasonable Behaviour Policy (Domus Bursar)
- Submit list of all current student exchange schemes (Senior Tutor)

**Strategic**

None.

**Routine**

52. **King’s Affair 2025 Proposal**

Ms Mueller-Koegler (King’s Affair Chair) and Ms Welbrock (2024 King’s Affair Chair) attended to speak to this item. Proposals for the 2025 event had first been submitted to Council in Michaelmas term, at which time Council had invited the Committee to undertake further preliminary planning before resubmitting their proposal to Council.

Ms Mueller-Koegler highlighted changes made to the proposals first submitted to Council in Michaelmas. Council welcomed these changes and made further suggestions in relation to the proposals. For example, about queue management and catering budget allocation. Council also encouraged the Committee to use clear and consistent language when describing quieter event areas versus spaces in which attendees can seek medical attention.

Council discussed whether Fellows might be given the opportunity to attend a portion of the event at a discounted rate. The operational challenges of enforcing this, and the consequential negative impact upon the event budget, were noted.

Council agreed to approve the proposed infrastructure and site plan for King’s Affair 2025 as outlined in the paper, as well as the theme for King’s Affair 2025, subject to continued discussions with the Domus Bursar and College Heads of Department.

Ms Mueller-Koegler and Ms Welbrock left the meeting.

53. **Coffee Shop Opening Hours**

Mr Warner, KCSU President, asked Council to consider extending the hours during which the College Coffee shop space is open to students. He proposed opening the shop outside of current operating hours (which would not change) as a bookable student space, the use of which would be regulated by proposed ‘rules for conduct’.

Use of the space in this way would, he proposed, begin the process of the Coffee Shop becoming a JCR.

The Domus Bursar asked that the ‘rules of conduct’ be amended to make clear that food that has not been purchased in the Coffee Shop cannot be consumed there during opening hours. She also suggested clarifying how many guests a King’s member could bring with them into the space. Mr Warner will amend the rules to this effect.

Council discussed how the proposed 'rules of conduct' would be enforced. The Senior Tutor described how use of the Grad Suite is overseen by KCGS with intervention from the Lay Dean where required. The Domus Bursar commented that this extension to opening hours would enable KCSU to trial for how JCR rules of conduct might be monitored by the undergraduate community. Mr Warner supported this.

Council agreed:

- a) To extend the opening times of the Coffee shop space for the use of students from 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Monday to Sunday during full term, beyond the hours during which the Coffee shop is currently open;
- b) To allow student societies to book the Coffee Shop during that time, to be administered through the College's current room booking system, provided that these events are open to all King's students and free of charge;
- c) To accept the 'rules of conduct' for the Coffee shop space, as defined in Annex 1 to the paper, subject to amendments proposed during the meeting; and
- d) To note the undergraduate body's aspirations for turning the Coffee shop into a Junior Common Room and the bar into a more student-friendly space.

Proposals to re-purpose the Coffee Shop and establish a JCR will come to Council later this academic year.

**54. Fence from the Back Gate (Chestnut Railings)**

The Domus Bursar asked Council to decide whether the fence from the back gate to the bridge should remain in situ. Council had first considered the fence in Lent term 2024 and had agreed to postpone a decision on its future until Lent term 2025.

Members of Council expressed a preference for retaining the fence as this approach would be the most pragmatic. Council noted, however, that the fence posts had split in some places in a manner inconsistent with the expected degree of weathering. Council considered whether the cost of repairing these posts would be significant (in which case removal may be more appropriate).

The Domus Bursar's view was that the splitting was not usual, her hope being that this is something we could address directly with the contractor.

Council agreed that the fence should remain in situ for the duration of its life span or until significant costs are incurred in relation to it, whatever is shorter.

Ms Headen voted against the proposal (her preference being that the fence should be removed in its entirety).

**55. Visiting Student Membership**

The Graduate Admissions Tutor proposed a standard procedure for admitting Visiting Graduate Students. The Senior Tutor spoke to the paper. She emphasised that the proposed procedure would be a codification of existing practice, and that the new matter before Council was the proposal to establish a graduate studentship fund using Visiting Graduate Student fee income.

The Vice Provost asked for clarifications upon the paper, in particular that visiting students accepted under this procedure would have a connection to a King's Fellow or other material connection to the College. The Senior Tutor explained that the Graduate Admissions Tutor assesses all applications on this basis and that this procedure was intended to limit routes by which this can be circumvented.

Council suggested raising awareness of this process amongst Fellows through publication on the website and Fellows Information Booklet. Council also discussed how the effectiveness of this procedure might be kept under review.

Council agreed, subject to a review by the Senior Tutor and Council in two years' time, that from October 2025:

- a) the College should apply a standard procedure for visiting graduate student applications as set out in the paper (subject to annual review of the membership fee); and
- b) half of the income from visiting student members should be separated from the standard Graduate Fees Income account and directed towards a graduate studentship fund for overseas students who require financial assistance.

**56. Loan Request – Tate Britain**

The Keeper of the College Collections asked Council to consider a request to loan six items from the College's collections to the Tate Britain for the exhibition 'Vanessa Bell & Duncan Grant'.

Council agreed that the Tate Britain can loan Vanessa Bell, four painted doors, 98 K81; Duncan Grant, Maynard Keynes, oil on canvass, 451 P109; and Duncan Grant, Bathers, oil on canvass, 90 K72; for the duration of the exhibition, 'Vanessa Bell & Duncan Grant' at the Tate Britain, London, estimated dates 10 November 2026 – 4 April 2027; this loan is dependent on condition reports and any restoration required, at the expense of the Tate Gallery.

**57. Shakespeare in the Chapel**

Two King's students, supported by the Dean of Chapel, asked Council to consider a proposal to stage a three-night ticketed performance of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* in King's College Chapel in Lent term 2025.

Council agreed:

- a) that King's students may organise a three-night ticketed performance for an audience of max 120 people of *Macbeth* in King's College Chapel in March 2025; and
- b) that any musical element be agreed by the Director of Music and any changes to what is specified in the appendices are authorised by Chapel Manager or the Dean.

**Compliance**

**58. Communications Committee Terms of Reference**

The Communications Committee proposed clarifications to its Terms of Reference (for example, to update job titles where they have recently changed).

Council agreed to approve revised Terms of Reference for the Communications Committee.

**Minutes**

59. **Minutes of the Concerts Committee meeting on 27 November 2024**

Noted.

60. **Any Other Business**

None.