

KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

At a meeting of the Council held
on Tuesday 14 July 2026 at 14:00 in the Wine Room and Teams

Present:	Provost (in person until 15:05, online from 15:15) Professor Bullock Professor Gross Ruse-Khan (from 14:10) Ms Headen Dr Knox Dr Russell Dr Sarkovic Professor Sharman Ms O'Callaghan* (KCSU Vice-President) (online)	In Attendance:	Pro-Provost Vice-Provost First Bursar Senior Tutor Domus Bursar Mr Teare* (KCSU President) (online) Registrar
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*Open Business

431. **Apologies for Absence**

Professor Foley, Professor Giannitsarou, Dr Weil, Ms Sally (KCGU President) and Mr Ahmad (KCGU Treasurer) apologised for their absence.

OPEN BUSINESS

432. **Declarations of Interest**

Dr Collister and Ms Ingham in item 442.

433. **Minutes of Open Business 7 July 2026**

Approved.

434. **Matters arising**

None.

435. **Oral reports**

None.

436. **Council Timetable – Open Matters**

Examination Results and CCTV Policy on the agenda.

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

Xu Zhimo visitor experience on the agenda. Other actions due in Easter Term were postponed to Michaelmas Term.

438. **Council Project List**

Council noted the updated Project List detailing which projects had been completed, and which were delayed.

Strategic

439. Long-Term Funding

The First Bursar spoke briefly about early thinking around the College's funding gap over the next 25 years and how it could be addressed. Council discussed these challenges and noted the ongoing work to develop a long-term funding approach. Council thanked the First Bursar for beginning work on this issue. Council would consider this further once work had progressed.

Routine

440. Examination Results

The Senior Tutor introduced the examination results, noting that 387 out of 416 had been received so far. These indicated a positive development, with a significant increase in the percentage of firsts. She highlighted that these improvements had been achieved in different ways by different subjects, and that further efforts also needed to be subject-tailored. Bridging Programme students were performing in line with other students.

The Senior Tutor stressed that these results were moving in the right direction, but that further work was required and would be conducted. Council noted that full results and a detailed analysis would be presented in Michaelmas Term and asked that the "added value" was considered in the analysis as well as the raw results.

Council thanked the Senior Tutor and accepted the summary report of undergraduate examination results.

441. In-Year Budget Revision

The First Bursar presented a revision to the budget following Governing Body's decision to remove savings in Catering and Housekeeping from the budget for this year. The additional costs could be met from restricted expendable funds, to allow the College to reach break-even. Alternatively, the College could decide to run a structural deficit, or reduce expenditure in other areas. Council discussed these alternatives, which were not supported.

The Domus Bursar presented more detail on the Housekeeping budget and asked to reinstate the movements of students during vacation periods. There were significant benefits to co-locating students staying over the vacations, both for the students themselves and for the College's ability to offer accommodation blocks coherently to commercial clients.

Council agreed to recommend to Governing Body approval of in-year changes to the budget through use of restricted expendable funds, excluding the proposed removal of relocation students during vacations.

442. Office Moves

The Domus Bursar presented a proposal to relocate staff and Officers from the Old Lodge to Webb's Court. This would allow the Old Lodge to be used as a teaching and meeting hub. Council noted that a small number of Fellows' offices and some student rooms would be affected, but that alternative provision elsewhere in College was possible. There would be a financial shortfall from not accommodating students of

other colleges, but this would be recovered in the medium-term when the additional teaching spaces could be used for part-time postgraduate courses or summer schools.

Council agreed to approve the repurposing of Old Lodge for academic and community uses, relocating staff and Officers to Webbs Court.

443. Cambridge Half-Marathon Review

The Provost left the meeting, the Pro-Provost assuming the Chair.

The Domus Bursar highlighted that this formal review was carried out at Council's request, and that the recommendation was to continue the College's participation as in previous years. Council noted with concern that the organisers were currently considering making the Half-Marathon a two-day event, which was too disruptive not just for the College, but the entire city. The College would not support this expansion. The Domus Bursar was asked if the route through the College could be altered so that runners entered through the Clare Gate and exited by the Back Gate to lessen the impact on the College community, and she indicated that this would be considered.

Council agreed to approve the College's participation in the Cambridge Half Marathon on Sunday 14 March 2027, based on the established one-day event format, subject to detailed operational planning with the Deputy Domus Bursar, Head of Visitor Services, Head Porter, Chapel Manager and Head Gardener.

444. Xu Zhimo Garden Refurbishment

Council noted the proposals for the Xu Zhimo Garden Refurbishment Project and that the cost was met by a donation restricted for this purpose.

445. Chapel Fabric Oversight Group

Council agreed to approve the establishment of the Chapel Fabric Oversight Group for up to 2 years.

446. Chetwynd Court and Kitchen Redevelopment Working Group

The Provost joined the meeting online.

The Domus Bursar introduced the proposed establishment of a working group to oversee this redevelopment work. Council discussed whether student representation was needed on the group, but felt that student input through consultations would be more valuable.

Council agreed to approve the establishment of a working group to oversee the development and implementation of the Chetwynd Court and Kitchen redevelopment schemes, with information to Buildings and Safety Committee, but overseen by Council.

The Domus Bursar recommended and Council supported that either the Pro-Provost or Vice-Provost should be added to the working group.

Compliance

447. Concerts Committee Terms of Reference

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

448. CCTV Policy

Council agreed to approve the College's revised CCTV policy.

449. **Amendment to Access Policy**

Council agreed to approve the addition to the Access Policy that pictures cannot be taken in the private areas of the College when there are people present.

450. **Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech**

Council agreed not to amend the College's Code of Practice on Freedom of Speech before the Office for Student's complaints scheme comes into effect.

Minutes

451. **Minutes of the Charities Committee meeting on 27 May 2026**

Noted.

452. **Minutes of the Catering Committee meeting on 8 June 2026**

Noted.

453. **Minutes of the Concerts Committee meeting on 18 June 2026**

Noted.

454. **Minutes of the Church Patronage Committee meeting on 22 June 2026**

Noted that the proposed event for laity has been deferred to a later term, though the Committee favours a simpler beginning: inviting the more local Livings to an existing Evensong with hospitality afterwards. The Archivist confirmed the College carries no insurance for Chancel Repair Liability. The Committee agreed to deal with any instances case by case.

455. **Any Other Business**

None.