

KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

At a meeting of the Council held
on 8 October 2024 at 14:00 in the Wine Room

Present:	Provost Professor Candea Ms Headen Dr Sarkovic Dr Taylor Professor Dunn Dr Good Dr Russell Professor Giannitsarou (until 15:20) Mr Limoncelli*	In Attendance:	Vice Provost First Bursar Senior Tutor (until 15:50) Domus Bursar Mx Graham* Mr Lee Boya* Admissions Tutor (Dr Adams) – Item 430 only Registrar *Open Business
----------	--	----------------	---

422. Apologies for Absence

Dr Adhikari and Professor Sharman apologised for their absence. Ms Bulteel was absent.

OPEN BUSINESS

423. Declarations of Interest

None.

424. Minutes of Open Business 16 July 2024

Approved.

425. Matters arising

The KCSU representatives (Mx Graham and Mr Limoncelli) commented on the minutes of Council on 11 June 2024. The KCSU representatives had not been present in the meeting at which they were approved. Their view was that the minutes were not adequately clear that KCSU were in discussions with the First Bursar and Provost about a responsible investment working group before the meeting, and that the paper presented by Mr Gomersall was not the direct cause of the working group being established.

Council agreed that a remark to this effect would appropriately have appeared in the minutes of Council on 11 June 2024.

426. Oral reports

The First Bursar gave a report on development proposals made by the Arts Theatre. He is liaising with representatives for the Theatre and will bring

details to Council and Governing Body in due course. He encouraged Fellows with questions about the College's role in the proposals to contact him.

The Domus Bursar asked Council to approve the implementation of 'King's and Kindness' wording in public-facing areas of College. The Domus Bursar described inappropriate and aggressive behaviour experienced by College staff. She is developing a full policy on this matter which will follow through sub-committees later this year. Council agreed to implement the Domus Bursar's proposed 'King's and Kindness' wording in public-facing areas of College.

427. Council Timetable – Open Matters

No timetabled papers required.

A review of Education Policies (currently timetabled to take place at the end of Michaelmas term) will move to the end of Lent term to better align with Education Committee business. The Senior Tutor's Prevent review will still take place in Michaelmas.

428. Council Action List – Open Matters

No reports overdue. A report from the HASS Research Manager (Dr Good) on the prospects for developing a summer series asking to Salzburg Global Seminars is due this term.

429. Responsibilities Agreement for the KCSU Executive

Mx Graham, KCSU President, and Mr Limoncelli, KCSU Vice-President, presented a new confidentiality policy for KCSU Executive Officers. Their expectation is that the policy will be approved by KCSU when they vote on it later this week.

Mx Graham and Mr Limoncelli will ensure the policy is implemented by future KCSU Executives through their handover processes and by integrating the policy and KCSU's statutes.

The First Bursar suggested that the policy should make more transparent the disciplinary process, including mechanisms for appeal, in KCSU's governing documents.

Council agreed to accept the policy and to return to normal practice regarding Junior Members on Committees.

Strategic

430. Report on Admissions Numbers

The Admissions Tutor asked Council to endorse proposed places and offer numbers for the upcoming admissions round. She had asked Council to endorse proposed admissions numbers for the first time in Michaelmas 2023.

The Admissions Tutor explained how she proposed to approach the next round, highlighting subjects where numbers of proposed offers had changed since last year, and 'numbers managed subjects'. She will provide a more detailed admissions report to Governing Body at Annual Congregation.

Council encouraged the Admissions Tutor and Senior Tutor to continue to promote college autonomy over admissions in University committees. Council considered the College's offer practices and the impact that making conditional offers where the A* was tied to a specific subject might have on applicants, and the applications received by the College. Council also discussed the means by which the College adheres to Governing Body's stipulation that the undergraduate body should comprise around 450 students, given the inevitable uncertainties involved in admissions rounds.

Council thanked the Admissions Tutor and invited her to bring an equivalent paper to Council in future years.

Council endorsed the Admissions Tutor's recommendations regarding target numbers and offer-levels for the 2025 Admissions Round.

431. Long Term Estate Strategy Working Group

The Domus Bursar asked Council to approve the establishment of a working group to evaluate how the College might best approach decision making on its long-term Estates Strategy and reporting on major Capital Projects. The proposed working group would focus on developing proposals for a more effective and transparent governance structure for major College works.

Council welcomed the Domus Bursar's proposals.

The Domus Bursar will invite the following people to participate in the working group, alongside herself: the First Bursar, Professor Moggridge, Dr Huseini, Professor de Bolla, the Head of Capital Works, the Vice Provost, and the Senior Tutor.

Council agreed to support the establishment of a working party to make a recommendation on how best to enable the Governing Body to have greater oversight of the long-term College Estate Strategy.

432. Director of Development

The Vice-Provost, as Chair of the Development Committee, drew Council's attention to the need to begin the process of looking for a replacement for Lorraine Headen.

The Development Committee had suggested that a small group be set up to consider the process for appointing Ms Headen's successor and to make recommendations for the nature of the job that should be advertised. The Committee also recommended that, in parallel, the Fellowship should be engaged in discussion of Development strategy and goals for the next decade.

The Vice Provost explained that the proposed group would be asked to start work as soon as possible so they could report to Annual Congregation, and asked Council's view on who should be appointed to the group.

Council encouraged the group to consult with Dr Adkins during the process, given her experience in this area.

Council agreed:

- a) to appoint the Dean of Chapel, Dr Good, Dr Davies, Sarah Legg, and the First Bursar to undertake discussions within the Development Office and College and outside the College, including with head-*

hunters if appropriate, with a view to recommending to the Annual Congregation the nature of the job of Director of Development to be advertised (and which head-hunting firm to employ to assist in the search).

- b) *to ask the College Officers to initiate a general discussion of fundraising strategy, aims and goals for the next decade to inform the discussion at Annual Congregation.*

Routine

433. College Governance

The Registrar and First Bursar asked Council for feedback on changes made to Council's timetable and agenda in Michaelmas 2023, and to note other initiatives aimed at improving transparency and consistency in College governance. With this in mind, they asked Council to agree to trial a new format of Council paper.

Council agreed:

- a) *To note initiatives to improve College governance; and*
- b) *To trial a new format of Council paper and to review this in Lent term 2024.*

434. Shakespeare Festival 2025

The Domus Bursar asked Council to consider whether to allow, as the College has in previous years, the Cambridge Shakespeare Festival to stage performances in the Fellows' Garden in 2025.

The Domus Bursar drew Council's attention to recent press coverage surrounding the Festival's employment practices. She had requested further information from the Festival's Artistic Director. Council reviewed his response.

Council agreed to approve the staging of the Cambridge Shakespeare Festival in King's College from 7 July to 23 August 2025, subject to detailed planning with the Domus Bursar, Head Gardener and relevant Heads of Department, and a facilities charge of £3000 + VAT.

435. Shine Walk 2024 and Race for Life 2025

The Domus Bursar asked Council to approve two Cancer Research UK events being staged through King's College. The events will take place on Sunday 29 June 2025 and 19 October 2024 and will follow the same formats as in recent years.

Council agreed to give Cancer Research UK approval to:

- a) *plan for the Race for Life Charity Event to proceed through King's College on Sunday 29 June 2025; and*
- b) *for the Shine event to stage through the Fellows Garden on 19 October 2024*

subject to detailed agreement with the Domus Bursar, Head of Visitor Services, Head Porter and the Head Gardener.

436. King's Men Carol Concert 2024

The Vice-Provost requested the use of Hall by The King's Men for a Christmas Concert on Monday 2 December from 20:00 (necessitating using the Beves Room for the evening meal).

Council agreed to permit The King's Men to hold a concert in Hall on Monday 2 December starting at 20:00 (KCMS to arrange details directly with Catering).

437. Gardens Committee – Terms of Reference

The Gardens Committee proposed an amendment to their terms of reference, to add an additional meeting in July. The Gardens Committee currently meets once each term.

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

Compliance

438. Freedom of Speech – Regulation Update

The Registrar asked Council to consider whether, and if so how, to continue the implementation of new policies regarding freedom of speech. The commencement of new legislation, which the College had prepared to implement, was suspended by the Government in late July 2024.

She and the First Bursar had reviewed current regulation alongside approaches taken by other Colleges and recommended that the College make minor amendments to its Free Speech Code of Practice and publish it alongside an explanatory caveat, but pause any other preparatory work.

Council considered whether the proposed caveat was necessary as Council and Governing Body had both reviewed and been in favour of the Code of Practice.

Council agreed to publish an amended Free Speech Code of Practice on the College website, without an explanatory caveat, and pause other work to implement the provisions of the Act pending further clarity.

439. Minutes of the Education Committee meeting on 23 May 2024
Noted.

440. Minutes of the Visitors' Committee meeting on 7 June 2024
Noted.

441. Minutes of the Education Committee meeting on 8 July 2024
Noted.

442. Any Other Business
None.