

KING'S COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

At a meeting of the Council held
on Tuesday, 4th October 2022 at 2.00pm in the Audit Room and via Zoom

Present:	Provost	In Attendance:	Vice Provost
	Professor Candea		First Bursar
	Professor Griffiths		Senior Tutor
	Professor Dunn		Domus Bursar
	Dr Hall		*Mr Russo
	Dr Srinivasan		*Mr Pugh
	Dr Dolan		
	Dr Clarà Saracho		
	Dr Adams		
	*Ms Kelly		*Open business

Apologies for Absence

Professor Efstathiou, Dr David Good and Ms Kadlecova apologised for their absence.

OPEN BUSINESS

366. Declarations of Interest

None.

367. Oral reports

Senior Tutor requested an update on the condition of the Stephen Taylor Court, noting that all buildings were fully occupied (with a small number of family flats yet to be allocated). The Domus Bursar updated that a number of issues had emerged since occupation (heating and electrical circuit) and these were being dealt with – constant heating temperatures are now being recorded and additional circuits have been installed where required. Other snags are being dealt with as they arise. Gilbert Ash (Main Contractor) will retain two persons at close call, from the 7th October and for two weeks, in order to respond to other emergencies, and from then going forward the normal warranty process will kick in.

Principal Item of Business

368. Review of Strategy – First Bursar first impressions

The First Bursar presented a paper outlining his first impressions. From the outset he saw great value in an institution such as King's focusing on its primary role, as defined by its charitable purposes. He developed this point through three ideas: emphasis on the College as a community; use of a framework to help coordinate the College's activities; and some early thinking on how the College might make use of its convening power to strengthen itself as a community and public institution. The First Bursar saw this paper as the starting point for wider discussion and a process of engagement across the

College. Further work was required in the short term, to develop and refine the thinking, to explore and test potential new initiatives, and to develop proposals for early, practical improvements.

The paper was warmly welcomed by Council. Poor internal communications was recognised as a weakness in College. There was agreement that the paper should be shared with the wider Fellowship, at the forthcoming meeting of Governing Body. Council endorsed the appointment of a Working Party to take this work forward, and for other measures that would ensure the process kept its momentum. These could include existing Committees discussing the paper and its implications for their business. The Working Party might be charged with developing a more structured programme of work on which it would report regularly to Governing Body.

Council thanked the First Bursar and endorsed the paper being presented to Governing Body, with a recommendation that a Working Party be formed to take this work forward, with existing Committees engaged to contribute to the work.

Other Items for Discussion

369. Reducing heating in College during winter

The Domus Bursar presented a paper on options Council might consider as the College heating is due to be turned on for the winter months. Options discussed range from decreasing temperature in rooms to 18°C or 19°C (instead of the traditional 20°C) and delaying turning on the heating plants (in the event the plants have already been switched on, due to the cold spell in late September). The Domus Bursar explained the nature of the Building Management Systems in College buildings, with heating plants responding to external temperatures. Council agreed to the need to reduce reliance on fossil fuels where possible but also asked that work should proceed to make the older buildings more airtight (without expending considerable sums of money, unless the work is in support of an approved major refurbishment). It was noted that two buildings, Gibbs' and Bodley's, were particularly poor in heating retention with both buildings being deserving of a refurbishment to include such measures. It was observed that the proposal was for a trial period only, and that genuine requests for local additional heating would be treated sympathetically – and should it be the case that 19°C was being continually reported as intolerable and a risk to health consideration would immediately be given to reverting to 20°C.

Council warmed to the proposal, while at the same time asking that short term heat retention measures be introduced where required with further investigations into smart thermostats and better measuring of internal temperatures.

Council agreed:

- a) To reduce heating in College rooms from 20°C to 19°C during the winter months 2022/23,
- b) to invite the Domus Bursar to provide feedback on the outcome of this initiative to Council in Easter Term 2023, and

- c) to a review of current provision of existing facilities (windows, radiators, thermostats, etc) and possible draught mitigation across College and in particular older buildings being conducted, and affordable solutions identified and installed.

Business for Report

None.

370. Any Other Business.

None.

Professor Candea and Junior Members left at 1521.