

Easter Meeting of the Estates Committee
Minutes
2pm Wednesday 26 May 2021
Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Present: Professor Phil Allmendinger (Chair); Dr Tamara Follini (Chair of the Conservation Committee, ex officio); Dr Andrew Friend; Professor Howard Griffiths (Chair of the Gardens Committee, ex officio); Mr Danny Parle (MCR Representative); Mr Daniel Patten

The Accommodation Office to be asked for data on which rooms are taken first by graduate students. Details on the rent spread in other Colleges would also be useful – the MCR President has collected some information on this.

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Four houses are being sold, two from donations and two which are surplus to College needs.

A new pump has been installed, and the speed recently increased, better temperatures are now being recorded. The pump is at

The commercial flats were handed over on Friday 21 May with a reasonable level of snagging. The contractor has been in during the course of this week to rectify these. Bidwells have been given 12 of the 14 flats to let, and 7 have been let to date, with the first occupants moving in from the 14 June. Further viewings are being held, and it is anticipated that all flats will be let by the end of the first week of June. Their popularity seems to be reflection of the high quality and standards, with over half let within ten days of releasing to the market.

Bidwells will be doing a managed service, but not block management. Block management would mean they carried out all maintenance and other items, however they will collect the rents and manage the tenants. The College will carry out maintenance, cleaning, and fire alarm testing, as these are also being done on the student side of the Clare St Regis site. This will keep down the costs to the endowment to generate more revenue in the long term.

8. Five Year Programme

There were no concerns raised over the Five Year Programme.

Braeside has been identified as it has generated more maintenance requests than other buildings, and improvements have been held off with a view to doing a full refurbishment. Money was approved in the 2021-22 financial year for architects' fees, with a full refurbishment the following year. Hillside will follow a year afterwards.

This would be similar to the previous LMK project, to be carried out in a few years' time.

The programme includes £1 million per year going into the Old Court fund. The Bursar is working with the Deputy Financial Bursar on the five year financial plan. Increased depreciation may mean additional money is available to spend. There is also an indicative sum included for the Queen Edith / Netherfield works, this is not yet approved.

9. Update on Special Expenditure 2020-21

It has not been possible to move this forwards significantly, there will be an overall underspend of around £400,000.

Won't happen until next financial year, but is currently out to tender and will be on site this summer.

10. Gardens Committee

It was agreed that some of the underspend in the 2020-21 Special Expenditure budget could be used for a new compost heap.

11. Environment Committee

Progress is being made on setting this project up, and the College will work with a Fourth Year research student to carry out part of the project. It was very positive to work across the wheat research student

Distribution: Professor Phil Allmendinger (Chair); Professor Andrew Balmford (Chair of the Environment Committee, ex officio); Dr Jo Costin (Secretary); Miss Emma Easterbrook (Assistant Bursar); Dr Tamara Follini (Chair of the Conservation Committee, ex officio); Dr Andrew Friend; Professor Howard Griffiths (Chair of the Gardens Committee, ex officio); Mr Danny Parle (MCR Representative); Mr Daniel Patten (UCS Representative); Ms Deborah Hoy (Estates Director); Mr Brenan Morgan (Head Porter); Professor Wendy Pullan; Mr Jason Randall (IT Manager); Dr Jacqueline Tasioulas (Senior Tutor); and Mr Paul Warren (Bursar).
For information: Lily Rafalin (UCS President); Will Wood (MCR President).