

Approved Minutes of the Conservation Committee
Meeting 12.30 – 1.30, 11 May 2021
Online, Clare College
[The Lent Term Committee meeting was not held.]

Present: Charlotte Bond, Donald Hearn, Very Rev.d Peter Judd, Prof. Anthony Snodgrass, Pieter-Jan Sterenborg, Dr Tamara Follini (Chair)

1. Apologies: Apologies were received from Jo Costin, Deborah Hoy, Graham Ross, Anne Stillman, Paul Warren. (Three members were involved in a meeting that had been scheduled at the same time.)
2. Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.
3. Minutes of Last Meeting (Michaelmas 2020): The Minutes were approved.
4. Matters Arising and for Report:
 - a. Signage for St Regis: The Chair thanked members for their comments about the new signage for St Regis and reported that one design in particular had been favoured. The opinion of the Committee had been forwarded to Deborah Hoy, although it was not certain if all the new signs were now installed.
 - b. Committee Membership: The Chair reminded members that this was the time of year when anyone wishing to resign from the Committee should notify her by email following the meeting.
5. College Flag: Approval of Colours: Although members had been able to see the swatches only online, it was agreed that the darker colour of red (that nearest the black swatch) was preferable, as was the colour approximating 'gold' of the swatch in the lower left-hand corner (facing the swatch display). It was suggested that the use of these same colour elsewhere (national flags) might be considered and that the Chair would make the final decision about our recommendations for the colours once she had an opportunity to view the swatches in college. Concern was also raised regarding consistency of the chosen shades over time and for various usages, for instance on the College shield. It was also suggested that we work towards creating a template, for the shield, so that its design for a variety of uses would be uniform and accurate. Donald Hearn will forward some information about how another College carried out this task, and the Chair will also gather further information and investigate best ways to proceed.
6. Fellows Library:
 - a. Allocation of Funds; Necessary Forward Planning: The Chair informed the Committee of the amount of funding that had been secured – special thanks to Deborah Hoy for acting on this – and conveyed the terms by which the bid had been made and approved by the Estates and Finance Committees. She explained that it was probable that funds, for this round, would only cover heating mats, rugs and redecoration. The importance of consulting a specialist about possible colours (for that portion of the walls between the shelving and the cornice) was agreed on and the Chair will ask Deborah Hoy to move forward in securing an appropriate person, possibly from Hirst Conservation. It was hoped that this expense might be offset by having the redecoration done in house.

The importance of making use of the allocated funds within the time limit specified was noted, but it was felt that important forward planning would be necessary before doing so. One significant concern was the size and shape of the heating mats in relation to how the furnishing of the room was envisioned. It was agreed that it was undesirable to re-install any of the old bookcases that had been removed from College and that we should also consider how many of the current display cases should be retained. The matter of lighting in the Library was also raised; it was warmly agreed that a sympathetic form of up-lighting in the space behind the top of the bookcases might enhance the room as a whole. The Chair hoped that some planning could be done before our next meeting by email circulation.
7. AOB: There was no other business
8. Date of Michaelmas Term 2021 Meeting: tba, as soon as the schedule for College meetings for the academic year 2021–22 is in place.