

Minutes of the 4th MCR Committee Meeting

7 pm, 1st September 2005
MCR, St Catharine's College

Present: Patrick Flack (chair)
Tom Law
Felicia Yap
Regina Sachers
Poobalasantharam Iyngaran
Michael Harfoot
Lizzie Perdeaux

Absent with apologies: Rebecca Gallagher
Hiroki Shin
Robin Cassady-Cain

1. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

There were no comments on the minutes of the previous meeting. Patrick suggested placing the minutes of previous meetings on the MCR website, and this was met with general approval.

2. Freshers' Week (Revisited)

Patrick highlighted a number of scheduling conflicts during Freshers' Week, but it was decided in the end that the Committee should wait and hear what the College plans are (and for the kitchens to re-open on 5 September) before making concrete decisions.

3. Plans for Bar & Lecture Theatre

Patrick reported that he has examined the plans for the proposed demolition of the College Bar and the construction of a new lecture theatre. The work is likely to begin next summer, and it appears that the College Bar will remain functioning despite the construction work. It was noted that a planning commission's board has already been placed outside college.

4. College Parents

Patrick noted that he has yet to have volunteers for Portugal Place, but he will sort out the allocation of children as soon as he obtains the list of new graduates from the Graduate Tutors.

5. Upkeep of the MCR Room

It was suggested that committee members could take turns in feeding the fish and looking after the MCR Room. Michael, however, maintained that he would be happy to be responsible for the fish. It was thus subsequently decided that the status quo be kept.

6. Offer of Painting by Joe Piper

One of the MCR members, Joe Piper, has offered to do a scenic painting (possibly of Grantchester) for the MCR Room for a small fee (about £20). It was felt that this was a good idea, and that Joe should choose his own subject matter. Tom will speak to Joe about this.

7. Committee Web Page

Hiroki proposed by email that some additional information about Committee members could be listed on the MCR webpage, such as their fields of study (or topics of research). This was felt to be a good idea. Tom also proposed that the names of Committee members should be placed below their photos to prevent confusion. Patrick will look into this.

8. Condoms for Graduate Accommodation

It was asked if the Committee intends to continue supplying condoms and pregnancy kits in graduate accommodation, as the supply boxes in each graduate house have remained empty for a long time. After much discussion, it was agreed that the scheme should be continued if the condoms could be obtained from the Graduate Union for free. Since the matter falls under the remit of the Welfare Officer, Rebecca will be asked if she intends to carry out the responsibility of replenishing supplies in each house.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 Formal at St John's College

Lizzie reported that she is still waiting for a reply from John's, and she will confirm the details soon.

9.2 Freshers' Pack

It was noted that the Freshers' Pack will only be available online this year, and no hard copies will be distributed.

9.3 Coffee Machine and Fridge

It was noted that the coffee machine requires fixing, and that the housekeeper intends to defrost the fridge. All items of food should therefore be removed by the end of the week.

Next Meeting: 8 pm Monday 19 September