

MCR Committee Meeting 17th October

Present – Ali, Dan, Lizzie, Martina, Paul, Richard, Rosie, Roy

1. Previous Minutes

No points were raised about the previous minutes.

2. Co-opting Paul on to the Committee

Everyone was more than happy to welcome Paul on to the committee. Welcome Paul.

3. Oxford Formal

Cancelled due to lack of accommodation.

[Action: Lizzie to talk to Kaitlin about rearranging for next term]

4. Formal Hall Plans

26 th October	normal formal – Trinity Hall visiting
28 th October	Exchange formal: Halloween formal, Robinson College
4 th November	Catz Halloween Formal and bop – Churchill College visiting
8 th November	Exchange formal: Trinity Hall (15 places)
9 th November	normal formal
16 th November	normal formal
23 rd November	normal formal
24 th November	Exchange formal: Churchill College (20 places)
27 th November	Exchange formal: Emmanuel College (15 places)
30 th November	normal formal – Emmanuel college visiting
7 th December	Christmas formal – Robinson college visiting

All of the committee agree that it would be nice if more people went to formal more regularly. It was mooted that a sub-committee be set up to coerce people into going into formal regularly, but the general feeling was that this wasn't a good idea. However, we're encouraging the committee members to go as often as is possible and, in doing so, hope that this will encourage the rest of the MCR to come to formal.

[Action: continuation of 1 free formal a term per committee member, which was introduced last year. We encourage all committee members to come to as many formals as poss.]

5. Halloween Formal.

Fancy dress isn't allowed in hall, so there is a need to encourage people to get into fancy dress for the bop afterwards. Last year we offered all people in fancy dress a free drink. The dress code for formal was discussed and decided it should be suits, but no black tie.

[Action: Lizzie to book bar. Dan to DJ on the virtual wheels of steel. Dan to book DJ equipment. Lizzie to buy decorations. All hands on deck with decorating.]

6. Drinks cupboard.

There is a need to stock up the drinks' cupboard. It was thought that we might be able to talk to John and get an order through the bar, although we need to price this up.

[Action: Roy to buy wine.]

7. Christmas Formal

The Ramsden Room and bar need to be booked. It was decided that Casa del Funk should be invited to play at the bop as they were very popular at last year's Christmas Formal and at the May Ball.

[Action: Lizzie to book bar and Ramsden Room. Ali to talk to Dele.]

8. JCR

MCR-JCR link ups was discussed. As many undergrad 4th years have friends in the MCR, it was discussed whether to invite them formally as guests of the MCR. However, the point was raised that they are then being subsidised by members of the MCR. The possibility of giving the 4th years the option of being official members of the MCR (and paying the £39 subscription) and letting them come to events as members of the MCR was discussed. The problem of accountability was then discussed (at length!) and it was stated that if the 4th years are at an MCR event, the MCR Committee is accountable should anything go wrong. However, if an MCR-JCR event is held that is organised by both committees and is open to MCR members and 4th year undergrads, then the JCR Committee are accountable for the 4th years.

[Action: Dan and Roy to speak to Heather about giving 4th years the option of formally joining the MCR. Roy to ask the JCR Committee if they are happy to organise such an event just for their 4th years, and if they are, organise an MCR-JCR event on 18th Nov.]

9. Update of committee members' activities

9.1 Ali

Job related problem. Ali can't physically lift glass to other side of college this week, as there is an exceptionally large amount.

[Action: Ali and Dan to take glass over to Chapel Court this week, 7pm Wednesday.]

It was discussed and decided that Ali should email the MCR list directly to advertise Green Events, rather than get them added to the Presidents' Bulletin, as this will probably put more emphasis on the events.

9.2 Martina

CUSU meeting tomorrow - Martina's going to check who can vote at meetings. At the moment it is thought that only Dan and Roy can vote.

9.3 Paul

Has added Freshers' Week photos to the website and is now a manager of the email list, so he can modify the list himself. Has been invited to sit on the college website committee.

[Action: Paul to chase up Heather for new Cambridge IDs to update MCR list.]

9.3 Rosie

Meeting Manolo tomorrow who wants to make a list of events for grads and fellows. A brainstorm of potential events for the next two terms included the usual bar quiz and termly SCR/ MCR dinners, but also included games nights (Trivial Pursuits); a one off poster session/ research symposium; a photo exhibition; an International Week Symposium and international week would need to be next term.

Rosie would like to have a drinks cupboard key and the committee agree that Rosie should have one.

[Action: Roy to liaise with Phil Dean.]

9.4 Richard

Has been busy finishing up accounts from last year and doing the Freshers' Week accounts.

Freshers' Week cost around £2k, which is in line with the estimate given to us by Patrick for how much they spent last year, which is what we had been aiming for.

He estimates that the finished MCR accounts for last year will show that the net assets of the MCR were 2-3k lower on 30th June 2006 than on 30th June 2005. He will need to complete the accounts to confirm this. If this is shown to be true, then we should be careful about following last years spending again throughout this year, as it may be unwise to do so. Among the monies shown as owing to college in the accounts are two outstanding cleaning bills together costing approx. £1800 from last year and the year before.

[Action: Roy going to see Simon Summers about cleaning bill, after discussing with grad tutors on Monday. Ali to send Richard her receipts from Freshers' Week.]

9.5 Lizzie

Has been sorting exchanges with Churchill, Robinson, Trinity Hall and Emma. Just needs to sort everything out for Halloween now.

10. Open Meeting

Richard is constitutionally obligated to present a budget at the meeting, elections for remaining committee places to be announced.

Richard would like another closed MCR meeting before the open meeting, where he can discuss his ideas for the budget with the rest of the committee. He needs a couple of days in between the meetings to make any necessary modifications.

Suggested for open meeting: 1st November, 8:30pm, Ramsden Room

Suggested for next regular meeting. 30th October 7:30pm

[Action: Lizzie to book Ramsden Room and data projector, Richard to find out rules about election timings.]

11. Freshers' Week Debriefing and Handover

Rosie brought up the point about waste at the barbeque – frozen burgers were thrown away. Everyone agreed that we should try to ensure there is not excessive waste from events.

The point needs to be made to the MCR as a whole that, while we encourage people to use the MCR as much as possible, it needs to be left tidy so other people can use it.

10. AOB

Dan would like a "Green" point on the next agenda to discuss any ideas about improving things and making the MCR more eco-friendly.

The table football table has started squeaking.

[Action: Dan will maintain the table.]

Demonstration of online booking system, which looks excellent. The number of guests people are allowed was discussed and it was decided that on the system a limit of 4 guests per person should be set – which is the same limit as the JCR have – but if people want to bring more guests, they can email Lizzie and book in the old-fashioned way. This applies for regular formals. For big formals like Halloween and Christmas the guest policy is normally stricter to ensure sufficient places for MCR members.

Halloween, 31st October. The idea of showing a film (a not scary one so Dan doesn't lose a night's sleep) was mooted and agreed on. Halloween snacks and treats will be served with the film.

Next meeting. 30th 7:30pm **(PROMPT!)** Will decorate MCR for Halloween at the same time.