

St. Catharine's College MCR Committee Meeting
Monday 11 February 2008, 7pm

Present

Richard Jones, Doug Speed, Max Kendrick, Rosie Fera, Joanna Heald, Martina Diep, Rachel Carr, Mark Hopkin*

*With apologies for being late

Apologies

Julia Armstrong
Cameron Rye
Natalie Au-Yeung
Melissa Ruseler
Owen Hammond

Agenda

1. Previous Minutes
2. Easter Formal

Jazz band is playing on 8th, Head Porter said MCR can still have dinner and use bar – won't be a problem and won't be entry charge. Natalie happy to use this entertainment. Dan expressed concerns that we may need confirmation to avoid any possible confusion on the night. **ACTION: Natalie or Dan confirm and get more information.**

ACTION: Committee to think about ideas for themes for formal.

3. Lent Term open meeting

Senior bursar suggested 5pm on 13th March. Date accepted by committee.

ACTION: Richard to book room and email MCR about submitting motions for meeting.

Constitution specifies notification of 10 days and display of motions for 7 days.

MCR to provide tea and coffee and biscuits, which needs to be booked with catering staff.

4. Table football

Taking place on 20th February. Same date as Master's drinks 6-8pm. Likely to end promptly so still fine to do tournament afterwards. Start at 8.30pm. Need to consider timings dependant on how many people want to join in. Teams to be randomly allocated to encourage more people to take part.

ACTION: Dan and Melissa to arrange logistics.

ACTION: Dan, Melissa and Doug to provide refreshments.

ACTION: Dan and Melissa to buy prizes and advertise events and get and return white board for scoring.

Mark arrived.

5. Pub quiz

Last year did pub quiz with fellows and MCR. Last year only two fellows turned up but event was popular. Graduate tutors paid for prizes. Rounds: General knowledge, history of architecture, sport, guess the intro. Dan, Melissa and Manolo happy to write quiz but equally happy for anyone else to take responsibility for writing a round.

Dates: Ideally outside term-time so MCR can monopolise bar so it is quiet.

However, end of lent term is very busy. Possible to arrange it for end of Easter holidays but difficulties for Manolo as he is moving and thus busy!

Alternative would be to hold the event in the MCR or Ramsden Room or SCR if Graduate Tutors happy to provide alcohol. MCR committee agree Ramsden Room would be better as need more space, although less comfortable. Graduate Tutors would only provide wine. MCR could provide beer to accompany this. Committee voiced reservations that bar may still be better for an authentic 'pub' quiz.

Committee expressed concerns about holding it too far either side of term, as people are likely to leave Cambridge, but as Easter is early most people would be back towards the end of the holiday period.

Dan suggested possibility of an alternative space, eg GU bar, but this would need to be checked with Manolo.

Committee consensus is to hold event in the bar shortly before the beginning of Easter term.

Suggested date: 15th April

ACTION: Dan to email Manolo to check acceptability of dates and to get relevant permission from college.

ACTION: Dan, Melissa and Manolo to write quiz

6. Any other business

Stephen Bland – JCR Green Officer – wants college to sign up to Cambridge Climate Charter. This covers college carbon footprint, involving targets and therefore quite a lot of admin which could be costly. This needs to be discussed when Cameron is in attendance.

Rachel asked Dom the porter about unused bikes at South Green. He suggested putting stickers on all bikes stating that if sticker is not removed within a month the bike will be removed. **ACTION: Rachel to place stickers on bikes and to check with maintenance about what will happen to bikes.**

Need to find out about what will happen to bikes, and consider acquiring one or more to be a MCR bike. Rosie also said there is a scooter available, but could cost £1000 to fix, so uncertain whether this would be economically viable.

Doug considered going to Tesco to get crates of port and sherry. Sherry costs £3.80, Port costs £4.20 or the cheapest bottles. May be able to buy more expensive bottles as average spend is £7.50 per bottle. May also be worth looking out for special offers. Max said it may be worth buying slightly better quality port as it is popular in formal and goes a long way. £15 to spend on port and sherry together, so may be better to spend more on port and less on sherry. Max said Nieport is good within this price range. Committee is agreed that buying drinks en masse is better than making regular trips. Max offered to check for offers online at Tesco and Majestic.

Martina enquired whether matriculation photo has arrived. May not have been ordered. **ACTION: Check with Amy**

Rosie said we should display pictures again rather than having them in a pile in MCR. Concerns about Manolo objecting, some pictures being damaged or cluttering appearance of MCR. Prefer to replace paintings with pictures of college groups as instills a greater sense of community. Richard suggested displaying extra pictures in graduate residences. Problem with putting up remaining pictures in MCR is that they are odd shapes or colours and don't fit with existing pictures. We also need to leave space for future group pictures. Some photos need reframing.

Rosie and Dan also discussed improving lighting and getting plants to make the room cosy. **ACTION: Dan, Melissa and Doug to buy plants when shopping for football tournament.**

Committee could spend an afternoon to fix all the small problems eg picture hooks, visible wires. **ACTION: Arrange a suitable time.**

Mark has been asked whether MCR could arrange a trip to a theme park eg Alton Towers. Would mean hiring CUSU minibus. Alternatively we could arrange trip to Thorpe Part which is accessible by public transport. Will trial CUSU minibus with paintballing trip to see if it would be viable to use again.

7. Next meeting

Melissa has offered to host the next meeting at Brookside and she would provide dinner. She suggested Tuesday 26th. Max, Joanna and Mark probably wouldn't be able to make this. **ACTION: Need to speak to Melissa again to see if any other dates would be possible.**