

St Catharine's College MCR

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 28th July 2010, 18:30 in the MCR

Present: Tom, Sophie, John, Niamh, Rachelle, Chris, Blaine, Doug

Agenda: 1. By-Elections 2. Additional payment for heat and light 3. Preliminary thoughts about Freshers' week 4. Airbeds management 5. MCR feedback box 6. Should the MCR buy and resell gowns and bikes from leaving students? 7. New green reps for Russell Street 8. washing lines / drying racks for grad residences to reduce use of tumble dryers 9. Russell Street mail 10. Any other business.

1. By-Elections

It was argued that it would be good to have a full committee before Freshers' Week but on the other hand we didn't want to hold an election during the summer time as too many people might be away and not able to vote or stand for a position. Also it would be nice to give the Freshers' a chance to take part in the elections.

Therefore it was decided to co-opt Daniel Freitag as Treasurer and Fiona Docherty as Secretary for now until the by-elections later in the year (possibly November) where they will have to (officially) stand for these positions in the voting and be elected by the students to keep them..

2. Heat & Light

It was agreed to make a list of broken heaters etc. that can't be turned off and similar things where energy is wasted on the cost of the students. To get the full report about the additional payment for heat and light we have to wait for the Senior Bursar to get back from holiday.

It was agreed to move agenda point 3. (Freshers' week issues) to the end of the meeting.

4. Airbeds

It was agreed that the fact that the MCR is providing airbeds for the students to borrow should be published more. It was also suggested to set up a website or print out a sign-up sheet for their use. It was agreed to place the airbeds in Niamh/Chris's kitchen to have to MCR committee members around to look after them.

5. MCR feedback box

The possibility of setting up a feedback box in the MCR as a trial run, observe the usage and skip it if unused was discussed. The possibility of using an online system was brought up, the problem here might lie in keeping it anonymous.

6. Bike/gown purchase/re-sale

Gowns easy: price £30, storage in MCR cupboards possible. Bikes quite difficult as storage problem. It was suggested that racks in College could be cleared out and the bikes stored there. Another problem is to find someone to be responsible to look after them. It was suggested that the Food and drink officer could take over this task.

7. Domestic issues (agenda points 7, 8 and 9)

As the MCR has some money left over from previous years we thought about asking for ideas on capital expenditure. One suggestion was to buy our own washing machines. (**Blaine** offered to look into this/find out about washing machine contract).

Green reps: Quite a few of the green reps in Russell Street who were responsible for collecting the recycling and putting it in the appropriate bin left this year. To find new green reps: In Freshers' week, Chris will send out an email and try to recruit people with prospect of free dinner.

It was agreed that we have to make students in grad accommodations aware of the fact that they should report any complaints or issues with bedders to Kathryn Smart. Otherwise it goes unnoticed by the College if some rooms are not properly or regularly cleaned.

Complaints about maintenance should go to Phil Dean.

It was agreed to invest in washing lines/drying racks to reduce the use of the tumble dryers in Russell Street.

Mail issues in Russell Street: Currently the mail mostly ends up in a kind of mess. Name labels on the pigeon holes might simplify the system. -> make students put their own name tag at their pigeon hole. It was suggested to set up separate boxes for junk and misdelivered mail. (**Chris** to look into this).

It was agreed that the MCR notice board in the entrance hall of Russell Street will be taken over and updated by **Rachelle**.

3. Freshers' week Sun 3rd to Sun 10th October 2010

It was agreed to set up Freshers' week similar to last year with some minor changes (i.e. film night instead of bowling)

Saturday 2nd Oct

Pub trip -> someone to phone pubs to warn them

Sunday 3rd Oct

afternoon: Scavenger Hunt -> need to buy toy cats and cameras

evening: welcome party: cheese and wine reception (**Sophie** to book Ramsden Room and get permission of Dean)

Monday 4th Oct

Games night in Russell Street -> think of games, serve food/drinks

Tuesday 5th Oct

Pubcrawl: fewer pubs than last year so there is more time in each, pub crawl bingo in groups: include non-alcoholic drinks on the sheets; 'exotic' drinks not served in every pub.

Wednesday 6th Oct

As the bowling last year was rather poorly attended it was decided to hold a Film night in Russell Street instead.

Thursday 7th Oct

Parent and child dinner: pre-dinner drinks in Ramsden Room. (**Sophie** to book Ramsden Room and get permission of Dean).

Friday 8th Oct

Go to another college's bop (possibly Clare) or backup plan: punting.

Saturday 9th Oct

Bop in Catz Bar, (**Sophie** to book Bar and get permission of Dean)

Sunday 10th Oct

Barbeque in South Green

The meeting closed just after 20:00.

Notes were taken by Chris and typed up by Niamh and Sophie.