

MCR Committee, St. Catharine's College
Meeting held on Tuesday 10th October, 2017

MINUTES

Present: Sarah Paris (SP – Co-president), Charlotte Kenealy (CK – Co-president), Helen Wilkes (HW – Secretary), Fynn Krause (FK – Treasurer), Frances St George-Hyslop (FS – Welfare Officer), Jonny Davidson (JD – Formal Hall officer), Souradip Mookerjee (SM – Computer officer), Conrad Watt (CW – Food and Drinks officer), Joe Cooper (JC – Accommodation officer), Julien Mahin (JM - Social secretary), Dermot Trainor (DT - Social secretary).

Absence with apologies:

Iacopo Russo (IR – Green officer).

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Sarah Paris. The meeting was minuted by Helen Wilkes.

01	<p>Co-presidents' Report</p> <p>1 Constitutional amendments –</p> <p>HW has amended the constitution to incorporate changes as discussed at a previous meeting (03/07/17). These changes have been agreed to at the meeting 03/07/17.</p> <p>Action: The proposed changes will be presented to the MCR members for a referendum vote.</p> <p>2 Fourth year representatives -</p> <p>Action – Establish a role of 4th year representative, who would not be a member of the MCR committee but would be invited to all MCR meetings and would represent the views and interests of the 4th years, and be able to vote in MCR decisions directly affecting the 4th year undergraduates. The 4th year representative must not be a member of the JCR committee. (Proposed by SP, Seconded by CK)</p> <p>Vote - Passed – Unanimous: This addition of the 4th year representative will be presented to the MCR members for a referendum vote.</p> <p>3 CUSU meeting –</p> <p>Report back from recent CUSU meeting: they have changed their process of voting – now, any changes to their constitution will be presented at two meetings, but will only be debated at the first meeting unless the change was starred for the second meeting.</p> <p>4 Charity allocations –</p>	<p>SP, CK, HW, CW</p>
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	College has asked for recommendations about charitable causes to be donated to. In particular, they are looking for suggestions about, local charities, charities that current students are involved with, and smaller charities.	
02	<p>Food and Drink Report</p> <p>1 Pre-drinks clean up</p> <p>Action: CW will re-implement asking attendees to put their empty glasses in trays/crates or table by the door. If this is insufficient, then will re-visit issue.</p> <p>2 Special pre-drinks for Halloween formal –</p> <p>Will be organised with FK.</p> <p>3 Fridge in the MCR –</p> <p>Action: will enquire with college housekeeping about the cost of them regularly cleaning the MCR fridge.</p>	CW, FK, SP
03	<p>Formal Hall Report</p> <p>1 Formal hall pricing –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been no need for renegotiation of formal hall price. The cost has been frozen at the same price as last year. • Potentially may need to increase the cost of Formal hall for MCR members and their guests. <p>2 Fourth year PhD students –</p> <p>There have been enquiries from 4th year PhD students who would like to attend formal hall but are no longer paying the subscription fees.</p> <p>Clarification: these 4th year PhD students can attend formal hall but must pay guest price and can only book by emailing JD.</p> <p>3 Halloween formal –</p> <p>So far there are good levels of bookings. Everything for the formal is prepared and ready for the evening.</p>	JD, SP, CK
04	<p>Social Secretary Report</p> <p>1a Halloween social event –</p> <p>Plans for pumpkin carving and horror film night: will be held on the same night and will begin at 8pm in the MCR. The film will start approx. 9pm.</p> <p>1b Halloween Bop –</p> <p>There are many usable decorations in the social cupboard. The DJ has been contacted for the bop.</p>	JM, DT, FK

	<p>2 Comedy night –</p> <p>Craig has organised at St Catz comedy night at the bar. Action: this will be advertised to the MCR members.</p> <p>3 Christmas bop –</p> <p>Plans for the Christmas bop a beginning to form: will have karaoke at the bop instead of a DJ.</p> <p>4 Catz music night –</p> <p>Will start planning a music night at St Catz, as a quieter social event. Potentially, this may be a combined MCR/JCR event.</p>	
05	<p>Green Officer Report</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>	
06	<p>Welfare Officer Report</p> <p>1 Student minds –</p> <p>The graduate representative for Student minds Catz contacted FS about the potential need for more welfare provision for MCR members.</p> <p>2 Male welfare contact –</p> <p>The graduate representative from Student minds has also offered to act as a male welfare contact, for those who would feel more comfortable contacting a male welfare person. It was agreed that the provision of separate genders for welfare was unnecessary because the welfare officer is competent to provide assistance and/or contact information for appropriate support.</p> <p>3 Welfare walk –</p> <p>FS has organised a welfare walk to Grantchester, with the opportunity for participants to buy afternoon tea (for £5) at the orchard tearooms.</p> <p>4 Sunday treats –</p> <p>The potential to offer a welfare element to Sunday treats, and allow MCR members to be able to talk with MCR committee members.</p>	FS, SP, CK
07	<p>Education Officer Report</p> <p>1 By-election –</p> <p>HW will send manifestos following this MCR meeting and voting will open 17/10/17.</p> <p>2 Symposium –</p> <p>Annabel Taylor has been taking care of the symposium organisation and will update the new education officer, once they are in place. Currently organisation for the symposium is as expected.</p>	SP, CK, HW,

	<p>3 Pastoral care for graduates –</p> <p>It is considered that there is insufficient provision of pastoral care for graduate students on a university wide scale. Currently, the GU are investigating the issue of supervisor bullying and the inequality of supervisor quality and student pastoral care across the university. The GU investigation is also looking into how the departments could improve. The committee believes that college could improve their role in the pastoral care of its graduate students. SP and CK will take this issue to the appropriate college education committee meeting.</p>	
08	<p>Computer Officer Report</p> <p>1 New website –</p> <p>The new website has been rolled out and there has been a positive reception of it.</p> <p>2 Future work –</p> <p>The formal hall system will be updated.</p> <p>The accommodation room database is being worked on.</p> <p>SM asked other MCR committee members to check the ‘general information’ pages on the website, that are relevant to them, and give him feedback.</p>	SM
09	<p>Secretary Report</p> <p>1 Newsletter items –</p> <p>Reminder members to send items for the weekly newsletter.</p> <p>2 By-election –</p> <p>Action: HW will open voting for the by-election for education and the referendum for constitutional changes on 17/10/17 and close voting on 20/10.17</p> <p>3 Pictures –</p> <p>Action: HW will order framed pictures, of the old MCR committee (2016/17), midsummer formal (2017) and matriculation (2017/18), for the MCR.</p>	HW
10	<p>Treasurer Report</p> <p>1 JCR exclusive bar payment –</p> <p>The JCR are supposed to pay the MCR for exclusive use of the bar. This arrangement is out of date and the JCR no longer pay the MCR. Action: this will be changed in writing.</p> <p>2 Key deposit –</p> <p>There is approx. £2,000 from old unclaimed key deposits that the MCR committee would like it to be put back into the MCR. Action: ask MCR members for their</p>	FK, SP, CK, JD, CW, HW, FS, JM, DT, SM, JC

	<p>suggestions of projects for this money for the MCR. A proposal for the use of this money will be put to college for the £2,000.</p> <p>3 Fee increases –</p> <p>The full presentation of the budget is available on the website, alongside these minutes.</p> <p>In summary, the MCR is in need of a larger income, and the subscription fee has not been increased in the last 16 years. The cost of formal hall and alcohol and cheese associated with formal hall is a substantial percentage of the MCR budget.</p> <p>Action: To increase the cost of formal hall by approx. £1. Vote: 2 in favour.</p> <p>Action: To increase the cost of the MCR subscription fee. Vote: 10 in favour.</p>	
11	<p>Accommodation</p> <p>1 Frying pans –</p> <p>The college has now provided the MCR with written confirmation that graduates in college accommodation are allowed to shallow fry food.</p> <p>2 Building and services meeting –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barton Road property’s boiler is/will be fixed imminently. • Russel street residence is the only property left to have a digital survey carried out. • Russel street will be having a bike purge. • General notes about maintenance work: there should be no noisy works carried out before 9am, if there are then this should be reported to Peter Young; and Contractors that are in residences should have a lanyard on display – when they collect a room key, they will be provided with a lanyard. • Residents should send maintenance requests to Richard Malley or Peter Young if they feel like their maintenance requests are not being followed up. • Archaeological digs will be being carried out later in the year, to further investigate the archaeological features that were uncovered during the waterpipe work. Students will be welcome to get involved. • 88 Chesterton road property – this is rented from Lucy Cavendish, who removed many of the items from the residence. Residents will be reimbursed for the cost of the items they had to replace. Residents should report any maintenance issues to St Catharines. • Any issues with the accommodation should be reported to college by the residents. Residents should be reminded that the bedders cannot report issues. <p>Action: JC will send an email to with the relevant information to the MCR.</p>	JC

12	Miscellaneous	
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