

St Catharine's College MCR meeting minutes, 15th of February 2022

Committee members present:

Praharsh Babu, accommodation officer
Rosie Good, women's and non-binary officer
Claire Guimond, co-LGBTQ+ officer
Simone Monti, education officer
Sohane Mousseid Yahya, BME officer
Ashirbad Nayak, co-president
Sam Stephenson, green officer
Callum Watson, secretary
Tom Willis, computer officer
Livia Wilod Versprille, treasurer

Not present:

Felix von Horstig, food and drink officer
Louis Christie, co-social secretary
Jess Forsdyke, formal hall officer
Charlotte Guffick, welfare officer
Frey Kalus, co-LGBTQ+ officer
Nikita Kamath, fourth-year representative
Rachel McKeown, access officer
Souradip Mookerjee, co-president
Chris Welland, co-social secretary

Matters arising from last meeting

- Potential of co-opting another food & drinks officer – see below
- Mugs: to be covered this weekend
- Accommodation survey – see below

Accommodation – shortening the notice period:

- College were not completely happy about reducing the notice period for students moving out to 1 month, but 2 months might work.
- They're concerned about the possibility of empty rooms.
- Trying to advertise rooms and inform students about them better might help mitigate this. E.g. showing where building works are on would be good.

- Room rent may be re-banded once information is clearer.
- Meeting with relevant college staff to follow.
- There's still room for improvement when people urgently need to leave a room – e.g. college should explicitly allow for exceptions in exceptional circumstances.

Other accommodation matters

- It's unclear which types of cleaning supplies college are supplying.
- Lots of abandoned bikes around, blocking access at Russell Street, and also similar issues at South Green Road.

Access

- Welfare and access tea will hopefully be run once every two weeks on Fridays.

Women of Colour History Month events:

- Possibility of an event for helping with natural hair
- Sohane could invite the author of a relevant book to talk at Catz. The welfare budget can help with this.
- We could also commemorate International Women's Day.

Food & Drinks

- Felix is standing down as Food & Drink officer
- Aden Solway has been co-opted as a new Food & Drink officer

Education

- College want to help ensure people are comfortable e.g. in the library so mask usage is strongly encouraged.

- College want to increase the number of postgraduates. Good to have more grads around, provided accommodation, pigeonholes etc can keep up.

Green Week

- Catz MCR and JCR could hold Green Week, either at the end of this term or in Michaelmas

LGBTQ+ bop / bar night

- Having gender-neutral bathrooms would be fantastic for this – will need to ask the dean