

St Catharine's College MCR meeting minutes, 26th of April 2022

Committee members present:

Praharsh Babu, accommodation officer
Louis Christie, co-social secretary
Jess Forsdyke, formal hall officer
Rosie Good, women's and non-binary officer
Charlotte Guffick, welfare officer
Souradip Mookerjee, co-president
Ashirbad Nayak, co-president
Aden Solway, food and drink officer
Sam Stephenson, green officer
Callum Watson, secretary
Livia Wilod Versprille, treasurer

Committee members not present:

Claire Guimond, co-LGBTQ+ officer
Frey Kalus, co-LGBTQ+ officer
Nikita Kamath, fourth-year representative
Rachel McKeown, access officer
Simone Monti, education officer
Sohane Mousseid Yahya, BME officer
Chris Welland, co-social secretary
Tom Willis, computer officer

Rent negotiations

- Niamh (finance tutor) wasn't consulted on rent negotiations this year.
- Praharsh and Souradip are putting a statement together to be read at the meeting.
- Niamh is not happy with the way all costs are being forwarded to students, with the only offer of further funding being hardship funds.
- In future, the existence of role mailboxes should help keep a record of promises from college on e.g. finances, though as a committee we should also try and ensure non-email records are given forwards too.

MCR decorations

- Souradip is to ask Maintenance to move photos from mantelpiece to walls.
- Souradip is also to arrange a committee picture to be taken before Mid-summer Dinner.

Welfare swimming

Suggested for this term. Can either do this in the river (free), or the lido. Lido costs £5 each, which should be fine under the budget.

Budget

- JCR are struggling with paying their 50% of yoga, with costs increasing.
- Their suggestions include e.g. paying 50% during term with the MCR paying it all outside of term (or undergrad residency period). We have the budget for this.
- As an alternative, in the past we've allowed students and staff from other colleges to come, and charged them a small fee.
- Livia has obtained the JCR committee's contact details, in case we need to get in touch when organising things.
- Updated system of reimbursements: Scan can receipts and put them on a Google Drive, which then goes into a spreadsheet that's visible to the committee, which is good for transparency and seeing how much of each subcategory of budget has been spent.
- This system will be implemented soon.
- It's till a bit hard to get information from college things paid by them from the MCR account.
- E.g. there's risk of double-charging on things like TV licensing, and it took months to find out how much we'd received in MCR subscriptions.
- Would be worth mentioning these difficulties to Niamh too.

Election

- Aim to have manifestos in by 23rd of May
- Election 6th – 9th of June
- Email to be sent out encouraging people to apply

Events this term

- Harder to organise due to Quiet Period
- Suggestions:
 - Punting again would be good
 - Possibility of a barbecue on the sports fields

- A board games night to take the place of bar nights.
- Given Scudamore’s deal is no longer on it could be worth looking for deals with other companies.
- We could buy some paddleboards?
- Could have a Eurovision night in the MCR

Formals this term

- The Master says we can use his garden for drinks before Midsummer Dinner.
- Pre-dinner acoustic band to be sorted out. Last year’s was *The Galapagos* – could try them again but need to work out cost.
- Could potentially have Pimms’ instead of prosecco.
- Jess is away for a couple of weeks this term so other members of the committee are standing in at the relevant formals.
- Hall capacity is up to 100 now (from 80).
- The covid free refund policy has been scrapped.

Green Week

- Green Week is next week, including a plant-based formal.

Coffee Machine

- Is broken, could be expensive to fix.
- We need to check they’re actually fixing our machine not the Armitage Room’s one when we pay to have it fixed. They’re both from the same company.

Banner

Catz against cat-calling banner has gone. Perhaps someone took it?