

Minutes for the MCR General Meeting on Tuesday 30th April 2013-04-30

Meeting begins at 8.23pm.

Apologies: Bobby Brooks (Men's Welfare), Sam Calderwood (Sports Rep)

Committee Reports

Iwan

- There is now a myriad of cleaning equipment available to use in the MCR (i.e. scourers etc.
- The dishwasher is a bit broken. This is being looked into, but please wash up by hand for the time being.
- Let Iwan know if you have any tea requests.
- Milk can be obtained from stores whenever needed.

Ellie

- Welfare reps are now back in the country and will be active shortly.

Meg/Hannah/Patrick

- Thank you to those who came to Champagne & Cocktails.
- Thursday is take-away night.
- May morning celebrations tomorrow – meet in Ship St at 5.40am
- Bin liners are at the bottom of the bin
- Ed Owen notes that we can leave rubbish in the archway leading to the bins – don't have to take it all the way.
- The termcard is out. Further events will be detailed by email, including a joint sports day with New College.
- There is now an MCR Facebook group.

Matt W

- Bobby will email tomorrow regarding welfare.
- Please contact Matt W if you have network issues.

Emrys

- Nothing to report.

Matt S

- Thank you for coming to formal and helping to make quorum.
- MCR artwork commissioned some time ago is still happening. Mike Clapton has just finished JCR mural so will hopefully start it soon.

Ariel

- Three Stags newsletter being headed up by Matt W. Contributions are welcomed.
- We are having a general going over of the MCR and bunker. Please give feedback to Ariel or the social secs. We need to make sure that college do not try to reclaim the bunker.

- A freshers' committee will be formed soon. Let Ariel or the social secs know if you are interested.
- There may be an MCR Twitter feed soon.

MCR Budget 2013-2014

This MCR notes that:

1) Point X:B of the MCR constitution reads:

The MCR Treasurer is to prepare a budget detailing a financial plan for the year, to be proposed by them at the first General Meeting of Trinity Term, or by another MCR Committee member in the Treasurer's absence. The budget shall include a forecast total income, expenditure and a breakdown of planned expenses. The budget shall not be considered binding on the MCR but shall be used as a guide. The budget shall be updated accordingly throughout the year with the approval of the MCR.

2) The MCR Treasurer has prepared his budget for the 2013-2014 financial year.

This MCR therefore proposes:

3) To accept the MCR Treasurer's budget under the terms detailed in point X:B of the MCR constitution.

Proposed: Matt Saxton

Seconded: Ariel Gregory

- Main difference to last year is money set aside for a refreshers' week.
- It is asked if we need to spend so much on newspapers due to online availability. About 40 people responded to previous newspaper survey. The next survey (probably Hilary term) will consider whether there is still sufficient demand.
- Budget is flexible so can easily adjust to incorporate change in newspaper demand etc. throughout the year.

For: Majority

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

MOTION PASSES

Supernumerary MCR membership request

This MCR notes:

- 1) Luke Faulkner, who recently graduated from the University with a degree in Music, is friends with several members of the MCR.
- 2) He has already contributed to the cultural and social life of a) the Jesus MCR, with his performance of background piano music at MCR events; b) Jesus College, through his past and planned future performances for junior and senior members of College in the Principal's Lodgings.
- 3) As Luke no longer has a college affiliation, he would like to request supernumerary MCR membership to become a part of the MCR community, to meet and socialize with more members of the MCR, and to continue contributing to the MCR.

This MCR therefore proposes to:

- 4) Confer supernumerary MCR membership upon Luke Faulkner.

Proposed: Emily Winkler

Seconded: Therese Graversen

- There are fees (equal to full MCR membership). These are paid to Accounts.
- Supernumerary members have access to all batted college facilities.

For: Unanimous

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

MOTION PASSES

MCR Board Games

This MCR notes:

- 1) The MCR board game collection could do with some new board games.
- 2) Clare Brand has some good ideas for board games.

This MCR therefore proposes to:

- 3) Let Clare buy some more board games for the MCR board game collection and to reimburse her for the cost, limited to a maximum of £75.

Proposed: Matt Saxton

Seconded: Chris Flanagan

- Clare's ideas are Balderdash and Articulate.
- Other ideas should be given to Clare.
- Clare will first do an audit of the current collection so that no duplicates are purchased.

For: Majority

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION PASSES

Junior Members' Utility Subsidy

This MCR notes that:

- 1) The prices charged by college for accommodation and utilities have become unacceptably high. The price of college flats now exceeds the value of the basic student loan, and this is before utilities and the hall charge are added.
- 2) College is increasingly becoming unaffordable. If increases in rent and electricity continue much longer, access schemes will suffer and the college will be unable to attract the best students, both in the JCR and MCR, regardless of their background.

3) College has said that increased accommodation and utility charges would be offset by increases in bursaries, yet bursaries have remained effectively static for the last 4 years.

4) Electricity prices are so high in Stevens and Hazel Court because of the absence of a proper central heating system, and because College replaced storage heaters which took advantage of the Economy 7 fuel package with new electric heaters which fail to properly heat a room and often use electricity at the full unit price.

5) The JCR President, along with the MCR President, the JCR and MCR execs, and the JCR Access Rep, have produced a report and proposal calling for a 50% subsidy on electricity at Stevens Close and Hazel Court, to be called the Junior Members' Utility Subsidy or JMUS. Statistics from a recent JCR survey are included in this report, illustrating the effects high electricity prices have had on access, future donations, mould, health, welfare and student finances. The JMUS will be used as an incentive for the college to address the core of these issues, whilst still providing for the well-being of current students.

6) College will only listen if all members of the JCR and MCR stand together and speak clearly with one decisive voice. Something MUST be done about the unnecessarily high cost of electricity at Stevens Close and Hazel Court.

This MCR therefore proposes to:

- 1) Mandate the MCR President to lobby college for the establishment of the JMUS.
- 2) Fully ratify and endorse the JMUS to demonstrate that it has the support of the MCR members.

Proposed: Ariel Gregory

Seconded: Matt Saxton

- High prices at Stevens Close and Hazel Court are putting many residents in fuel poverty.
- Stevens Close heating is on Economy 7 but current heaters fail to take advantage.
- Also some towel heaters at Stevens that can't be turned off.
- Hazel Court badly designed for heat insulation.
- 50% subsidy for these properties will encourage college to fix these problems.
- Meters will be put in to help students monitor their usage.
- There is seemingly no disadvantage to the MCR to support this.

For: Majority

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

MOTION PASSES

AOB

- An MCR clean-out will happen. You have one and a half weeks to remove any belongings from the MCR or bunker. A reminder email will be sent.
- The Junior Member's Scholarship has gone on battels. Double amount this term since not sorted out by Accounts last term. Student will start next year, studying Italian and Linguistics.
- Members were charged twice for the punt scheme. This has been resolved.

Meeting closes at 9.02pm.