

# St. Catharine's College MCR Committee Meeting

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2007 7.30pm

**Present:** Justin Bangs, Liz Clarke, Martina Diep, Rosie Fera, Dan Friess, Paul Gazzoli, Ali Goatly, Richard Jones, John Keightley

**Apologies:** Amy Digout

**Absent:** Roy Hamans

## 1. Purchase of Croquet Set

John proposed the purchase of a croquet set, valued at £100. Problems of locating the set (at WH, RS or the MCR), transport and high cost were discussed. A decision was made by the committee to delay purchase.

**Action Point: John to look into cheaper alternatives.**

## 2. Eurovision Song Contest

Rosie has solicited food donations from MCR members, and other refreshments will be purchased on the day. The party will begin at 7.30pm on Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> of May.

## 3. Midsummer Dinner

Dan announced that the band 'Casa del Funk' are not available for the 30<sup>th</sup> of June. John proposed having a swing/big band as an alternative.

**Action: John to look into costs/availability of such a band. Rosie to email Ents list for band and pianist recommendations.**

Liz reported that a grand piano at dinner would cost +£350 and an upright piano would cost +£200 for rental and transport (not including additional insurance costs) Moving the College piano would still cost +£200 and require a tuning; this idea has been resisted by College. Performance costs upwards of £100 also need to be budgeted for. Dan offered his keyboard for use at no cost. The idea was advanced to having a string quartet due to lower costs and logistic simplicity.

**Action: Liz to contact Lizzie about last year's string quartet, Dan to speak to his friend in the Music Dept.**

There was also concern regarding MPhil students moving out on that day, and a request that we could decide the menu for this event.

**Action: Dan to get response from Heather re. leaving dates. Dan and John to speak to Rob Lee re. dining options.**

## 4. College Charitable Donations

The MCR was asked by the College Consultative Committee meeting to select 4 suggestions to donate to from a list of charities. After a vote, Lifecraft (local mental health), STIMULUS

(science and maths teaching in local schools), Cambridge Central Aid Society and Cambridge Women's Aid were chosen.

**Action: Dan to present view of the committee at next CCC meeting**

#### **5. College Smoking Society**

In addition to the public smoking ban coming into force on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, the College Consultative Committee has asked the MCR committee to comment on a proposal to make all bedrooms smoking-free. This is already the policy in many other Colleges. The committee proposed locating smokers together (though this has implications for room quality and decoration) and agreed that an MCR referendum would be pointless, as the views of students are widely known.

**Action: Dan to present view of the committee at next CCC meeting**

#### **6. Constitutional Amendments**

In addition to the point regarding leaving the MCR during the period of study, the following suggestions were also made:

- Handover date to reflect the actual date.
- GU attendance in the External Officer's role profile
- Food and Drink Officer to assist the Formal Hall Officer where required

A proposal for a clause to remove committee members was decided against due to the potential for divisiveness amongst a future committee, and the fact that co-opted members could foreseeably remove elected committee members.

**Action: Dan to present points to the Graduate Tutors and Senior Tutor.**

#### **7. Finalising our Board Year**

Due to Roy's absence this was left to discuss at the next meeting.

#### **8. Any Other Business**

Richard has confirmed a subscription to the Economist for the MCR.

**Action: Dan to purchase clock [no longer required], Martina to follow up on paintball event.**

**Next meeting: Monday May 21<sup>st</sup>, 7.30pm**