

St Catharine's College MCR Committee

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 24th February 2010, 18:30 in the MCR

Present: Becky, Cat, Charlotte, Hamish, Maeve, Doug, Sophie, John

Apologies: Alex, Blaine

Agenda: 1. Midsummer Dinner 2. Tidying up the MCR 3. Salsa night at La Raza 4. Ideas for bringing up at the forthcoming College Consultative Committee meeting on 6th May 5. Setting a date for this term's Open Meeting 6. Elections for next year's Committee

1. Midsummer Dinner

Charlotte update – Before dinner entertainment to include Splat the Rat, Coconut Shy, Hooking Ducks, Candy Floss, Guess the weight of the Pig, Morris Men (confirmed) and pre-dinner drinks to be cider, Pimms and juice. A photographer (Jet) is to be booked by Becky. The Dean's permission (including for decoration of Chapel Court) has been confirmed, providing we give all guests wristbands (ribbons – to be put out on the dinner tables). After-dinner entertainment to be confirmed (hopefully Barn Dancing). Decorations are to be planned by Charlotte and Alex and bought (bunting, gazebo, hay etc. in Chapel Court, drapes, flowers in Hall). Ideas to use up excess budget include providing wine and apple juice for the meal. Further details and arrangements to be made at a meeting closer to the time.

2. Tidying up the MCR

Done! Cat will send an email around the list to tell people to collect their items and keep it tidy!

3. Salsa night at La Raza

Charlotte passed on the message from the GU that they've arranged with La Raza that MCRs can book it for their own events (especially considering Quiet Period). We've previously tried to arrange a Salsa night in College without success (mainly due to not finding a suitable date). The general consensus was it would be good to have something over the Summer, possibly after a formal. Formals over the summer are subject to discussion with College and will be subject to demand. Cat agreed to ask Hall and the Dean about the possibility of semi-regular formals, starting in July, then to ask about Salsa.

4. Ideas for bringing up at the forthcoming College Consultative Committee (CCC) meeting on 6th May

a) Recycling at Russell Street – progress? b) Bin emptying – possibility of lower frequency and common sense? c) Maintenance at Russell Street – recurrent problems and sometimes slow or inadequate response, d) Confirmation of College Bill charges (e.g. Kitchen Fixed Charge) – it would be good to have an online, up to date reference for these, e) Banging corridor doors in Russell Street – can they be altered so they close more softly? f) Update on the College Bar – we haven't heard anything for a while... g) Communal room at South Green – the idea had been proposed with great support but turned down due to one complaint. Perhaps a room could be designated from the start of next year before rooms are allocated?

Additionally, allocation of College Charity funds will be discussed at the CCC; Becky said she'd send round the details to any Committee member interested. Becky, Cat, Charlotte, Maeve and Sophie said they'd go.

5. Setting a date for this term's Open Meeting

To be held at the same time as Hustings (see 6.)

6. Elections for next year's Committee

Hustings need to be around 1 week before Midsummer Dinner (19 June). The date of Thursday 10th June, before Formal Hall, was agreed for Hustings, after which voting will open. Voting will close on 18th June. Advertising for nominations to commence immediately, with a deadline of 1st June to allow a couple of days to chase people up before publication of the manifestos one week before Hustings.

7. Any Other Business

7.1. Formal Hall rules – It was mentioned that it would be good to discuss these with the Dean, before the CCC, particularly the rule about not leaving the table without permission before the Fellows leave. Cat said that she'd email him...

7.2. Charlotte brought up the issue of 'perks' or compensation for being on the MCR Committee – reasons being the workload and cost (both financially and timewise) of organising and attending the various events through the year. Becky mentioned that this year we'll get the Midsummer Dinner free on the MCR's budget, but in the future perhaps more compensation is in order.

7.3. Sophie mentioned the absence of seating/benches in the Russell Street green patch. It was agreed that the MCR could buy benches. It was also mentioned that it would be great to have drying lines outside at Russell Street too!

7.4. Charlotte again said we should redesign the MCR website and everyone agreed. Charlotte will ask around to find a designer...

The meeting closed just after 20:20.

These notes were taken by the secretary