



Minutes of MCR General Meeting

4 May 2009, 8:15pm

Purpose of Meeting:	General Discussion
Chair:	Xavier Droux (President)
Scribe:	Glenn Wilkinson (Secretary)

Topics Discussed:

1. President's Welcome

- Xavier welcomed everyone to the meeting, and noted that the secretary was wearing a skirt due to campaign promises.
- Xavier thanked volunteers who helped at the Emily Carr party and Liz Bate for helping store supplies.

2. Report on Progress of past MCR Motions

a. Gym

- Xavier noted that the gym in the EPA is to be closed. The MCR will instead have membership to the Iffley Road gym, as well as its swimming pool facilities.
- Blaine Moore inquired if reimbursement could be given to students who had already paid for membership to this gym.
- The existing gym in the EPA will be used by the archivist.
- A vote on the college going ahead with this plan was held, all present were in favour with the exception one abstention.

b. Library Seats

- It was noted that MCR members have priority seating at the large table upstairs in the library. There is a sign to indicate this.

c. College Website

- It was noted that the senior tutor has plans to vastly change the existing college website

Action Items:

- Xavier to enquire about refunds to students who have already paid membership fees to Iffley gym.
- Xavier to enquire if associate members are included in the gym membership.

3. Finance Report

- George presented a financial report, which can be viewed in the attached document.

4. Nominations to Reps positions

Xavier noted that the MCR committee can create rep positions at its discretion, and had created two social rep positions to assist the existing committee social secretaries.

- Voting for positions was as follows:
 - Lionel Nichols (Green) – Unanimous
 - Richard Passmore (Green) – Unanimous
 - Margherita Coccia (Food) – Unanimous
 - Andrew Johnson (Academic) – Unanimous
 - Jian Dong & Ashley Napier (Social) – Unanimous
- Lionel can not start getting involved until Michaelmas term due to other commitments, but Richard will begin immediately.

5. Shared Expenses with JCR

a. Vac Project Donation

- Laura and Diana from the JCR presented the work they do with VacProj. They give holiday type excursions to children from hard backgrounds, such as taking them ice-skating, to cinemas etc.
- Last year the MCR donated £1500 towards this cause. The topic of discussion was whether to keep this amount, change it, or eliminate payment.
- It was noted that the JCR had already contributed £1,400 from battles and raised a further £800. It was further noted that the SCR has contributed £2,000.
- It was asked of the representatives if MCR members could get more directly involved in the campaign.
- After discussion it was unanimously agreed (with one abstention) that we would make the same £1,500 contribution.
- It was also agreed that the position of charity rep would be **opened for the next meeting**, such that we can be more involved with events like this.

b. Croquet Set

- Xavier noted that the JCR had approached us about sharing the cost of a new croquet set, as the old one is in tatters. The JCR would like ¼ of the cost, since they realise we use it less than them. They have asked for around £25.
- Those present unanimously voted in agreement.

c. Ball Donation

- The Lincoln Ball is to take place on the 8th May 2010. The Ball committee has asked for a donation of £1,500 towards the event.
- Concern was raised over the lack of MCR involvement.
- The voting for the donation of £1,500 towards the Lincoln Ball was as follows:
 - For: Majority
 - Against: 3
 - Abstentions: 1
- Therefore the motion passed.

d. Digital Recorder

- The JCR would like to purchase a digital video recorder for the EPA tv room, and have asked the MCR to pay half of the cost (£90 of £180).
- The vote for this was as follows:
 - For: 8
 - Against: 2
 - Abstentions: 14
- Therefore the motion passed.

6. Kitchen Charges

- Xavier related the exchanges he has had with the bursar concerning the increase kitchen charges for increased flexibility.
- He noted that in order to achieve the flexibility of including breakfasts and dinners in the 'compulsory' meals an increase from £47.40 to £70 would be made. The flexibility would also include meals in 0th and 9th weeks.
- The kitchen charge increase was not open to discussion, and was not voted on. Xavier will take any comments made back to the bursar.
- Concerns were raised around the rustication of this increase, in light that food inflation is only 18%.
- Margherita suggested lobbying the fellows on the Finance committee to voice concerns about the increase.
- Natalie suggested widening the lunch window.
- Those present agreed that a 25% increase along with the inclusion of guests would be acceptable.

7. Moving of the MCR common room

- Xavier presented several positive and negative aspects of the proposed moving of the MCR common room to the garden building.
- Xavier noted that not enough people were present to vote on this important issue, and a meeting will be held at a later date.

8. Purchase of a Nintendo Wii

- Jian Dong presented a motion on the purchase of a Wii for the MCR common room.
- Concerns over security and noise were raised.

- Jian noted that the Wii will be placed inside a secure box, the key of which would be signed out from the lodge. He requested £400 for the gaming equipment and security measures.
- The vote for the purchase of a Wii was as follows:
 - For: 12
 - Against: 7
 - Abstentions: 3
- Therefore motion passes, and Jian will purchase the Wii this week.

9. Other Business

- Latoya proposed we have an Annual General Meeting to discuss what has been done by the committee. It was noted that this is discussed at the first General Meeting of the year.
- Xavier noted that the common room now has several magazines.