



Grey

MCR

MINUTES OF THE MCR AGM HELD ON OCTOBER 20th 2005

1. Apologies

Dave Eastwood, Christine Locock, Alex Ford

2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the OGM held on 20th June 2005. Ella asked about magazine subscriptions, which are discussed later in the minutes.

3. President's Report

This is attached to the back of the minutes

4. Accounts

The accounts for the year are attached to the minutes. At present we are awaiting an update on the composition fee allowance balance.

The following questions were received:-

a) Dave Baldwin asked about when the financial year runs from and to:

Last year's treasurer said he ran the accounts inline with the tax financial year.

b) Alex Nutton queried spending £74 on Nature subscription:

These subscriptions are usually taken from the composition fee, but Nature had to come from the main account because they wouldn't accept a JCR cheque.

c) Annabel Saunders queried the amount of money spent on the Embroidery:

It was pointed out that the amount of money taken on the football shirts covered their cost.

5. Subscriptions

It was felt that last year's subscriptions were perhaps too biased towards the scientist members of the MCR – it was pointed out that these were purchased due to the makeup of last year's common room. People also wondered if papers could perhaps be provided instead of or as well as magazines. The course of action decided upon was to get the members to make suggestions to the exec. of possible magazine and paper subscriptions before taking the results to an email vote.

6. Facilities

The possibility of a link to SKY was raised:

This is rather hard to accomplish and we hope to purchase freeview, which people seemed happy about.

Ella asked about the possibility of having new curtains and having them open more:

College has a quote for new curtains and is waiting for space in the maintenance budget to buy them.

People queried the time span for which the heaters are on mentioning that the room is sometimes cold:

Peter Dunn is in overall charge of the timers on these, but recently people have been turning them off whilst using the room and not switching them back on.



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The President mentioned that we hope to have a sink and toilet put into the cupboard at the end of the MCR. This proposal is currently with the Master.

The door code will be changed and mailed to the new membership in the near future.

7. Hustings.

The voting website will go live tomorrow with votes being accepted for a week. This will be announced by email to all Postgraduate members of College who haven't opted out of the MCR and to all 4th year Undergraduate members of College who have opted in and paid their membership fees. If 4th years who haven't paid their fees do so before next Thursday (27th), they will be allowed to vote in the elections.

Webmaster – Dave Clark stood and husted.

Dave has done this for a year already and has enjoyed the job. If re-elected he hopes to implement a log-in page.

He was asked about the website's content.

He is open to suggestions from the members about content.

4th year rep – Andy Wilson stood and husted.

Andy enjoyed being invited as a guest to some MCR events last year and is keen to "get involved" with the common room's running this year.

No questions were directed to Andy.

Secretary – Christine Locock (Annabel Saunders stood and husted by proxy for Christine.)

Christine was an honorary MCR last year and would like to help with the common room's running this year. She feels that she would make a fine job of being the MCR secretary.

Social Secretaries – Annabel Saunders and Alex Nutton stood and husted jointly.

Annabel and Alex would like to keep the social events that worked well last year (Keg night and pre/post formal drinks), but have ideas for new types of event. These include themed film nights, events with other MCRs and more inclusive events (e.g. the football and keg nights are aimed at the lads, and Annabel feels that more girlie events are needed.) The highlight of the social calendar would be a "Social Sec's Picnic, with a twist," when we would go rowing on the river whilst enjoying a picnic lunch with alcohol.

"Halve the workload, Double the fun, two for the price of one."

Annabel was asked if she would sit in the MCR whilst wearing her nurses outfit:

Annabel clarified that the nurse's outfit isn't her normal attire; she is only wearing it for a social later in the evening.

A question was asked about silly rounds in bar quizzes to keep the "Dev" tradition up:

This was thought to be a good idea if quizzes carried on.

Treasurer – Peter Swift stood and husted

Peter has really enjoyed his time as treasurer last year, and feels like he has managed the account, of a relatively small balance well. If re-elected as treasurer, Peter would continue to



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safeguard the accounts and make sure that the capital was wisely spent, keeping money in reserve for that latter part of the year.

He was asked about the miscellaneous part of last year's accounts:

If re-elected he would clarify this in the accounts.

Peter was asked what he would spend any surplus on:

He is happy to part subsidise social events, but isn't prepared to see all the money being spent on one night of drinking.

President – Dave Clark and Peter Clavert stood and hustled for the position. Peter Swift acted as chair for this hustling.

Peter

Thinks that last year's exec. has done a good job, but feels that new blood is needed to bring new momentum and ideas within the committee. He feels that people's first experience of the MCR is crucial and that the introduction could be better organised by selling the common room to penultimate year students at the end of their 3rd year. Peter would like to see an MCR noticeboard within College, and would also work with the JCR to see if part of the 4th years' JCR subscription could be used to pay their MCR membership without them having to pay two subscriptions. He would also look at ways of getting the MCR to be used more by its members, having wine tasting evenings, board games and Poker evenings. Peter feels that because he lives in College he could offer an open door welfare policy to members. He would have a suggestions box and would like to see more joint MCR events. "I may be a fresh face, but I have fresh ideas too."

Dave

Is the existing President and enjoyed working with the exec., the College Officers and other Colleges immensely last year, getting the MCR off the ground and raising its profile. He has and always will be, open to member's suggestions for improvements and hasn't been one track minded, and feels like he fostered a good sense of community within the MCR last year. Dave has worked closely with other MCR exec's setting up a Presidents' committee and would continue to pursue this if re-elected. He has worked with the head of the Graduate School to promote the benefits of Collegiate as opposed to Grad-Soc Postgraduates. If re-elected he would work with the social secretaries to expand and improve the social event calendar and would work with College to carry on improving the MCR facilities.

Questions

What had been done to integrate new Postgraduates into College this year and what would be done next year?

Dave – All new Postgraduates should have received an info pack, but this hasn't worked in some cases. He would make sure that this system's teething problems were ironed out for next year.

Peter – He would make sure that the mailing lists etc. were working correctly and would also try and raise the awareness of the MCR within College. He felt that the introductory evening went well, but next year this could benefit from more organisation next year.

How do deal with increased Postgraduate numbers within College?

Both candidates would work to improve MCR facilities.



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8. Any other business.

Dave Baldwin suggested that with the MCR membership increasing and because of numbers attending general meetings it may be worth appointing a Chairperson, who is impartial, to chair both these and exec. meetings.

The point was reiterated about prospective 4th years to have paid by this time next week (Thurs 27th) to be able to vote in the elections.

Dave mentioned that we could buy some posters to decorate the room. This suggestion was well received.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

In the absence of a secretary for the common room, the minutes were taken and produced by Peter Swift.