



Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2012

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## Agenda

1. Apologies for absence or lateness
  2. Announcement of the presence and purpose of guests
  3. Approval of the presence and speaking rights of guests
  4. Approval of the order of the agenda
  5. Reading by the secretary on request by any member, amendment if necessary and approval of the minutes of any previous Open Meeting not yet accepted by an Open Meeting.
  6. Matters Arising from the minutes
  7. Reports from the Committee
  8. Questions to the Committee
  9. Extraordinary Motions
  10. Ordinary Motions
    - a) Constitutional Review Report
    - b) Boat Club – Unclaimed Budget 2008-09
    - c) Boat Club Finances
    - d) New 3.3k Projector
    - e) Underwriting the Yearbooks
    - f) Sky problems in the TV Room
  11. Any other RCSA business
3. Both current and past RCSA Committee members have also been asked for feedback during this process.
  4. A new draft of the constitution has been drawn up – see separate document.

### RCSA Believes:

1. The constitutional review process has been performed well by those involved.
2. That the current constitution produced by the sub-committee is an improvement of the original and has clarified some unclear points from the original.

### RCSA Resolves:

1. To present this new constitution for consideration by the RCSA Executive, with a view to taking the matter to a referendum.

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## Ordinary Motions

### a) Constitutional Review Report

#### RCSA Notes:

1. The constitutional review sub-committee has been meeting to redraft a new form of the current RCSA Constitution as we are obliged to do by college
2. These meetings have been open for anybody who wishes to contribute to the new constitution to attend.

**Proposer: Jimmy Campbell**  
**Seconder: Ewan McGregor**

### b) Boat Club – Unclaimed budget 2008-2009

***THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS***

#### RCSA Notes:

1. That in the budget year 08-09, £8400 was allocated in the RCSA budget for the cost of renting the LMBC boathouse.

2. That college paid the bill and were expecting to be repaid by the allocated RCSA funds.
3. RCBC did not claim this amount in the budget year.
4. The invoice in question was paid by college, as was the previous agreement with the RCSA, who were then charged 45% of the cost of the Boat House.
5. That confusion was caused by the change in payment method for the LMBC boathouse and sports grounds in 2009.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. That college should be repaid the amount outstanding from 2008-09 budget.

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate the £8,400 that incorrectly got placed in reserves to pay college for this bill.

**Proposer: Tom Grimble**

**Secunder: Peter Judge**

**c) Boat Club Finances**

**RCSA Notes:**

1. The RCSA has been asked to pay a bill for £8,556.90 from late 2009 for the hire of the boat house.
2. Around this time, a new boat was purchased. As part of this, £9000 was allocated out of the Reserve Funds, but then the Boat Club found an account with over £7000 in it, meaning they only had to claim £2000 out of the Reserve Fund.
3. Last year's Boat Club treasurer lost the accounts, and so this year's treasurer had a very difficult handover.

4. a) Due to a miscommunication between the Boat Club and college, bills for boat club dinners dating back to 2010 went unpaid.  
b) This issue has now been sorted.
5. The college has two accounts holding money for the boat club, which no-one in the boat club knew about.
6. a) College was under the impression that each year, the boat club was putting aside £2000 for a new boat.  
b) This has never happened.
7. All mistakes were made before the current committee was in place.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. Rowing is an important feature of college life, enjoyed by many people.
2. Rowing is a very expensive sport, and therefore has a very large budget when compared to other sports.
3. It is therefore important that these finances are managed properly, in order to ensure a repeat doesn't happen.

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To mandate the RCSA treasurer to ensure that the Boat Club can present full accounts, including attempting to get accounts from last year's BC treasurer.

**Proposed: Peter "keeping things afloat" Judge**

**Seconded: Jimmy "I <3 Boaties" Campbell**

**d) New 3.3k Projector**

***THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS***

**RCSA Notes:**

1. The Auditorium is the largest, most technologically advanced conference room in Robinson College
2. Its full potential is presently not exploited fully by the RCSA

3. The RCSA is only allowed to use the Conference projector in exceptional situations
4. The Auditorium used to contain a long-range projector used mainly by FilmSoc. This projector exploded about a year ago after 10 years of consistent use by students

**RCSA Believes:**

1. The modern day society is facing the problem of an ever-decreasing attention span. A bright projection would better capture the attention of any audience.
2. A projector available for use to the RCSA in the Auditorium would benefit the college in a number of ways:
  - a. Improve the quality of official RCSA events by enabling the use of a top-of-the-range projector in the biggest room in College
  - b. Enable College Sports, Societies and Individuals to use the projector in a creative way for an unprecedented range of events
  - c. Avoid extensive negotiations with the Conference Office which are currently present when requesting access to their projectors in the Umney/Auditorium
  - d. Help the next Pantomime Director project a better quality Eye of Sauron
3. The proposed projector is a mobile one. The RCSA could therefore use the projector in rooms other than the Auditorium if needed

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate £1915.44 from the reserves for the purchase of a projector [see report]
2. To allocate £928.8 from the reserves for the purchase of a lens to enable viewing in the Auditorium

3. To allocate the amount of £562.04 from the reserves to purchase an optional 5 year hardware and lamp warranty [an alternative option is a spare lamp for the same price]
4. To mandate the Film Society as its potentially most regular user to gain guardianship over the projector
5. To nominate the current Film Society presidents to be fully inducted in the use and operation of this projector.
6. To nominate an additional member from the RCSA to be fully inducted in the use and operation of this projector.

**Proposer: Krista 'Helena' Mumdzjana**

**Seconder: Steven Gordon**

**e) Underwriting the Yearbook**

**RCSA Notes:**

1. The third year yearbook is currently being compiled.
2. The RCSA provides a £170 subsidy to the yearbook.
3. Based on a projection of selling 100 copies of 80-page books, the yearbooks work out at £16.51 per book. Subtracting the subsidy, this works out at £14.81 per person.
4. The fewer yearbooks we order, the more the price increases.
5. Students are being charged £15 each for the yearbooks, to aim to cover any potential shortfall.
6. In the highly unlikely event that fewer yearbooks are ordered, the price per book will increase to over £15.
7. There are around 130 undergraduates eligible to be in the yearbook (including students who have left or degraded). Over 115 people have filled in yearbook profiles, some students have ordered two yearbooks, and other people (such as

Gary the porter and the RCSA) also order yearbooks, so we expect a high amount of orders.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. Students should be able to purchase their yearbooks for as cheap as possible.
2. Yearbooks serve as a great memory of three years at Robinson College.
3. Owen and Chris have done all they can to keep costs as low as possible.
4. Whilst first and second years might not consider this a benefit now, when they leave they will also want to buy yearbooks as cheap as possible.

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To underwrite the yearbook budget, so that in the highly unlikely event that the price per book increases to over £15, the RCSA makes up the deficit.

**Proposed: Owen "sends annoying yearbook emails" Jones.**

**Seconded: Chris Halcrow.**

**f) Sky problems in the TV Room**

**RCSA Notes:**

1. We have just spent a lot of money improving the TV room.
2. One of the key uses of the TV room is to watch sport.
3. However, the SkySports1 channel is very unreliable, and often freezes, thus meaning that it is often difficult to fully appreciate the sport.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. Given we have just spent a lot of money on the TV room to improve the viewing experience; we should also ensure that the sky works properly.

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To mandate the Catering and Amenities Officer to look into how we can sort this issue out.

**Proposed: Peter Judge**

**Seconded: Jimmy 'it pecks head' Campbell**

## Appendixes:

### **1. Report on the RCBC Unclaimed Budget from 2008-2009**

#### **What happened:**

In the budget of 2008-09 and before the costs of renting sports facilities was paid in part by college and in part by the RCSA. The part paid by the RCSA would come out of annual allocation given to the RCSA by college.

In 2009 and after this system was changed so that college paid the entire amount for renting these facilities because the increasing costs of the facilities made budget splitting difficult. This significantly changed how the RCSA budget was structured each year.

The funds in question in this motion were allocated in 2008-09 to pay for the RCSA portion of the boathouse rent. However it seems apparent that this invoice came in very late that year (after the 2009 budget meeting) and no provision was put in place at the time to cover the cost ahead of closing the 2009 budget meeting.

As a result college ended up paying the entire amount and have been awaiting repayment of the RCSA portion of the funds.

#### **Why is this money coming from RCSA Reserves?**

Any unclaimed money from any year's budget is added to the reserves pot. This is likely one of the reasons why we ended up with so much money in these accounts years ago. This £8400 was meant to be paid out and has mistakenly ended up in reserves. This motion is not taking money away from the RCSA, it is simply correcting a budget mistake that happened many years ago. This £8400 could not legitimately be used for anything other than this prescribed purpose.

#### **How does this benefit RCSA members?**

This is of extreme importance to the continued running of all RCSA societies. Leaving an unpaid bill of this size could potentially have a detrimental effect on all societies in the future. It is also in our best interest to maintain good financial relations with college for all current and future members of the RCSA.

#### **What's to stop this happening again?**

The changes to the budget in 2009 have in effect prevented a problem like this happening again. This has very much simplified the payments of these large sums of money for critical facilities used by many RCSA members. The original system was convoluted and what we have now is much easier for all involved.

### **2. Report on the Film Societies New Projector**

[See Report 1 and Report 2 for full quote and product specifications]

[Please Note: Report number was re-confirmed as valid on 14.02.2012]

**Why wasn't this proposed at the Budget meeting?**

At the time of the Budget meeting an alternative proposal was being made to Mr Ross Reason. This proposal, which consisted of purchasing a much larger projector for the Conference Office at their expense, but with mere permission for use by the Film Society, was rejected over the Christmas holidays.

The second alternative, which unfortunately involves some RCSA spending but also gives us a greater level of independence from the Conference Office, is now on the table.

**Who would benefit from it?**

Everyone interested in making presentations, performances, speeches, popularising their college societies, organising events or attending any of such events.

...and the Film Society...