



## RCSA Open Meeting Agenda

Sunday, 4th November  
5pm  
Umney Theatre



### 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. Committee Reports and Resolutions
8. Questions to the Committee
9. Extraordinary Motions
10. Ordinary Motions
  - A) Motion to set up Robinson's WonderWomen Society
  - B) Storage Refund Scheme and storage space in college
  - C) Expansion of Society Refund Scheme and exclusion of Cambridge Union Membership
  - D) Motion for the RCSA to support Living Wage Accreditation
  - E) The Budget 2018-19
11. Any other RCSA business
  - A) Consultation on CUSU Council motion regarding support for a people's vote

### Ordinary Motions

#### **A) Motion to set up Robinson's WonderWomen Society**

RCSA Notes:

1. There are a number of women who drop out of sport when at university because of time constraints, other commitments or alternatively, feelings of pressure to perform.
2. Sport is a great way to relieve stress, keep a healthy mind and body, have fun, meet other college members and give each other a confidence boost.
3. There are no societies in college which focus solely on fitness building, offer a multi-disciplined fitness session and mix the fun, groovy and silly aspects of dance, with core workouts.

4. WonderWomen Zumba/circuit training/yoga sessions have been tried and tested with great enthusiasm

RCSA Believes:

1. The establishment of a formal society would attract more women to pursue their fitness goals in a supportive, sociable and easy-going atmosphere and allow the lessons to grow and accommodate student demand for fun fitness classes

RCSA Resolves:

1. To establish 'Robinson's WonderWomen Society' as a recognised society by the RCSA, binding by its own constitution (See [Appendix A](#)) and also the society in turn will agree to be bound by the Constitution and Policy of the RCSA.

2. Permit an annual budget, to be confirmed in the budget meeting (the costs of the society shall be limited to basic equipment and venue hire).

*Proposed by: Katya Duncan*

*Seconder: Rebecca Diston*

## **B) Storage Refund Scheme and storage space in college**

RCSA Notes:

1. That currently a number of students are forced to pay for external storage, owing to the limitations of the trunk room at College.

2. That it costs approximately £5 per week to store a suitcase externally over the vacation period.

3. That the RCSA Treasurer has gained provisional approval for a separate branch of the RCSA Refund Scheme, allowing overseas students and those who arrive by train to have the cost of external storage subsidised by £20 per year.

RCSA Believes:

1. That the introduction of a student storage branch of the Refund Scheme presents a positive step forward in solving the issue of a lack of space in the trunk room in the short term.

2. That this scheme does not detract from the need for a long-term solution to the lack of storage space in College for students.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To create a new branch of the RCSA Refund Scheme, allowing overseas students and those travelling by train to claim back £20 on the cost of external storage in Cambridge, as provisionally agreed by the Finance Bursar, the Senior Treasurer and the Junior Treasurer.

2. To continue to lobby College for a long-term solution to the issue regarding storage space in College.

*Proposed by: Thomas Hinch*  
*Seconder: Christopher Cheng*

### **C) Expansion of Society Refund Scheme and exclusion of Cambridge Union Membership**

RCSA Notes:

1. That in the 2017/18 budgetary term, the RCSA Refund Scheme, which allows members to claim back up to £20 on non-political society membership fees, has seen unprecedented take up, fulfilling over 200% of its original budgetary claim.
2. That a large amount of these claims are made by students for membership of the Cambridge Union.
3. That the RCSA Treasurer has gained approval for the allocation of additional funds to the refund scheme, including the increasing of the maximum amount of money per person, per year for subsidising society memberships to £25.

RCSA Believes:

1. That the society refund scheme is an effective use of RCSA funds, allowing Undergraduate students to fully partake in University life, in line with the stated aim of the RCSA “to uphold equal opportunities in Robinson College irrespective of financial status.”
2. That the society scheme would benefit from an increase in the maximum amount of money awarded, owing to the fact that many societies such as sports team charge very high subscription costs.
3. That subsidising the cost of Cambridge Union membership is not feasible in the long term, as so many Undergraduates are members of this society.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To increase the amount of money per person available to subsidise society membership to £25 per person, as provisionally agreed by the Financial Bursar, the Senior Treasurer and the Junior Treasurer.
2. To classify the Cambridge Union Society a political society and therefore not allow claims from the refund scheme for its membership.

*Proposed by: Thomas Hinch*  
*Seconder: Maisie Hobbs*

### **D) Motion for the RCSA to support Living Wage Accreditation**

RCSA Notes:

1. That the Living Wage rate is based on the cost of living, calculated independently by the Living Wage Foundation, in order to ensure workers are paid a wage which they are able to live off.

2. That the UK rate is currently set at £8.75, significantly higher than the government's National Living Wage of £7.50, which does not take living costs into account.
3. That Robinson College currently pays below the Living Wage to 40 directly employed staff, with possibly more employed through agencies (see [https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/data\\_on\\_wages\\_and\\_employment\\_pra\\_23?fbclid=IwAR0weqLITA9hKBTCwC19bTStuAh5xXOQagSKH2B78OM5kNL03XWHEg2aQW0#incoming-1254744](https://www.whatdotheyknow.com/request/data_on_wages_and_employment_pra_23?fbclid=IwAR0weqLITA9hKBTCwC19bTStuAh5xXOQagSKH2B78OM5kNL03XWHEg2aQW0#incoming-1254744))
4. Graduates and prospective academics are subject to the pressures of low paid work and precarious contracts.
5. That the University and Queen's College have recently committed to becoming an accredited Living Wage employer.
6. That over 3,500 employers pay the Living Wage in the United Kingdom, including several Oxbridge colleges.

RCSA Believes:

1. That the College has a responsibility to ensure its workers are paid a wage which they are able to live off.
2. That College staff support students in our day-to-day lives at Robinson College, whether working in catering, housekeeping or other departments, and deserve our support in ensuring they receive a wage which genuinely reflects the cost of living in Cambridge.
3. The fight for Living Wage accreditation is also a step towards fairer employment & practices, which affect many different workers in college, from cleaning to academic staff.
4. That paying College staff a real Living Wage will improve productivity and encourage a more communal working environment in college.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To investigate the current wage structures of the College in conjunction with the Robinson Living Wage Campaign.
2. To make it RCSA policy to lobby for college to become a fully-accredited Living Wage employer.

*Proposed by: Poppy Cockburn*

*Seconder: Jordan Urban*

**E) The Budget 2018-19**

RCSA Notes:

1. The budget for the next year needs to be discussed and voted on.

RCSA Believes:

1. That this is essential.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To discuss the budget and vote on it, according to the constitution.
2. To approve the RCSA budget for 2017-18 as detailed in the attachment

*Proposed by: RCSA Executive*

### **Any other RCSA business**

**A) Consultation on CUSU Council motion regarding support for a people's vote**

## Appendix

### Appendix A - Proposed Constitution of 'Robinson's WonderWomen Society'

#### Constitution for Robinson's WonderWomen Society

##### 1. Name

1.1. The name of the society shall be 'Robinson's WonderWomen Society'.

##### 2. Membership and subscriptions:

2.1. All Women and non-binary students of Robinson College shall be Full Members of the Society.

2.2. Any member may invite any female or non-binary supporter of the society to become an Honorary Member.

2.3. No subscription or minimum payment is required for membership of the society.

2.4. All Members agree to be bound by the constitution of the RCSA.

##### 3. Definitions

a. In this constitution, unless explicitly stated otherwise,

i. AGM shall refer to the Annual General Meeting which takes place at the end of Easter Term

##### 4. Composition and Election of Committee

a. The following shall be officers of the committee:

i. Co-presidents (2)

ii. Secretary (1)

b. Responsibilities for the running of the society shall be divided up by the committee

c. Nominations for officer positions shall be presented to an officer of the committee no less than 24 hours before the AGM

d. In the case of unfilled positions, the responsibilities of the vacant role shall be split between members of committee

e. Voting will be done during the AGM

f. Leaving committee members will remain in their posts after the election until July 31st. The new committee is effective from August 1st onwards. It is the responsibility of individual officers to ensure there is a smooth transition during the change of committee.

##### 5. Finance

a. The financial year shall be kept from August 1st to July 31st

b. It shall be the duty of the secretary to keep accurate details of decisions, correspondences, accounts, and all expenditure by the society, which may be inspected by the committee at any time

c. The society shall be funded by Robinson College Students' Association

d. All society-related expenditure is under the authority of co-presidents

e. The co-presidents are responsible for preparing the budget proposal to be submitted to the RCSA each year

## 6. Meetings

- a. An AGM shall be held once every year at the end of Easter Term
- b. Reasonable notice of the AGM shall be given to all members
- c. Attendance of all members is permitted at all general meetings
- d. It is the responsibility of the co-presidents to convene meetings

## 7. Constitution

- a. Amendment of the constitution can only occur via a 60% majority vote by society members present at the AGM (of which there must be a minimum of 10)
- b. A copy of the constitution is kept by the secretary and is available to view by any member of the society upon request

## 8. Affiliation

- a. The society has no affiliation with any other society (other than the RCSA)

## Appendix:

### Aims and Objectives

- a. To encourage women within college to pursue sport alongside their degree;
- b. To help each member reach fitness goals in a fun, supportive and sociable atmosphere
- c. To build each member's confidence and leadership skills by rotating class leaders