

# **RCSA Open Meeting Minutes**

*Sunday January 25<sup>th</sup> - 6pm Umney Theatre*

## **1. Apologies for absence or lateness**

Apologies for absence were received from Luke Whiting. Jamie Beeching was absent without apology.

## **2. Announcement of the presence and purpose of guests**

There were no guests.

## **3. Approval of the presence and speaking rights of guests**

There were no guests.

## **4. Approval of the order of the agenda**

There were no objections to 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.**

Rob Beagrie (RB) announced that he had received a correction to the previous meeting's minutes from Tom Kelly (TK), and that this had been added to these minutes which would soon be available on the website. Pending these corrections, these minutes were accepted.

## **6. Matters Arising from the minutes**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

## **7. Reports from the Committee**

### **a) Trunk Room**

Rahul Mansigani (RM) said that the trunk room had been cleared on Saturday. Robin Lawther (RL) had put in lots of work, both on the day and leading up to it. RL was applauded.

### **b) Mascot Name**

RM introduced the RCSA to its new mascot. He drew the meeting's attention to the fact that it had a hat. RM said that we would now hold an informal vote on the name of the new mascot, but asked first if anyone at the meeting had a suggestion which they had not already submitted. James Pacey (JP) suggested "Garden Restaurant the dog" which received 6 votes. Dave Bewicke (DB) suggested "Mr. Stilton", which received one vote. Previously submitted names included "Barack" (1 vote), "Rob N. Sen" (2), "Bosco" (0), "Mortar" (0), "Romsey" (2) and "Doginson" (17). The mascot was duly named "Doginson". RM noted that some chairs at other colleges wear pink wigs, which was an institution he was interested in introducing in the near future.

### **c) Trunk Room Sale**

RL reported on the trunk room sale and said that the RCSA had raised about £100. There was a large selection of old clothes, which we would be donating to charity and some computer

monitors which needed to be specially disposed of. Hopefully with the new registration system the room wouldn't get into a mess again.

## 8. Questions to the Committee

DB asked why the agenda had not been posted in the JCR before the meeting. RB apologised, saying he had been busy with the trunk room and other arrangements for the meeting and had forgotten.

James Mott (JM) asked what progress had been made on a motion passed at the last meeting regarding the opening hours of the college bar. RL replied that he would be having a meeting with the catering department on the following Thursday and would look into it then.

Ben Henriques (BH) asked how new trunk room registration system was different to the old one; RL replied that it was the same one that had been in place since before Christmas.

## 9. Extraordinary Motions

There were no extraordinary motions.

## 10. Ordinary Motions

### a) Bouncy Castle

#### RCSA Notes:

1. It does not currently own a bouncy castle.
2. Bouncy castles reduce stress.
3. There are blue brick bouncy castles on e-Bay for about £1300.
4. The Association has excess reserves.
5. Its aims: to provide facilities which are of recreational or social value to Members, and to advance the welfare of its Members.
6. A bouncy castle would be useful for Corruption and garden parties.

#### RCSA Believes:

1. Owning a bouncy castle would improve the welfare of its members, by reducing stress, especially during exam term.
2. The bouncy castle would be an excellent addition to the chill-out cafe.
3. A bouncy castle would provide a facility of lasting value to the RCSA, and therefore it would be appropriate to use reserves to purchase it.

#### RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate £1400 from Reserves to purchase a bouncy castle and necessary accessories, in line with the accompanying and constituting report in the addendum.
2. To mandate the RCSA Executive to carry out the purchase in Resolves 1.
3. That Iain Barr shall negotiate with College about the positioning, supervisor training, and safety/general arrangements for the bouncy castle, reporting back to the RCSA before any money is spent.
4. To make the bouncy castle available to groups or associations of members in College for a nominal fee or deposit.

*Proposed: Iain Barr, came to get down*

*Seconded: Dave Bewicke, jumped around*

Iain Barr (IB) introduced the motion. He said that he had met with Peter Milloy, who had commented that it was a stupid idea but he would allow us to have it provided that it be subject to normal rules, i.e. that a risk assessment would have to be submitted before each use and that there would be adequate supervision by trained first aiders. JC opened the motion to the floor.

RM said he had spoken to Liz Guild and she said “the answer is no”. IB asked if she could control what we spent our reserves on. RM responded that her opposition would be a significant obstacle. Barnaby Mollett (BM) said that the finance bursar had also said we would not be allowed it, and he has more significant control because we have no legal reason to keep such a large amount in reserves and he would be within his rights to take them back. DB asked how the college could take the money out without our permission, as they would only have one signature and would additionally require that of the treasurer. BM said if there was a disagreement it would become a legal issue, and they would have a much better argument than us. RM said he could ask how it happened at other colleges (e.g. Caius) so that we could be better prepared.

RL asked who would pay for any breakages. IB said that all money for maintenance would hopefully be covered by the nominal fee proposed in the motion. RM asked IB if he envisaged us renting the bouncy castles to other colleges for their may balls. IB replied that he saw no reason not to. JP asked who would be responsible for the castle. IB responded whichever society took it out, but he was willing for there to be a system where some small deposit could be left. JP asked who would be in charge of hiring it out. IB said that that was to be decided. RL asked who would repair it if, for example, the rugby club broke it. IB replied that this would be the responsibility of the rugby club. RL asked who could certify such repairs, as just sticking a bit of duct tape over a puncture would probably not be good enough. IB responded that the hiring club would have to arrange and pay for professional repairs. RM said there was an issue of excess noise and the possibility of it causing a distraction to students who were working. IB said the idea was more for use at specific events and not just for people taking it out on a whim. RM asked where it would be stored; IB responded that Brickhouse had offered some space in their storage cupboards.

RM said he was unhappy allocating money for the purchase when we had not yet obtained specific college consent, so asked IB if he would be happy to postpone the motion until the next meeting when we had more information. IB said that since the motion explicitly covered this objection, he would prefer to vote on it at this meeting. BM asked if anyone was trained to supervise bouncy castles. BH said he was a qualified first aider. TK noted that he would abstain from voting, and carried on to say that Bill Nolan probably wouldn't sign the check, but the motion did illustrate the point that we have a lot of reserves money and we need to spend it. JC noted that a lot of this money could go towards refurbishing the JCR. IB questioned whether this was likely to cost £20,000. RM said that as we don't know how popular the castle would be, we don't really know how much money we would get from nominal fees. He also raised the point again about which committee member(s) would be responsible for the administration. Hannah Rignell suggested an RCSA Bouncy Castle Society. IB repeated his point about the castle being primarily for the use of existing societies.

BM asked how many societies would be prepared to rent the castle. DB responded that Cheese Soc would. BM pointed out that Cheese soc had had a budget allocation of £15 this financial year, which probably would not cover the fees. DB replied that money could be raised in other ways. RM said we didn't want a situation where people would request RCSA money to pay for

the nominal fees. RL asked if we need insurance against, for example, people getting injured. IB said yes, but we could arrange single day insurance in advance.

BH proposed a procedural motion that the question now be put. The procedural motion passed by simple majority.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion a):

For: 7 + 15 proxy votes = 22

Against: 12

Abstain: 8

Motion a) did not pass as it needed a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority.

## b) Senior Scholarships

### RCSA Notes

1. That College prizes are divided up into different categories of scholarship.
2. That a senior scholarship is awarded to a student who has achieved first class results in all Tripos exams.
3. That students who graduate after three years with first class results in each year become senior scholars.
4. That students who choose to do a part III and have achieved first class results do not become senior scholars until they finish their part III.
5. That I can't find anyone who knows whether it is necessary to also get a first in your part III to become a senior scholar.
6. That senior scholars get extra perks like free formals, extra money for continuing to study at Robinson and staying free for three nights a year in college.

### RCSA Believes

1. That students should not be penalised for doing a part III.
2. That students who get first class results in their first three years, but choose to undertake a part III (and also not to graduate) should also become senior scholars.
3. That it would be better for students to become senior scholars as soon as they are entitled to, rather than waiting until they have graduated.

### RCSA Resolves

1. To mandate the Academic affairs officer to clarify the current position on election into senior scholarships.
2. To appoint an appropriate committee member to lobby college to change the process for election into a senior scholarship such that students can become senior scholars as undergraduates in their 4th year.
3. Or failing resolves 2) to appoint an appropriate committee member to lobby college to change (if necessary) the process for election into a senior scholarship such that students with first class results in their first three years become senior scholars after graduating independent of their part III result.

*Proposed: James Mott*

*Seconded: Richard Thomson*

JM introduced the motion. He said that if you get a first every year for your first three years you are elected into a senior scholarship, which means that you get some free formals, £100 per year for continuing your study at Robinson and a few free nights a year in college rooms. However, it was unclear what happened if you decided to undertake a Part III and subsequently failed to

achieve a first in that year. He argued that since you would receive the scholarship if you graduated without a part III, you shouldn't be penalised for getting a 2.1 in your 4<sup>th</sup> year.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion b):

For: 28

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion b) duly passed.

### c) Discrimination in Scholarship Lists

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. On the scholarship list men's names are published by their surname followed by their initials.
2. On the scholarship list, women's names are published by their surname, Miss and then their initials.

#### **RCSA believes:**

1. The use of 'miss' creates an unnecessary distinction between the sexes.
2. This distinction does not promote equality.

#### **RCSA resolves:**

1. To attempt to get the 'miss' removed from the list in future years.

*Proposed: Lana Whittaker*

*Seconded: James Kemp*

LW introduced the motion. She said that she had received a complaint about the publication of academic prizes on the website, since men were listed by initial only and women by initial (Miss). This was ridiculous as gender should not matter in such lists. There were no speeches against. IB asked how common this was at other colleges. RM said that he had talked to Liz Guild about it and she had said that it was a university wide convention. TK admitted to reading the reports of other colleges and said that he had been unable to find any other colleges which discriminate in this way. He continued that since we were the only college founded on principles of equality it was odd that we were also the only ones implementing this policy. It was also noted that those who had specified Ms. as their chosen title were still listed as Miss.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion c):

For: 28

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion c) duly passed.

## d) Budget Reform

### RCSA Notes:

1. The RCSA receives the majority of its funding from college.
2. Recent discussions between the RCSA Treasurer, Finance Bursar and Chief Office Clerk have suggested that the way college currently provides income for the RCSA is not efficient.
3. The RCSA currently holds a large quantity of so-called 'reserves', which are essentially unspent funds from budget years past, but are not allowed to hold such a stockpile of funds for no particular purpose.
4. Around half of the 2008/09 Budget has been allocated to pay rents for various sports facilities, the bills for which are passed onto the RCSA from college.

### RCSA Discusses:

1. The possibility of giving some of the current reserves to the college bursary scheme.

### RCSA Believes:

1. Letting college pay the bills for sports facilities rent (as outlined in the addendum) would prevent any future increases in these rents from detracting from the budget available for other purposes e.g. allocations to clubs and societies.
2. That having a 'student development sinking fund' would be a suitable alternative to the current system of 'reserves', and one which has the backing of the Finance Bursar.
3. That this student development fund would act in much the same as the current reserves, except that any allocations drawn from the fund would have to be justified as in some way falling under the category of 'student development'.
4. Having this fund would remove the need to 'get rid' of a large quantity of the funds that currently constitute the 'reserves'.

### RCSA Resolves:

1. That from the Budget for the year 2009/10 the rent for Queens' Sports Ground, LMBC Boathouse, the squash courts and the badminton courts will be paid directly by college.
2. That the 'student development sinking fund' is implemented from the 2009/10 Budget year, and the base level of this fund set at £40,000.
3. The use of any funds surplus to this level should be considered at a later Open Meeting (for example for use in JCR refurbishment after the cost of this has been worked out).

*Proposed: Barnaby Mollett, Budget the Little Helicopter*

*Seconded: Rahul Mansigani*

BM said that this motion wasn't radical and we simply couldn't justify having £60000 in reserves. There would still be funds for people to apply for in open meetings. The allocation of these funds would not require constitutional change, as it would simply be up to the current committee to decide whether the request met requirements. It would also be much simpler for college to pay for our sports grounds directly, rather than indirectly through us. He then mentioned the discussion point about bursaries, which had been brought up by the financial bursar. Most of the people he had asked had been against it but he felt that it needed to be discussed at an open meeting. Jim Arnold (JA) asked whether the 'sinking fund' mentioned in the motion referred to a specific legal construct. BM said that he didn't know, but the financial bursar had a background as an investment banker, so presumably knew what he was talking about. JA seemed unsure as to whether this made him more or less trustworthy. BM said that basically the only thing that would be any different is that any yearly surplus from the RCSA budget would go back to the college. RM asked for clarification on this point. Would it go back into the sinking fund or back to college authorities. BM said it would go back to college authorities, unless the sinking fund had dipped below the agreed total cap. He hoped that this would incentivise societies not to claim

more than they needed at the annual budget. JA asked whether the cap on the sinking fund would account for inflation. He proposed an amendment to the motion, to specify that the cap on the sinking fund would increase yearly in line with inflation. BM agreed to the amendment. IB asked for more specific on the process by which one could claim money. BM said as far as he could tell, it would be no different to the situation at the moment. IB asked how this helped our legal situation as far as we weren't allowed to keep the reserves. BM said he wasn't sure on this point, but would ask the finance bursar. IB asked BM to get more information about the exact legal implications, BM agreed. DB asked if the MCR were informed about this motion. RM said that no additional steps were taken to inform them. IB noted that the MCR budget was defined as a fraction of the RCSA budget, and therefore would be reduced now that the RCSA would not receive money for sports grounds. BM said that college would have to adjust this proportion to account for the reduced yearly budget. IB pointed out that said proportion was defined constitutionally, and therefore this adjustment would require a constitutional change. JA proposed a procedural motion to put the question to a referendum. BM proposed a procedural motion that the motion be adjourned until the next meeting. The procedural motion passed by simple majority.

#### e) JCR Refurbishment

##### RCSA Notes:

1. The RCSA has sufficient funds to support the redecoration/refurbishment of the Junior Combination Room (JCR).

##### RCSA Believes:

1. The JCR is a resource that all members should be able to benefit from.
2. Funds from 'reserves' could be used to improve the JCR and the potential benefits of this resource to members, thus bettering the recreational, intellectual or social value of the JCR to RCSA members.
3. The details of the JCR refurbishment should be a topic for discussion by all RCSA members, and suggestions from all welcomed.
4. That a 'JCR Refurbishment Sub-Committee' would be needed in order to allow the process of suggestions, discussions and ultimately refurbishment to be co-ordinated smoothly.

##### RCSA Resolves:

1. To create a 'JCR Refurbishment Sub-Committee', headed by the RCSA President, RCSA Treasurer and RCSA Catering & Amenities Officer who will be in charge of co-ordinating JCR refurbishment.
2. In line with article 54b) of the RCSA Constitution, the sub-committee will be specifically mandated to be in charge of the JCR refurbishments for an operational period until the election of the next RCSA Committee (in Michaelmas 2009).
3. That a representative of this sub-committee propose a motion at the next Open Meeting in Lent Term detailing the changes to the JCR that have been proposed as a result of the progress of the sub-committee.
4. That this same motion will request the allocation of funds from the 'reserves' in order for the planned refurbishment to take place.

*Proposed: Rahul Mansigani, 'Redecoration Action Station'*

*Seconded: Barnaby Mollett, used to watch 'Changing Rooms'.*

RM introduced the motion. He said that the RCSA have money in reserves that we can spend, and that the proposed JCR refurbishment would be a lasting improvement to the college. He noted that other colleges' JCRs were nicer than ours. He clarified that this was just a motion to further investigate the possibilities, for example getting nice like that in the Cafe, and maybe a flatscreen TV. He added that the JCR was significantly underused at the moment, which was not

true of other colleges. Simon Taylor asked when the proposed changes would be carried out. RM said that this would depend on conferences, but maybe during the Easter break and if not then maybe the Long Vacation. He added that he hoped to be able to avoid any work during term time. Tanuj Bhojwani (TB) asked if the RCSA committee would need to be present if work occurred outside of term time. RM said that we would likely need to check up occasionally but the whole committee would not be required. The subcommittee was mainly so that we wouldn't have to bring it up at every executive meeting. DB asked if it would be opened to all students. BM replied that it would be open to everyone, and was intended to save time during this open meeting. BH said that the 3 people intended to head the subcommittee would be very busy, so volunteers from outside the committee would be required to keep their workloads down.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion e):

For: 30

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion e) duly passed.

#### f) JCR Yeargroup Photos

##### RCSA Notes:

1. It has had policy in favour of displaying matriculation photographs in the JCR since October 2005.
2. In February 2008, £100 was allocated by a RCSA Open Meeting for the purposes of fulfilling that policy.
3. There are still no yeargroup photographs in the JCR. The process of acquiring them was not straightforward and the allocated money went unspent.
4. The Law Society has photographs of its members in the Law Library.
5. The Porters' Lodge and Library have matriculation photographs of current students but they are not on display.
6. Halfway Hall, the Third Year Dinner and the next matriculation will all take place before the next budget meeting

##### RCSA Believes:

1. Photographs of members would make a worthwhile addition to their combination room.

##### RCSA Resolves:

1. To mandate the Catering & Amenities Officer to acquire yeargroup photographs for the JCR.
2. To allocate £120 from the budget of this Open Meeting for this purpose.
3. If possible these should be matriculation photographs from 2006, 2007 and 2008.
4. Alternatively, to purchase the forthcoming Dinner photos in place of the 2006 and 2007 pictures.
5. To use either remaining funds from this allocation or money from the Freshers' Week budget to purchase the 2009 matriculation photo in October.

*Proposed: Tom "Kodak" Kelly*

*Seconded: Jas "Fujifilm" Lee*

TK introduced this motion and noted that it had essentially passed twice before and seemed very popular. Since this meeting had the potential to end over budget, he proposed that the motion be amended so that resolves 1 allocated only £90. He also wanted to ask the committee

what had happened last time the motion was passed. RM said he had been to try and sort it out, but had spent a month trying to get hold of them. RM added that he was happy to take care of it this year. RL asked if we could wait until we had refurbished the JCR. TK said he didn't mind when the photos were put up, but said that he would rather get on with the purchase as if the Matriculation photograph of current 3<sup>rd</sup> years was unavailable we would still be able to use the photo from 3<sup>rd</sup> year hall. RM said it would be easier to get the Matriculation photo of the current 1<sup>st</sup> years the faster we acted. IB said that it would not be hard to take them down during the refurbishment. RL said he was worried that the frame might not match the furniture. BH said we should make the purchase of the matriculation photo a regular thing so that we don't need a new motion every year. TK said the motion implied that as there was £35 left over from last year's freshers' week, there should be money available to buy a Matriculation photo in the future. RM said he would add purchasing a copy of the new Matriculation photo to the vice president's brief for freshers' week, which should take care of this motion in the foreseeable future.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion f):

For: 30

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion f) duly passed.

## g) Newspapers in JCR

### RCSA Notes:

1. We don't get the Observer. This is the equivalent of the Guardian on Sunday.
2. We get all the other weekday broadsheets' Sunday editions.
3. That a subscription to both the Saturday Guardian and the Observer costs £74.88 for 6 months on the guardian website. So it should be about £30 to get the Observer for the rest of the academic year from wherever we get the other papers.

### RCSA Believes:

1. Some students would like to have a copy in the JCR.

### RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate £30 from the budget of this open meeting for the purchase of a subscription to the Observer.
2. To mandate the treasurer to carry out this purchase.

*Proposed: Peter Wood (Wants to read David Mitchell's column)*

*Seconded: Iain Barr (Gets off on seconding motions)*

IB introduced the motion. He noted that personally he doesn't like the observer, but that was no reason we shouldn't get a copy. BM said that we still get two copies of the Sunday Times, so we could substitute one of these for the Observer without any need for extra money from the budget. IB asked if BM had been reimbursed by college for newspapers delivered over the

Christmas period last year, as college had failed to cancel them. BM said he would look into it. IB amended the motion to reflect that the Observer would be paid for by substitution for the second copy of the Sunday Times.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion g):

For: 30

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion g) duly passed.

## h) Computers in JCR

### RCSA Notes:

1. The JCR used to boast a PWF computer and an email kiosk for the use of RCSA members.
2. One of these machines exploded (delaying the start of an Open Meeting!) on 12 October 2008. Neither machine subsequently worked and have not been replaced.
3. The college's handbook '**Information for Junior Members 2008 – 2009**' states that all students are required to check their email regularly.
4. This handbook and the college prospectus advertise the computer facilities previously available in the JCR.
5. There are three PWF terminals in the MCR.

### RCSA Believes:

1. RCSA members found the JCR computers useful for educational and social purposes.
2. The location of these PCs was particularly convenient for students frequenting the garden restaurant, bar or red brick café, not least for members who live on the other side of the gardens, on Herschel Court or elsewhere in Cambridge.
3. The college should replace its machines which malfunction.
4. The college should provide the computing facilities that it advertises.
5. Amongst annual expenditure of over £5million the college can probably afford a couple of PCs, or at least shuffle its existing resources around.

### RCSA Resolves:

1. To mandate the RCSA Computer Officer and other relevant committee members to lobby college authorities to replace the JCR computers as a priority.
2. That if RCSA Resolves 1 is not speedily forthcoming to promote the transfer of a computer from Teaching Room 1 to the JCR at IT Committee or another appropriate forum.

*Proposed: Tom Kelly*

*Seconded: Lewis Hemens*

TK introduced the motion. He felt that pretty much everyone had probably been annoyed by the lack of JCR computers at some point. Even he was annoyed and his room was on O Staircase. Since they had not been broken by student interference, the domestic bursar would likely replace them if we make an official complaint. Lewis Hemens (LH) said he had spoken to the Computer Office and they had said that Peter Milloy had told them not to replace the computers until the RCSA kicked up a fuss. He added that he was paraphrasing, but this was still implied. He concluded that what we needed to do was submit an official complaint. If the domestic bursar

refused, we could just make more of a fuss. RM said he would bring it up at the next JLC if it was not sorted by then.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion h):

For: 31

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion h) duly passed.

## i) Overhead Lockers

### RCSA Notes

1. The only vacation storage in rooms is the over head lockers
2. That there is no mechanism to hold the locker door open except for balancing it on your head or using a hand.
3. Headaches hurt as does falling off chairs
4. It is very dangerous particularly for short people to stand on tip toe on a chair and balance the door on your head whilst putting heavy things in the locker.
5. The afore mentioned method is the only way to put stuff in the lockers

### RCSA Believes

1. That it would be safer to have the doors stay open.
2. The lockers pose an unacceptable safety risk

### RCSA Resolves

1. To mandate the catering and amenities officer to petition College to install a suitable mechanism on the cupboard doors so that they stay open without being propped up by bodily parts.

*Proposed: Claire Horrocks*

*Seconded: Anna Waghorn*

CH introduced the motion. She said it was a good idea, as she hates headaches and falling off chairs is dangerous. BM responded that he enjoyed balancing the door of his locker on his head. CH said this balancing would be optional if he had a catch. BM said he had been asked by an anonymous fresher to read the following statement: "Man up." CH asked BM if the fresher would be willing to come round to her room and put stuff up in her locker. LH noted that the Grad House already had catches for their lockers. Christopher Powell asked if there would be anything done for people who don't have overhead lockers at all. RM doubted that we could install them, but noted that there would be more room in the trunk room now.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion i):

For: 30

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion i) duly passed.

## j) Bicycle Pumps

### RCSA Notes:

1. There are two bicycle pumps in the Porter's Lodge, for use by JCR members
2. The Porter' have requested more pumps in case some get lost or multiple people want to use a pump at once
3. Lots of people have bicycles and bicycles need pumped up tyres
4. Three pumps cost £8.89 from Pentagon Direct, including postage and packaging

### RCSA Believes:

1. There should be enough bicycle pumps available for use by JCR members
2. It is a good use of the money set aside for spending at open meetings
3. There may be a case for using money from the Reserves to purchase the pumps

### RCSA Resolves:

1. To spend £8.89 from the monies set aside for the open meeting to buy 3 new bicycle pumps to be stored in the Porter's Lodge and lent out to JCR members as necessary

*Proposed: Matt Willis*

*Seconded: Nick Williams*

Nick Williams (NW) said that the porters had bought some bike pumps for our use and they have now disappeared. This was likely the students' fault so we should be the ones to replace them. BM said that RCSA had found two pumps in the trunk room yesterday, and that these had been donated to the Lodge a mere 4 hours previously. CH asked if said pumps have adaptors for both types of bicycle inner tube. BM said he wasn't sure. CH asked if the motion could be amended to state that we would check that the donated pumps have the appropriate adaptors, and only purchase new ones if they did not. NW agreed to the amendment. RM said if we needed more pumps we would get more. IB said that the equipment held by the Lodge for student use was really good, but lacked a power drill which would be a great addition. He asked if we could amend the motion to include the purchase of a power drill. JC said that this was not in line with the spirit of the motion. LH clarified that the donated foot pumps only have one type of adaptor. RL said that the one remaining pump in the Lodge was of the opposite adaptor type to the donated pumps. RM reminded the meeting that the amendment covered checking the adaptors to see if actually needed new pumps. TK said that we could still be over budget for this meeting, and he felt that the porters should buy their own pumps. TK would like to propose an amendment to the motion that no money be spent, so that all the RCSA would be required to do is investigate the new pumps and make certain that they cater for all users. NW accepted the amendment. DB proposed an amendment to the motion, which would require the RCSA to buy new pumps as it was such a small amount of money. BM expressed his opinion that this was a silly idea, and pledged to buy one himself if necessary. JC clarified the motion was now just to investigate the new pumps.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion j):

For: 31

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion j) duly passed.

#### k) Twister Mat

**RCSA Notes:**

1. There was a Twister mat in the JCR but it is now missing
2. Twister is very fun
3. It is hugely disappointing to want to play Twister but find that the mat is missing
4. Twister mats are available for £5.38 from Amazon, including postage and packaging

**RCSA Believes:**

1. There should be a Twister mat in the JCR
2. It is a good use of the money set aside for spending at open meetings
3. There may be a case for using money from the Reserves to purchase a Twister mat

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To spend £5.38 from the monies set aside for the open meeting to buy a new Twister mat, to be stored in the JCR

*Proposed: Mark Willis*

*Seconded: Nick Williams*

Mark Willis (MW) said that there used to be a twister set in the JCR, but now there was only the spinner and the box. A new mat would cost £5.38 (including P&P) if bought from Amazon, 2% of which would go back to college. IB said that whilst a twister mat was important, a power drill was also important. JC prompted that any amendment IB proposed on this point would not lie within the spirit of the motion. CH proposed an amendment to the motion to say that we should send an email around college asking if anyone had the mat in their room, and only buy a new one if no one replied after 4 days. MW accepted the amendment. DB said that the mat would just go missing again, so we should paint a twister mat onto the floor of the JCR so that we never had to buy a new one. RM said that given the upcoming JCR renovations, DB would do best to take his idea to the relevant subcommittee.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion k):

For: 31

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion k) duly passed.

## l) Squash Balls

### RCSA Notes:

1. There were squash balls in the porter's lodge which can be borrowed at anytime by JCR members and used to play squash with in the nearby court
2. There is currently only one ball left
3. A dozen squash balls cost £18.94 from Millet Sports including postage and packaging and would be used by JCR members far into the foreseeable future

### RCSA Believes:

1. There should be more than one squash ball available for use by JCR members and it is worth having a dozen because they can be lost quite easily
2. It is a good use of the money set aside for spending at open meetings
3. There may be a case for using money from the Reserves to purchase squash balls

### RCSA Resolves:

1. To spend £18.94 from the monies set aside for the open meeting to buy a pack of 12 new squash balls to be stored in the Porter's Lodge and lent out to JCR members as necessary

*Proposed: Mark Willis*

*Seconded: Nick Williams*

MW introduced the motion. He said that there used to be loads of squash balls in the Lodge, but now there was only one. It would be worth it for us to buy 12, as this increased the value for money and squash balls were very easy to lose. MW noted that he himself had lost one. IB said that squash balls were important and so were power drills. JC repeated his earlier objections. RL asked whether people who play squash could buy their own balls; wouldn't the new ones we buy just go missing again? MW replied that that was why he was proposing that we get 12. BH asked if we could have a deposit system. RM replied that we would have to get the porters' agreement for this, which might not be forthcoming. IB said that the RCSA already pays for other societies' balls and the motion was only requesting £20.

JC invited the meeting to vote on motion l):

For: 31

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion l) duly passed.

## m) Hockey Kit

### RCSA Notes

2. At the last budget meeting, the Hockey Club was allocated £130 for new kit and £300 for a team tour.
3. Since this time, it has been discovered that £130 was insufficient to purchase shirts for both the men's and women's teams.
4. In order to have the shirts available for the new term, the club has ordered 30 shirts at a cost of £400 (£13.33 per shirt). The captain (Ed Pearson) recognises that this fact may render the motion slightly presumptuous and apologises for his error.

5. The aforementioned shirts are not intended to be kept by the individual players but rather retained for college use during the coming seasons.

**RCSA Believes**

1. That the Hockey club needs new kit.
2. That if the Club do decide to embark on a tour, it can be paid for with the participants' own money and would require no further funding.
3. That it would be nice for players to be able to buy their shirts from the RCSA if they so desire.

**RCSA Resolves**

1. To reallocate £270 from 'Tour' to 'Kit', leaving an allocation of £400 in 'Tour' and £30 in 'Kit'.
2. To allow hockey players to buy their shirts from the RCSA at a cost of £X.

*Proposed: Ed Pearson*

*Seconded: John Crook*

JC ceded the chair to RM for the next two motions. Ed Pearson introduced himself as the hockey captain. He said that the Hockey Team wanted a reallocation of their allocated budget to help in buying new shirts. After the budget meeting, it had transpired that £130 would not cover new shirts for the entire men's and girl's teams. EP said he had already bought the shirts for £400. They would not be sold to individual players so the club shouldn't need to claim more money for kit at the next budget meeting. RM asked EP to clarify that he was only asking for a reallocation, and not any more money. TK clarified that the final allocation given in the motion on the agenda was the wrong way round, and should read £400 in 'kit' and £30 in 'tour'. JC said someone had asked him why the hockey club couldn't buy their own kit as the boat club had done, but hockey didn't have the same set members of squads as there were for rowing so this practice would not be feasible. Grace Parker (GP) asked how EP would ensure they were given back. EP replied "with an iron fist". GP asked if the hockey club could charge a deposit. EP said yes, if the RCSA wanted him to. DB said that if people are allowed to buy their kit, we might not end up with enough for a team and would have to buy a whole new set, especially if the company we bought them from goes bust. EP accepted this, and added that the girl's shirts were properly fitted now unlike last time when they were the same as the men's. TK proposed that the money that would be left in tour would go towards the next motion. IB asked about power drills. RM refused to allow the amendment.

RM invited the meeting to vote on motion m):

For: 30

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion m) duly passed.

n) Digital Crest

**RCSA Notes:**

1. That the Hockey Club had to spend £74 for a digital copy of the College crest that was required for the purchase of new hockey shirts.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. That this file could be used again in the purchase of other items of "College stash", thus avoiding this rather large cost in the future.

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate £74 from the budget of this open meeting to reimburse the Hockey Club for the 'Digital Crest'
2. To make said crest available for the future use of clubs, societies and RCSA members.

*Proposed: Ed Pearson*

*Seconded: John Crook*

EP introduced the motion. He said that the crest on the new kit had needed a specific file format for the use of the embroidery machines. This was a special format with a stitching pattern and the computing office had not been able to provide him with a substitute of acceptable quality. He had also looked for cheaper deals on the internet, but had been unable to find any. BH asked if other societies would want to use the crest, EP replied yes, in fact the rugby team had already expressed interest. BH asked if the RCSA could buy the crest from the hockey club and have it available for future use. EP said that this would be fine. IB said that the crest would look great on a power drill. He clarified that he was proposing an amendment to the motion that a power drill with an image of the crest on it be purchased. RM allowed the amendment to be put, EP refused to allow the amendment. BM said it shouldn't have to come out of hockey club budget, and proposed an amendment that the RCSA would arrange the aforementioned purchase at the next meeting. EP accepted the amendment and RM said there would be a motion submitted to the next open meeting if this motion passed.

RM invited the meeting to vote on motion n):

For: 30

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion n) duly passed.

## **11. Any Other RCSA Business**

RM said that it was May Ball launch formal on Friday. Due to renovations at the garden restaurant, choir suppers had been moved to Friday so there was now not enough space for people who wanted to go to this important formal. He said that he wanted the support of the open meeting to discuss this with the catering department on Monday. DB said that RM should ask for this week's choir suppers to be moved to the next Friday.

JC adjourned the meeting.