

RCSA Open Meeting Minutes

Sunday 25th April 2010- 6pm, JCR

1. Apologies for absence or lateness

Apologies from Luke Whiting (LKW), Dan Green (DG) and Gigi Woolstencroft (GW)

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

The order of the agenda was approved

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.

The minutes of the previous open meeting were approved.

6. Matters Arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

7. Reports from the Committee

There were no reports from the committee.

8. Questions to the Committee

There were no questions to the committee.

9. Ordinary Motions

a) MCR Budget

RCSA Notes:

1. That the sub-committee for constitutional reform has recently finished proposed rewrites of the RCSA constitution.
2. That the proposals do not address the issue of the MCR Budget, which as worded in the current Constitution is essentially undefined.

3. That in the 2009 budget meeting, the RCSA granted the MCR a budget of £10,350 out of a total of £35,000, which is 29.6%.

RCSA Believes:

1. That the current system, by which the RCSA determines the size of the MCR budget, is totally arbitrary.
2. That it would be simpler and easier for all involved if the MCR budget was paid to the MCR directly by the college.
3. That the college may not agree to this system, and if this is the case then the amount the MCR receives should be defined somewhere.
4. That this definition should retain a degree of flexibility so as to be able to take account of changing financial requirements in the future.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To lobby the relevant college authorities to pay the MCR budget to the MCR directly.
2. That whilst the RCSA continues to pay the MCR budget it's size shall be set at 30% of the total RCSA budget.
3. That this figure can be changed in any given year by a resolution of both the RCSA and MCR committees.

Proposed: Duncan 'RCSA President' Stibbard Hawkes

Seconded: Patrick 'MCR President Fox-Roberts

Duncan Stibbard Hawkes (DSH) said that they are still working through the constitution. For the part regarding the MCR budget, they have suggested they move this out and reference the document moved into in the constitution. Dave Bewicke (DB) said that this would over ride the constitution and therefore they shouldn't do this until there is a new one. Rob Beagrie (RB) said that the constitution overrides policy and would only apply if the constitution is passed.

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion a)

For: 22

Against:0

Abstain: 1

Motion a) duly passes

b) Rainbow Robinson

THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS.

RCSA Notes:

1. The costs for the publicity and decorations for Rainbow Robinson have come out of the LBGT Officers own pocket.
2. The publicity brought in a lot of people (full capacity) including a large number of people who haven't previously come to a Rainbow Robinson.

3. The Ents committee made a large profit which will be used to benefit future ents.
4. The decorations will be reusable for future LBGT bops.
5. The LBGT budget is reserved for LBGT Drinks in freshers week (and wouldn't cover the costs anyway).

RCSA Believes :

1. No RCSA Officer should be out of pocket for RCSA related expenses.
2. Events such as Rainbow Robinson are great for Robinson's profile in Cambridge.
3. The event wouldn't have been as successful without good publicity and decorations.

RCSA Resolves :

1. To reimburse the LBGT Officer £61.70 to cover the costs incurred.
2. To mandate the committee to consider Rainbow Robinson in future budgets to avoid similar claims in the future.

Proposed: Dan "Head Gay" Green

Seconded: Niall "Putting the Fun in Funding" Browne

Niall Browne (NB) said that DG wants the money. It was agreed before but passed to the next meeting as the meeting was over budget.

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion b)

For: 18

Against: 2

Abstain: 5

Motion b) duly passes

c) Freeview Box

THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS.

RCSA Notes:

1. The freeview box in the JCR has been missing for some time
2. The Catering and Amenities Officer has investigated its whereabouts and concluded it has gone missing, never to be found.

RCSA Believes:

1. Having Freeview in the JCR is a good thing

RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate £25 from the Open Meeting Budget to buy a new Freeview Box
2. To mandate the Catering and Amenities Officer to buy and install the new Freeview box

Andy Aitken (AA) said that is has gone missing and therefore we should get a new one. Dan Dyer (DD) asked if we have enough money. RB said yes.

Proposed: Andy "TV Time" Aitken

Seconded: Duncan "will look good next to the Wii" Stibbard Hawkes

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion c):

For 24:

Against: 1

Abstain: 1

Motion c) duly passes

d) May Bumps

THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS.

RCSA Notes:

1. The Boat Club is under unprecedented demand, with an extra three boats on top of the five we normally have in May Bumps
2. Lots of rowers means we need lots of boats
3. That "Bill Nolan" was taken off the Boat Register to save money
4. That, actually, we need Bill Nolan to be able to enter as many crews as we have rowers in May Bumps

RCSA Believes:

1. That everybody who wants to row should be able to do so
2. That the Boat Club Committee shouldn't have to foot the bill

RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate £52.48 from the Open Meeting budget to reregister Bill Nolan

Proposed: Simon "Blades" Bushell

Seconded: Andy "No Blades" Aitken

AA said that they wish to withdraw the motion as the money is no longer needed

Motion d) was withdrawn

e) Cooking Society

THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS.

RCSA Notes:

1. There is currently no cooking society.
2. Other College societies also have the abbreviation RCCS.
3. College cooking has been under increased pressure lately.

RCSA Believes:

1. College needs, now more than ever, a cooking society to promote, provide, educate and entertain in the culinary arts.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To form the Robinson College Nomic Cooking Society (RCNCS). The RCNCS agree to be bound by the Constitution of the RCSA.
2. To amend Appendix I of the Constitution to include the "Nomic Cooking Society".
3. The objects of the RCNCS shall be to:
 - i. provide for and improve food cooking facilities for Members in Robinson College;
 - ii. defend the arcane practice of cooking food in Robinson College;
 - iii. further the culinary finesse of its Members;
 - iv. teach men and women to fish;
 - v. be a democratic society.
4. To approve the RCNCS constitution provided as an addendum (separate document).
5. To appoint the proposer of this motion as 'Temporary Convenor' of the RCNCS, who shall give notice of the RCNCS's due elections and meetings until a permanent committee is formed.

Proposed: Dave 'Pan-demonium' Bewicke

Seconded: Barnaby 'Fry Day I'm In Love' Mollett

DB said that there is not currently one in college or the university and it is appealing and would be positive for cooking. Tobias Paul (TP) asked if the motion was for establishment or expenditure. DB said establishment and they will come back if they need money.

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion e)

For: 25

Against:1

Abstain: 0

Motion e) duly passes

f) Hockey Kit

RCSA notes:

1. That Robinson College Hockey Club was allocated £250 for equipment by the RCSA.
2. That it has spent none of this money thus far because the goalkeeping kit, which was expected to fall apart at some point during the season has held up remarkably well.
3. That it is in urgent need of some more team shirts as inevitably several get lost each year and there aren't currently enough for the starting XI and substitutes waiting to come on.

RCSA Believes:

1. Some of this money would be best spent on the necessary team kit.
2. That the rest of the equipment budget should be retained for the upkeep of the goalie kit.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To transfer £165 from the equipment budget to team kit.

NB said that the hockey club provisioned to replace the goalkeeper kit but it is still fine. However, there are not enough shirts for the team and substitutes. This is not right for the best hockey team in Oxbridge. NB proposed they move £165 from the equipment budget to team kit budget. DSH asked if the kit will be kept with the club. NB said yes.

Proposed: Amarjeet 'grabs his stick and smacks his balls' Johal

Seconded: Niall 'likes to get his kit...on' Browne

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion f)

For: 26

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion f) duly passes

g) Croquet

RCSA Notes:

1. The College currently has no croquet club
2. That an orphaned society can be adopted by members of the RCSA.

3. That Cuppers croquet has been "re-launched".

RCSA Believes

1. That people love playing croquet.
2. Robinson needs a team to win another cuppers sport that doesn't require much moving.
3. That croquet is a relaxing but intellectual game - perfect for Easter term.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To re-form the RCACC.
2. To instil Mr E.F. Hyde as captain with responsibility for cuppers croquet fixtures.

Proposed: Niall "peg out" Browne

Seconded: Edward "secondary ball colours" Hyde

NB said that we don't have a team and that everyone loves it. Ed Hyde (EH) will be the captain and he does little else than think about sport. NB said that they are not asking for money at the moment. Jess Rose Brush (JRB) asked if there will be a cuppers fee. NB said it doesn't look like there will be.

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion g)

For:25

Against:0

Abstain:1

Motion g) duly passes

h) Sports Day

THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS.

RCSA Notes:

1. It would be amazing fun to have a sports day in college
2. Sack races and three legged races are particularly fun.
3. Although winning isn't everything, prizes are very nice too

RCSA Believes:

1. The RCSA should help to fund the costs of a sports day

RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate £30 from the open meeting budget to buy sacks, ties and fun prizes

Proposed: Andy 'won the egg and spoon race in year 3' Aitken

Seconded: Gigi 'is a demon in the sack...race' Woolstencroft

AA said that it might be fun to have a chill out afternoon with fun sports games. GW will buy some sacks and ties. Dave Williams (DW) asked about other races. AA said they could have anything he wanted, but AA they haven't been decided yet. Michael Boyle asked if there would be a parents race at the end. AA suggested college parents. DB asked if there would be sailing on the lake. AA said no. DD asked if the noise was going to be a problem. DSH said he will check with Liz Guild (LG).

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion h)

For:24

Against:1

Abstain:1

Motion h) duly passes

The meeting was completed in record time. WELL DONE!

TP said that the time of the meeting clashed with Evensong. RB asked when would be better. TP said 6:30. RB said that this will clash with food in the bar at 7pm but will see what he can do.