

RCSA Open Meeting Minutes

(including the budget meeting)

Sunday 7th November 2010-2pm, Umney Theatre

1. Apologies for absence or lateness

Chris Halcrow (CH), Luke Whiting (LKW) and Andy Aitken (AA)

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.

Tobias Paul (TB) asked the secretary to change the minutes to say that: 'vote that Rob Beagrie (RB) should remain in the chair'. TB asked for it to be changed to clarify that the challenging the ruling rather than asking for RB to be replaced.

6. Matters Arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

7. Reports from the Committee

RB said that if anyone wanted to run for president or chair they had until midnight on Wednesday.

8. Questions to the Committee

TP asked if the boaties had bought the boat. Jessica Rose-Brush (RR) said that the boat club couldn't get racking space for the pair. Unless this changes the money will go back to reserves and they will apply for more money if they need something else in due course.

9. Ordinary Motions

a) Domain Name

THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS.

RCSA Notes:

1. The "rcsa.co.uk" domain owned by the RCSA expires in less than 30 days.
2. The domain will cost £7.03 to renew for a further 2 years.
3. The last time the domain was renewed it was renewed for 2 years.

RCSA Believes:

1. It's important when people visit rcsa.co.uk they end up at our website.
2. It's nice to have rcsa.co.uk for ourselves.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate £7.03 of the open meeting budget to renew the subscription.
2. To mandate the Computer Officer to renew the subscription.

Proposed: Hannis "currently the entire IT department" Whittam

Seconded: Andy "Handy's personal IT team" Akon

Hannis Whittam (HW) said the current domain name is rcsa.co.uk. This expires in 30 days. It costs 7 pounds to renew and must be renewed every 2 years. HW said he didn't like the idea that RCSA.co.uk would take people to something other than the RCSA. He said it was worth it and easy to do.

Dan Green (DG) asked could this be put in a budget at some point? HW said that as it was renewed every 2 years and the budget is annual, it would not make sense. Niall Browne (NB) suggested allocating funds from the open meeting budget. RB said this would be fine.

Mike Baxby (MBa) asked would it make more sense as a .org address. HW said that we already had .co.uk. RB said that MBa could bring a motion if he wanted to get .org. HW said that he could also consider standing for computer officer next year.

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion a)

For: 69

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion a) duly passed.

b) Jelly Society

THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS.

RCSA Notes:

1. That there is no society for the appreciation of Jelly.
2. That there is an increased interest in the appreciation of Jelly (and or Ice cream) and consumption thereof.
3. That Jelly flavours increase awareness of different fruits.
4. That Jelly can be combined with fruit to form a healthy dessert.
5. That on weekend evenings many undergraduate members have limited access to desserts.

RSCA Believes:

1. That there is a need for a Jelly Society, to promote, educate and indulge in all things Jellicious.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To form The Robinson College Jelly Society (RCJS). The RCJS agree to be bound by the constitution of the RCSA.
2. To amend Appendix 1 of the constitution to include The Jelly Society.
3. The aims of the RCJS shall be:
 - i) to spread the love of jelly throughout the college, city and world.
 - ii) to make known the awesomeness of the jelly-ice cream combination.
4. To approve the RCJS constitution. (see addendum)

Proposed: Maria "Jelly Princess" Farrimond

Seconded: Brynmor "Mould Me" Pickering

Steve Gordon (SG) said that as there is a cheese society, why not have a jelly society. Jelly is more versatile and flavoursome and is not going to disrupt the running of the college.

HW pointed out that the Jelly Society constitution made the society open to University, but money from the budget is only for RCSA members. SG said at the moment they don't expect it to have non-Robinson members. This was more of a dream than a reality. Anyway, potential funding would only be used for Robinson. If it became 'uni size' then Jelly Society would apply to CUSU or 'something'.

Rosalyn Old (RO) asked to propose an amendment so jelly society will just be for Robinson members. SG accepted the amendment as friendly.

DG asked why it was necessary to explicitly state that women would be allowed. SG said that unfortunately Bryn Pickering (BP) was not available to comment but reinforce the fact that the constitution was not sexist.

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion b)

For: 60
Against: 0
Abstain: 10

Motion b) duly passed.

c) Rugby Pads

THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS.

RCSA Notes:

1. That the current RCRUFC (Robinson College Rugby) contact pads are worn out and insufficient for the size of players.
2. The number of people who are new to rugby or are resuming the game after not playing for a number of years means that good quality contact pads are necessary to prevent injury.
3. Following the Teams recent promotion to Division 2 proper training pads are crucial to maintain training quality.
4. The money is requested from the reserves because the pads will last a number of years and benefit the club for many seasons.

RCSA Believes:

1. That the pads will benefit all members of the squad.
2. New pads will prevent injuries such as those caused by the current pads.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate £500 from the RCSA reserves to buy 2 Tackle Pillars and 4 Contact Pads.

(see addendum)

Proposed: Will "Here comes the Boom" Woods

Secoded: Harry "Big Dog needs big pads" Clifford

Will Woods (WW) said that currently the rugby club has 4 pads, junior size only and not good enough or big enough to use. From reserves they wanted 4 more pads and 2 columns. These were needed for training and to minimise risk of injuries. WW stated that we had already had injuries from the current rugby pads.

RB invited the meeting to vote on motion c)

For: 64
Against: 0
Abstain: 7

Motion c) duly passed.

d) Budget

THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS.

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 2010-11 (see addendum for breakdown)

Proposed: The Constitution.

NB explained the budget meeting would be decided by indicative vote. After each item there would be a chance to ask questions. People should not spend as much as they already have. Each society will need to explain what they are spending money on and why. Each would be voted on in turn. If we get to the end and are not under the set budget level then societies will be asked to cut things and if no cuts are made, we will have to begin again at the top. At the beginning of the meeting the budget is £1000 over.

RCSA:

Admin:

NB said that this was for photocopying such as agendas, general running of RCSA

Open meeting snacks:

NB said this was obvious.

RCSA insurance:

NB said as of this year we haven't been billed for anything so the figure has been reduced to £0.

TV License:

NB said this was for TVs used and owned by the RCSA as we'll have to pay for Digital TV sky TV in the TV room at £80/month.

TV in the bar:

NB said the bar now paid for their TV, so changed to £0.

Newspapers in the JCR:

NB said that this was self explanatory.

Newspapers in Romsey:

NB said that as Romsey no longer existed, the sum was changed to £0.

Punt membership:

NB said that Scuddamores punt scheme, cost £147 and in return gives cheaper punts. It is not organised well and as we can get the same price from other independent punting societies we are not renewing the membership.

Audit fee:

NB said that college requires a proper audit performed. We use a Cambridge firm. This is how much it costs.

Annual CUSU subscription:

NB said that as there were two more undergrads this year so up by £7. We will vote in an open meeting in November to renew this.

RCSA Newsletter:

NB said Brick printing and photocopying costs £60 p/a.

College to MCR:

NB said this is money given from our budget to the MCR so can fulfil their needs. Same amount as last year.

RAG:

NB said events run throughout the year. Same cost as last year.

Annual subscription to societies syndicate:

NB said that this had not been claimed

Academic affairs:

NB said this was £1 and a relic of Barnaby Mollet (BM). It was more of a principality thing than anything.

Access:

NB said access cost £30 last year and throughout the year access couldn't get anything. We decided that it seems feasible to put up to £130.

Ents:

NB said freshers in particular enjoy ents, budgeted last year £600. Bops and karaoke.

Welfare committee:

Running the drinks, groups in freshers week. NB said that these cost £50 each

VP expenditure:

NB said this was for freshers week and the room ballot. Last freshers week £420 been reduced to £320 as there is still a lot you can do with this amount.

Welfare:

NB said this was used to stock the condom cupboard and a few other things such as Easter term chillout café where people could enjoy themselves in a nice relaxed environment.

Women's drinks:

NB said this is a good opportunity for people to get together and meet.

Yearbook:

NB said this cost £150 last year. Again, printing costs were a subsidy from college.

Refund scheme:

NB said 5 claims of £10 each. Claim £10 off society subscription to anything in the University could be made.

Open meeting Budget:

RB said this was used for anything that is part of the budget. RO said that items in the budget that had been £0 and still were £0 were pointless and asked if we have to keep them. RB said no, not particularly. NB said we can remove them but it's ok to just leave them,

JRB asked can we get rid of refund scheme as it is never used. NB said that it was in the constitution. RB agreed. JRB asked if we could reduce the amount to 1p each. NB this year it had been made known in finance booklet that it exists

TP asked why do we keep the £1 for academic affairs? Why are the yearbook costs not covered by those who acquire yearbook. HW said that people still pay for yearbook. DSH bellowed that it is possible that no-one would order the yearbook and that we had to order a certain number of books to get the best price. This money was used in case no-one ordered and we could not pay for it.

JRB can someone from ents justify why they want £600. Dan Jackson said that they use the profit from the bar to make improvements, little bit to subsidise corruption but need 600 to fund it.

Michael Boyle (MBo) asked why does the brick need £60? Duncan Stibbard Hawkes (DSH) said for printing.

MBa asked how much the TV room is used in vacation as we pay for 12 months. HW said it was possible that it would be more expensive for short term expenditures. Most sky contracts are for the year. Wouldn't be surprised if works out more expensive.

Arun Niranjana (AN) said that ethnic minorities drinks can be cut to £30.

Richard Slade (RS) asked if this could be extended to all drinks. AN said that it was because no one turned up.

Owen Jones (OJ) asked if snacks for open meetings were needed. RO said it was part of the fair-trade policy to have fair trade snacks. DSH added that only when there is a fair trade alternative. RB said that we are not obliged to have snacks. OJ asked if the snacks could be taken out of the budget. RB and NB said that this was fine.

Indicative vote: passes

Boat Club:

JRB (ladies captain) said that NB had cut a grand from budget, and asked if it could be put back so we know where we can cut from. NB said that if we put it back in, we will be £2000 over budget and £1000 more was being requested than last year. JRB said that they had already taken a cut of £1000 from £8260. She said that the boat club is huge and open to all, both men and women. It is a positive thing. It is a bigger club than ever and more successful. Last year was one of the best years for the boat club. JRB said that she understood that the RCSA does not have much money, but they do not have a lot of money as a club. They want to offer the best rowing opportunity that they can to everyone. It is an expensive sport to run as the equipment is expensive, but the budget is not indulgent.

JRB gave the following breakdown of costs:

Insurance: have to have it

Subs: needed so that they can row and be a club

Cam subs: so they can use the river

Fines: These just happen. If there is a fine for incompetence they make the member pay.

For things that can't be helped, the boat club pays.

Race fees: Have worked it out.

Repairs etc: used to be itemised. When JRB was treasurer she made it one category for flexibility. JRB said that it was expensive, as one seat costs £50 and 8 are needed per boat. There is a lot of old stuff which needs a lot of maintenance

Admin: photocopying and stamps

DG asked if a lot of the MCR use it and if they offer anything like we do. DG asked if the budget could be shared across the 2. RB said that the MCR spend their entire budget. We would have to give the MCR more money. HW said that the MCR are still RCSA members.

AN asked how many Robinson members are members of the boat club. JRB said that this term his term there were 50 active members Last Mays there were 3 women's boats 'n' 3 men's. That is 6x9 on top of the members not racing. That's more than any other society.

RO asked can you explain what the fines are for and is it possible to put into open meeting if fine is given? JRB said you have to pay them. With no money JRB would have to pay. Fines happen for stuff like lost bowballs in the outing and being noisy before light.

TP asked how much was paid last year in the budget? Jack Herlihy (JH) said that it was more than £100. JRB said that an effort had been made to raise money in sponsorship e.g. boaties cocktails and Robinson head. Everything cost more than was being asked for.

MBo said that not that much can be taken off and asked if we come back to it at the end.

Passes

Rugby:

Tom Anelay (TA) asked for £1670 this year. Primarily as we need a new kit which is going to cost £1000. As the rugby club is growing and through successful promotion there are 40 active members. Although women don't play within it, there are a large number who come along. Recently we offered them polo shirts to get them involved. We are trying to make it more inclusive.

Kit costs £1000 and old kit is very old, too big and battered. *Terrible*. We need a new one. It hangs off people, affecting the way they play.

Equip and maintenance has gone up as club grows.

Match costs: TA said the rugby club have to pay £200 to the university for insurance, match fees and referee fees. There are difficulties transporting kit.

Transport: TA said that £300 was for the rugby tour. Any of the members can join, That's 25/30 people. They can get to know each other, bond as a team and get into no trouble. The tour should be open to all members and this money subsidises some of the costs for those less able to afford it. We have cut £250 off original total and so have made an effort.

MBo asks are you just sharing the kit. How old is the kit? TA said it was 3 years old. MBo asked what exactly the transport costs are for. TA said they were for a minibus. WW said CUSU minibuses were used. Last year people used their own cars and some were on the train. They were looking on taking more people on tour and so would get a minibus. Priority place on the bus to would be given those less able to afford them.

DG to NB could the kit be taken out of reserves if going to last for more than the year. NB could but the reserves are such that they are a lot lower than they were, seems more feasible come out of current expenditure. No precedent for reserves. DG seems like bad way. TA did ask, but conversation with NB. TA kit falls apart as physical game. DG would make sense third year. RB can't.

RS asked why they are not paying for insurance. TA said it was under the heading of match costs. It has been integrated.

MBa asked if the transport is for the tour, why is it not under a 'tour' heading. TA said that there had been strong objections last year when they asked for money for the tour.

JRB asked what the rugby club is intending to do to raise money. TA said that they are looking into sponsorship, but there is less press coverage for division 2. A number are in contact with companies. TA said he was in touch with law firms and WW with Credit Suisse and Accenture. They are not in division one so there is less publicity. Last year, to raise money, they did rugby cocktails. They hope to do something similar this year.

HW said that on the new kit there was the option to get sponsorship. They won't order kit until next year because they want to get lots of sponsors.

TP asked will the rugby club members give the rugby club money to cover the costs. TA said that the kit would be RCSA property, so no. The Rugby club would pay for rest out of their own money. MBo asked if members would get to keep the kit. TA said that it would remain within the RCSA. NB asked what the plan was for the old kit. TA said that they haven't decided yet. They were thinking of selling it to players to cover the costs of the new kit.

Ryan Warnock (RW) said that they needed new kit as the kit at the moment isn't good enough. It doesn't fit and is worn out.

MBa asked why the kit was paid for out of the budget and the pads were paid for from the reserves as it all seemed to be owned and used in a similar way. RB said that there was constitutionally no problem in claiming kit from the reserves. NB said that pads last longer than kit. TA said that the kit was 3 years old. TA said that pads lasted 5-10 years. TA said that they were buying the pads from samurai. It was high quality and at a 20% discount. HW said that most clubs get new set of kit every year. At the moment they are in a position to be in division one next year and so new kit is important.

Passes

Hockey:

Simon Bushell (SB) said that Astro turf fees had gone up.

NB said that the costs had gone up as last year and they had over spent. They had budgeted at the max it could possibly be but that NB had reduced it. The club also needed 10 hockey balls as there were no club owned balls and having balls makes it possible to practice.

Team kit: The women's team don't have enough shirts and instead all have to dress in the same colour. They needed £200 to fund this kit.

Goalkeeper kit:

The current goalie kit was not sufficient for the standard of hockey played by the club as there were no chest pads. The goalkeeper could be injured if he was hit in the wrong place.

DG asked how much of an overestimation is the Astro turf cost was. NB said that the estimate was for the Wilberforce Road grounds which are only used sometimes. The estimate was based on playing every match on that pitch!

MBa asked if the girl's kit was simply a cosmetic thing? He asked if it would be possible to take this off the budget. NB said that it was a cosmetic thing and could be removed or could be provided by team members or reduced. Lauran Clapham (LC) clarified that the money was needed for shirts. As there are currently not enough shirts for a full team of eleven to have kit they needed new ones. Leavers had taken them in past and so they were depleted. They had tried to chase some of them down, but to no avail. The kits had been purchased four years ago. Being in division one with no proper kit just looks silly and also kits are necessary so that the team can recognise each other on the pitch.

RS asked if they were looking into possible sponsorship. LC said no as it hockey was not as big a sport as Rugby or Rowing. SB said they had on the last men's shirts and would do the same again. HW asked where the £200 the figure had come from. LC said that it was based on the cost of 20 shirts at £10 each for both the women and mens teams. HW asked if they could guarantee that people would not steal the new kit. LC said that the shirts had numbers and each number would be assigned to a player. It's difficult to take them in each week as they are laundered independently but LC trusts the hockey club will hand them back. The hockey season ends at the end of lent.

Max Ehrman (ME) asked if there could be a deposit as collateral for the shirts. LC said that as they sometimes they don't have a constant team it would be difficult. A deterrent could be researched but the club would still need the money.

MBa suggested that given that the cost of the astro turf is uncertain, the amount required could be decreased. RB said that this would deplete our reserves every year and in 5 years no money would be left. MBa said that we should top up from the open meeting budgets. RB said that if we cut the sum by £300, then would have to come from reserves anyway as not enough money is available in any given open meeting. MBa asked if it was paid for one match at a time. RB said that we should try and make sure that we are actually sustainable. DSH said that the reserves were going down fast. RB said that it was possible but not practical to keep taking money from the open meetings. JRB said that the amount was an overestimate. NB said that if the hockey club won most matches then everything would be amount spent.

RS said that however much anyone asks for, one way or another they will claim for it. RB said that we cannot leave the room until the budget had been reduced.

WW said that the hockey club is the best performing college sport both in mixed coppers and mens. Robinson represented the University in their Varsity match. The more you play the more it costs and the chances all the games would be won, costing 900 pounds. CP said that at worst if the sum was reduced to £800 then hockey would only have to ask for £100 in an open meeting. NB said that they should do that. LC agreed.

MBa asked if the club would consider a new team kit next year. DG said that this seemed unfair as rugby had asked for £1000 and hockey only wanted £200.

Vote passes

Chapel Choir:

Adam Dixon (AD) asked if the budget for the music stock and the summer tour could be switched as there had been a mistake. AD explained the budget.

Cathedral costs were for visits to cathedrals which were far away. Some of the cathedrals had schools and thus the choir also helped improve access. Coaches were needed as the choir had thirty members.

Printing: This was for newsletters, posters and any music composed students.

Music: This is used to buy music to stock the library. Music is darn expensive!

Summer tour: The summer tour costs a lot of money. Each member pays a certain amount but to get the best deal the choir needs to book in advance.

HW asked why the summer tour cost £400. AD said that the price of coaches was high. This money brings it down. DG asked how many people were on tour. AD said 30. DG asked if there would be significant difference if the money were to be taken away. AD said that yes, there would be.

TP asked what proportion of tour was non Robinson students. AD said that there were three people in the choir who aren't members of Robinson and that the choir gave Robinson a good reputation.

AN asked if you have to be a certain singing standard to join the choir. AD said that you had to pass the audition just like other must be able to play sport to join sports clubs. RB said that to have money you have to be open to every member of Robinson. DSH asked if the choir had ever not let anyone join? AD said that yes, they had. AN said that societies with selective membership can't claim from the RCSA. AD said that not being selective goes against the policy of the chapel choir. If the RCSA wanted a society for singing, they could create this at any time.

MT said that sports pick best eleven to play. RB said that anyone could be members of the club, even if they were not on the team.

Harry Clifford (HC) asked if all the money had been claimed in previous years. AD said that yes, it had- there were three cathedral visits and a summer tour then stock and printing.

DSH said that as the RCSA received their budget from college fellowship and as the fellowship largely supported the choir, it was possible that the fellowship might refuse to pass our budget. It is possible that if we took money off the choir's budget they might refuse to give us our budget. RB said that the fellowship have to pass the budget. WW asked if the cathedral trips were open to everyone. AD said that they were only open to people in choir. RO wondered how the £400 used for choir tour compared to other subsidies for tours. NB said that the only other club claiming tour money is rugby. Rugby used £300 for transport. AN asked if it would be possible to cut the choir budget

to the same amount rugby. AD said that they needed the money for the coaches and only three members of the choir were not from Robinson. Chris Powell (CP) said that non-members are still being subsidised and they shouldn't be. RB affirmed that societies were not allowed to spend money on non-members. AD that this had been okay for the last two years. OJ said that rugby had sent thirty on tour last year and this had only cost them £300. AD said that they could cut the amount to £300.

Passes

Film Society:

Poppy Goodheart (PG) said that we legally needed a license to show films and we need to pay £75 a week for auditorium hire. On top of this films cost money to buy each week.

DG asked why there appeared to be a new cost for the auditorium? NB said that this was because the film soc budget was now itemised. MBa asked if we could watch films we already owned for the next year. It would mean not showing new films! PG said that as all the old films are already in library and can be taken out, people would not come. She said that the budget had already been cut to allow new films only every other week. DG asked if once bought, the films would remain in the library. PG said yes!

AN asked how many people actually turned up. PG said that this fluctuates. At most, 72 people came. The average was 20-30 people. DSH pointed out that these were different people every week. MBo asked if there could be a small charge like at St. Johns. DSH said that as St John's they showed films which were not already out on DVD. PG said that St. Johns showed films using a reel. At Robinson, we use less expensive DVDs.

MBa said that in previous years, long ago, there was a charge. RB said that this had not happened while he had been at Robinson. RB said that license charges go up. LJW said that while this was fair in principle, it would equally be fair if people had to pay to row. MBa asked if the films were open to other colleges. PG said that they were only advertised to college members. DSH said that it would technically be possible to try and ban non members. HW said that it is technically against our license to allow non-members in. To let in non-members is illegal. RB said that not letting non members in would be a bit 'silly'.

Passes

RCMS:

Chloe Hancox (CH) said that everyone was allowed to be a member of RCMS and that concerts were free of charge. RCMS had a varied programme this year and have to pay for certain instruments, especially percussion. They have to spend a lot on musician hire if there is a large scale concert. Last year the RCMS under-budgeted and had to pay a lot for performers. They are still overdrawn and have to pay for the previous year. Instrument hire under budgeted last year also. They have used their own money to pay for it.

To make up for the lost funds, reprographics means less photocopying and they will print fewer posters. They will advertise and will charge non members to watch. Hopefully they will be able to be more independent next year.

HW asked if there were any big events, last term. CH said that there had been a May week concert. There used to be orchestra but that didn't happen last year. Next term, there is an event that does involve percussion hire. They also had a concert last Friday of a large scale where they performed the newly composed works of a visiting fellow. Percussion needed to be hired. At times there are costs but usually concerts cost nothing.

Passes

Basketball:

NB wished he was a little bit taller, he wished he was a baller, he wished he had a girl who looked good, he would call her. NB said that the basketball club had asked for a large sum of money. This had been cut down from £900 to £350. League fees had been put down as Robinson and St Catz were on a joint team. Last year no kit had been budgeted for. They had been given a quote of £108 for 9 players. Court hire had been reduced to £70.

DG said that as the kit cost £108 they should change the sum from £110 to £108, thus saving £2.

TP asked if they paid court hire last year?. NB said it is a new thing as they have decided that they want to practice. NB said it seems like a good thing as it is the way to get better.

Passes

Football:

MT said that the men's captain was playing so he would speak. The league fees have gone up. They need money for laundry so that they can wash the kit as it is a communal kit. Some of the matches need a referee and they have to pay them.

RO said that none of the other teams had laundry costs. Hockey wash own kit. MT said that they were needed in order to count them back every match else otherwise they will claim for a new kit each year.

OJ said that the first and second teams captain don't wash kit unless win. They have already cut the laundry budget so it won't be very often. If there are 20 games a year, they will be washed once every 5 games. Harshil Raisingani (HR) said that they could wash them by hand. TA pointed out that this was not ecologically friendly.

HW asked what the equipment budget was for. MT said that at the moment they only have one ball which has a puncture. The balls used are owned by players. They can't play without balls.

Passes

Badminton:

MT said that the league fees increased and they are entering 2 men's teams for next term as more people are playing. Racquets and shuttlecocks are college property and anyone from college can sign out the kit. Need to replace them if they are broken or lost. They want a kit, which they will share. They have increased profile as have had 3 back to back promotions for the men's team.

Passes

Squash:

HR said the Robinson squash club was a shame as they have 2 top ten players but until last year there was no up and running club. HR said the pay Clare for the courts but at the moment this is not being taken advantage of. One of the best players is playing for Fitz as they have a better club. HR said that lots of people have signed up, but there is only one broken racquet to play with. It is not fair to ask to people lend personal kit. Their budget has already been cut by more than half. They need racquets, balls, grips and restringing. With luck they might be able to enter cuppers this year.

HW asked if there were three squash courts which were useable. HR said that one is dodgy, but they're good. HW asked why they are we not buying six x £20 rackets? HR said because they break a lot faster so it's better to get more expensive ones to save money overall.

DG asked if they could go to sports direct. HR said there is a good deal on Amazon, £50 down from £200.

Matt Commin (MC) said that he buys his rackets from sports direct and that you should buy cheap rackets for beginners. HR said that cheaper rackets will break so we should get good ones. Last years cheap rackets broke between December and March. HR's expensive racket has lasted for 3-4 years. WW asked how did HR get the £20 figure for squash balls. HR said that they are! MC said that they are used by a lot of people which is why they get broken. Why buy a £50 racquet? HR said if he bought cheap racquets by the next meeting they will have broken.

Passes

Netball:

RO said that for girls and mixed netball they hire the courts from Trinity, which cost £10 an hour. She has counted the home games.

Passes

Cricket:

NB said that last year they didn't ask for money, so last year's captain had to foot the bill. They have to pay league fees to play cuppers. They need enough match balls for matches. They need to use the nets at fenners so that the team can be in good shape come cricket time.

Stefan Filip(SF) asked how much per session. NB said £12 per net session. They will have one session this term, and then 2 for the next 2 terms.

Passes

Video Games:

CP set up the society last year and didn't claim in the budget as it was an experimental year. He supplied his own stuff. He will be leaving at the end of year so needs to make sure the society will continue. Wii games will be decided by poll once a year. They will get 2 other games if they spend creatively. He wants to hold 3 tournaments per year. Last year he bought food, snacks and a prize for the tournament from his own pocket. They also need rechargeable batteries as these are a more cost effective way of supplying power. He can put this down to £8. In the future this should go towards batteries as they will konk out eventually.

DSH asked how many members they have. CP said 20-25 regular members this term and no less than 15 per evening. Tournaments attract about 20. TP asked what the prize was. CP said a small box of chocolates. TP asked how much? CP said £3. DSH said that this year they have been allocated to buy 2 wii games not been bought as no one was mandated.

Pete Evans(PE) asked if they charge entry to tournaments? CP no. MBa asked what the batteries are for? CP said controllers.

Passes

Water polo and swimming:

NB said that they need to pay league fees of £105 which are less than last year

Passes

CD library:

Nick Skehin (NS) said that the CD library has been dormant. They are planning on buying some more recent CDs from the last 3 years, for not too much money. MBo asked if they could not treat the library as a time capsule. HW asked if it was a society. RB said yes.

Passes

Amnesty:

LJW said that there would be letter writing in the bar. They are asking for £90: £50 for airmail aerograms, £20 for printing costs, and £20 for pizza used to entice people. RO asked what an aerogram is. LJW said a postage paid letter/envelope thing. TP asked how much aerograms cost. LJW was unsure. TP asked by can't just buy stamps. LJW said

that this would be complicated as they go over the world. TP said they a book of international stamps could be bought. LJW said that as this model is used across the world, it is probably tried and tested.

Passed

Art Soc:

PG said that there are supplies in the current RCSA office so that people can do art on their own accord. There is paper, charcoal, paint etc. They need the money to top these up and buy something if it is requested. The money will also be used for events, such as trips to life drawing classes or 1 or 2 held at Robinson.

Ewan McGregor (EM) asked how many members they have? PG said that anyone could use the supplies. EM asked if there was evidence of usage? PG said that all the stuff bought last year had been used.

Passes

Pool:

OJ said that there were 3 teams and it costs £20 per team to enter.

Passes

Table Tennis:

OJ said that league fees were needed annually. Equipment was needed such as nets, bats and general maintenance.

Passes

Christian Union:

NB said that they have asked for £50 for events. Not sure what sort of events. RO asked if it was open to all members of the RCSA? TP said yes. RB said that it was at least as open at the choir. DSH asked if the money was used for prophesising. They said no. It is needed for supplies for events. PE said these had in the past included a garden party and cricket match. MBo asked if they get any funding from the University. They don't.

Passes

Cross country:

NB said that they need league fees to enter for cuppers

Passes

RB asked if there were any questions to the others? TP asked where they play ultimate frisbee. Alex Brazier (AB) said that he was not sure why they claim money for equipment. MC suggested that this was for broken frisbees.

Passes

RB asked if the RCSA budget was ok.

JRB proposed that we cut the JCR papers, as there is duplication with cafe. She suggested that we keep the Sunday papers and broadsheets, but now the *Telegraph* and *The Sun* are in the cafe. NB said it could be cut to £1000, if they got a smaller selection of papers. RB asked if anyone had massive objections to this?

DG asked why the sky package cost so much. Helen Young said that sky sports is expensive. TA said that they have to pay an extra amount of money for it to be shown in public. TA said that people do stay in college all year round.

Tom O'Hanlon s (TO) asked what the societies syndicate was? RB said that university teams get no from the university. Instead, each college pays in and give to the blues pay or people can't be in blues.

SF asked if ethnic drinks had decreased their budget, why the others couldn't. DSH said that the others were well attended. RB said that all alcohol was used from all drinks except ethnic minorities drinks. AN said the college had decided the timetable before telling RCSA. DSH said that this should be changed.

NS said the biggest expense seems to be ents. DJ said if they took away money than they would have to charge more for corruption. £10 is expensive for 4 hours. TP asked if more money could be raised through the bar. DJ said that then they would have to increase prices which would be controversial. AB asked if it sells out then surely they could increase it a little. JRB said that corruption has been £11 before. This year it was £9. AN asked if we could charge more for non-members. DJ said they just sold to college.

OJ asked about the yearbook and how many didn't buy it. RB said that more than that was spent as money was acquired from an open meeting. Andy Aitken (AA) said that we could pay an extra £1 each. NB didn't think it was of much benefit to the RCSA as a whole. RB asked if anyone felt strongly about this? MBa asked if it had to be protected? DSH said that the more we order, the lower price becomes. AA appreciates complexities. RB asked if anyone had a strong feeling that we should be subsidising year book. JRB said it was a positive gesture and each year should be the same. It is an important relic of time at Robinson. It can get expensive, so it is nice to keep the cost down. HW said that it was a nice thing, but is there any way if gets to stage where not enough have been bought, can we say that the RCSA will underwrite it. RB said that if we take out the money and then it is needed then the person in charge would have to request. RB said it requires a contract.

RB asked the meeting to vote on if we should be subsidising year book:

For: 21

Against: 18

Stays in.

TP asked if we could cut the open meeting budgets. HW said that we regularly go over. DSH said that they are used. RB said that is the amount we spend in open meetings and people would have to have less if this was changed.

OJ asked if MBo did not need money for *The Brick* then why it was budgeted for. RB said it was as he didn't do the work (no offense). MBo said that he was joking.

RW asked if men's and women's drinks could be changed to something else which doesn't cost as much. LJW pointed out that the drinks were beneficial as they allowed the years to mix and people would not come alcohol was not involved.

AA asked how much still needed to be cut? NB said £364.

HW asked about the newspapers? NB said that had already been cut by £375. MBo said that they were all online. EM said it was nice to go into the JCR and see what is happening in world. TO said they seemed to be well used. AB suggested that instead of getting three broadsheets we could just get one. DSH said they were a political spectrum. AA said that quite a lot of people want to read their own paper. RO said that as we are mid-renovation, if we cut back then the JCR won't be used as much. RB took an indicative vote on how many people think we should still have papers? Not going to cut.

AN asked how many people watch the TV? RB said we would have to cut all or none of it. AA said sports are used a lot. AN asked if they were not in the bar. RB said not. TA said sky sports 2 was not in the bar.

JRB suggested that we move on.

The RCSA budget was passed.

Boat club:

TA suggested it should be cut by £364.

SF asked if there was a list of how much had been spent last year. NB said that people were still claiming and that this would not be constructive. NB said that most societies had come close.

EM asked if the choir could be cut as the number of people who benefit is minimal. Why don't we cut their tour money? TP suggested photocopying budgets should be cut. MBo said it was dodgy to do with no one there. MT said that the tour typically costs £150-200 per head.

DG asked if the rugby tour was open to all? TA said yes. LJW asked if women could go. TA said yes. TP asked if those going would be subsidised if not in the team. WW said that they operate as a club not a team. TA said that as a club it is not just limited to training.

RO asked if the boat club could provide a breakdown of the £2500 for repairs etc. RO asked if they could just be more careful? JRB said that they spent more than allocated

and had already taken a cut of a grand. They are the most active society in Robinson. AA said that he can make breakdowns available if this is needed. But if you want to let new people get involved then they have to go out on the water where they might crash.

NB said that if we removed £100 from tour, £100 from rugby, £100 from newspapers, then another £46 would need to be cut. TA asked why the boat club hadn't been cut. JRB said they had already taken cut. TA suggested a proportional cut. Simon Bushell (SB) said that if money was cut then they would not be able to put boats in races.

RB said that what NB said did not involve boat club. TP suggested they cut £100 from the choir if they spread this out more. MT said that if they cut the music budget then they would struggle to be a choir.

SB suggested £123 be cut from the choir and £123 from rugby.

RW said that they wash kit every week and have not lost them whilst other sports are claiming £50 maintenance costs on laundry.

RB said that we were talking about newspapers and tours. DG asked if it was plausible to cut the newspapers. NB said we could change the newspapers ordered, fewer weekend papers and change how we buy the FT. TO asked if papers are only bought during term time? NB said yes.

SB suggested a vote. RB said we would be cutting £123 from the choir and rugby and £100 from newspapers. DG asked if the papers could be cut by £123 as the rugby tour helped more than newspapers.

RB said we would vote on original:
For:25
Against:19

Make those cuts.

RB asked if there were any objections to whole budget. AN asked if the boat clubs paid subs. AA said that this was unconstitutional. NB suggested the remaining £18 should be taken off the repairs budget for the boat club. JRB was against this.

RB invited a vote on if the boat club should be cut by £18. This passed.

RB asked if anyone objected to voting on the whole budget? No

RB invites the meeting to vote on the budget:
For: 49
Against: 2
Abstain:2

RB passed budget.