

# **RCSA Open Meeting Minutes**

## **Sunday 4.30pm 27<sup>th</sup> November 2011, Umney Theatre**

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

John Jarman (late due to CUSU LGBT meeting), Steven Gordon (late only), Hannah Cowan.

Also absent without apologies: Alex Marshall – reason unknown.

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

There were no guests.

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

Unnecessary as there were no guests.

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

Tobias Paul [TP] proposes we move motion a) to the end of the agenda.

Vote to move motion a) to the end of section 10 .

In favour: 2

Against: a lot

Proposal falls.

There were no other objections.

### **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.**

There were no amendments.

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

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

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

Bryn Pickering [BP] in a previous meeting a motion was passed to get a bike pump and one has now been bought, and placed in the porters lodge if people want to borrow it.

### **8. Questions to the Committee**

There were no questions to the Committee.

## 9. Extraordinary Motions

There were no extraordinary motions.

## 10. Ordinary motions

### a) CUSU re-affiliation

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. According to the constitution a list of organisations that the RCSA is affiliated with should be submitted yearly for approval. (Chapter VI: section 41).

2. The RCSA is currently affiliated to CUSU, for the cost of £2707 yearly.

3. That CUSU's support, in terms of welfare, representation at university level and running of campaigns would be unsustainable at a college level.

#### **RCSA Believes:**

1. That its affiliation to CUSU is of major benefit to the college

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To stay affiliated to CUSU.

**Proposed: Jimmy 'enjoying CUSU banter' Campbell**

**Seconded: Bryn 'at least I don't HAVE to go to CUSU council' Pickering**

Rosalyn Old [RO] suggests a procedural motion to just vote and Harry Brunton [HB] says this cannot happen until after the speeches for and against.

Jimmy Campbell [JC] asks RO to speak proposing this motion

#### FOR THE MOTION

RO: This motion has to be proposed at the first open meeting of each new committee, affiliation is a continuing process and there is currently no reason to disaffiliate. This vote is just a formality, we won't get our money back if we disaffiliate, and there are lots of benefits: CUSU council is a forum, for us to air college's views, long-term continuity, and access. We loose out if we disaffiliate so we should just vote this through quickly as there is no real need to debate the matter now.

#### AGAINST THE MOTION

EM: I would like clarify the relationship between us and CUSU, we are members in our own right without the college RCSA being affiliated. This is a service relationship, we pay and they give us services. We get two seats on council and CUSU's support of the RCSA but we pay an awful lot to CUSU for very little in return. Corpus has not noticed the difference since they disaffiliated and have used the money for new gym and bar; we would be able to keep the money we saved. CUSU does do some good stuff but we receive very little for our money. 30% of CUSU budget comes from JCR's ans they do very little for them in return. CUSU also completely fails to encourage students to engage with both it and their college JCR's.

EM calls for a procedural motion but first RO is first given the right to reply by HB

RO says that the money we give to CUSU goes from the university to the college to give back to CUSU, there is not a lack of money from college so CUSU affiliation fees are not stopping us do other things. Also CUSU do get involved in Robinson.

HB now accepts the procedural motion from EM

EM: Last year we discussed this and it became an important issue so it is necessary that we have a referendum on the matter so college can make their own informed decision.

Chris Halcrow [CH]: Says that nobody ever came to him or RO to complain about CUSU so he does not think it is a controversial issue, so this is unnecessary.

Vote on procedural motion to take CUSU affiliation to a referendum:

In favour: 4

Against: 23

Abstentions: 3

Procedural motion falls so we return to original motion.

TP point of order to clarify how many people are needed for a motion to pass if it's procedural HB says that the procedural motion to put the motion to a referendum (as well as challenging the decision of a chair, or calling for the removal of the chair) requires a 2/3rds majority, whereas the rest require a simple majority.

#### AGAINST THE MOTION

TP: He is mostly ambivalent, but would personally decide to affiliate, however he doesn't think it is a small matter, thinks it is controversial and many people do have strong views, for many people they wouldn't go to the JCR as they are seen as part of CUSU, it is important matter, thus why under law we have this debate, just because it is a normal thing we should still discuss it as it is important.

JC: proposing a procedural motion that the motion be put to a vote.

TP: checking whether anybody else wants to speak?

Dan Green [DG] wants to speak for the motion

JC: says DG can speak.

#### FOR THE MOTION

DG: we are just saying we are happy with the status quo, this is not a massive debate, there has been no massive change so we shouldn't disaffiliate, EM's argument is wrong that we should freeload off CUSU by the value of our individual membership as opposed to paying the college JCR affiliation membership.

EM: I didn't say we were freeloading, Corpus and Trinity have both disaffiliated, people who try and say it isn't a debate are just CUSU people trying to stifle debate, we should look at whether we were

getting value for money, people should care enough about this issue to debate it properly, CUSU doesn't really care about us and we have the right to decide for ourselves.

JC: Calls for a procedural motion and says this is why people hate open meetings because they are tedious and boring.

TP: Does anybody else have any questions?

Heather Holland [HH]: would people still be allowed to attend women's forum?

DC: yes you could go as an individual but you would lose voting rights

HH: but what...

JC: Calls for a procedural motion to put the motion to a vote now.

Procedural motion passes so the motion is now voted on

#### **HB invited the meeting to vote on motion a):**

For: 30

Against: 2

Abstain: 4

Motion a) duly passed

#### **b) Renewable Policy**

##### **RCSA Notes:**

*1. That all policies on the Renewable Policy List lapse after 3 years.*

*2. That a number of these policies are due to lapse during the forthcoming year.*

*3. The constitutional requirement for such policies to be proposed for renewal at the first Open Meeting following the election of a new RCSA committee.*

##### **RCSA Believes:**

*1. That there are a number of such policies which we would not want to lapse.*

*2. That these policies continue to support the general aims and objects of the RCSA as set out by the constitution.*

##### **RCSA Resolves:**

*1. To renew the policy contained in the list in the addendum.*

*2. To expressly revoke any policy passed before 1st January 2008 and not contained within the renewable policy list.*

##### **Proposed: RCSA Executive**

FOR THE MOTION

BP: some policies expire after 3 years, these are the ones that will expire in the next year and so need renewing (see addendum) we should renew them all.

No speeches against the motion.

Alan Walbridge [AW]: some of them are not relevant anymore, i.e. café opening hours so can we pass some and not others?

HB: we can't amend the motion unless we take it in parts

TP: Proposes a procedural motion to take the motion in parts

JC: it will take far too long

Procedural motion to take the motion in parts:

For: 5

Against: more than 5

JC calls for a procedural motion that the motion be put:

For: a lot

Against: less than a lot

TP: we should keep a record of numbers.

HB: we are recording them for the main motions.

**HB invited the meeting to vote on motion a):**

For: 34

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion b) duly passed

### **c) Constitutional Reform**

#### **RCSA Notes:**

- 1. The last constitutional reform was in 2007.*
- 2. The Constitution must be submitted for review by College Council every five years or upon amendment.*
- 3. It has been 5 years since the last constitutional reform.*

#### **RCSA Believes:**

1. *That the constitutional reform proposals produced by the previous RCSA committee contain changes that may well be of great benefit to future RCSA members and officers.*
2. *That every RCSA member ought to be given fair opportunity to contribute their thoughts and opinions to these (and possibly other) changes before they are put to a referendum.*
3. *It is a requirement set by College.*

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. *To create a Constitution Sub-Committee that shall:
  - i. have the RCSA Chair as its chairperson;
  - ii. exist until (whichever is sooner):
    - a) the Sub-Committee is satisfied that the proposals are ready to be considered by the Executive, or
    - b) the last Ordinary Open Meeting of lent term;
  - iii. review, discuss and, if necessary, amend current proposals for constitutional reform;
  - iv. meet at least 3 times during the period in which it exists, at a time and place decided by the chairperson.
  - v. be open and advertised to all Members.*
2. *To mandate the RCSA President to bring the proposals of the sub-committee for consideration at an Open Meeting once they are complete and before they are officially considered by the Executive.*
3. *To mandate the Executive to consider the finished proposals from the Constitution Sub-Committee once they have been passed by an Open Meeting and decide whether or not to put these to a referendum.*

**Proposed: Jimmy “reformed man” Campbell**  
**Seconded: Bryn “re-constituted” Pickering**

FOR THE MOTION

JC: we are required by college to look at the constitution, I’m so glad I get to do this (nervous laughter), similar to open meetings, please can we pass this quickly please.

No speeches against.

No questions.

**HB invited the meeting to vote on motion c):**

For: 36

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

**Motion c) duly passed**

## **d) Presents for Outgoing President/Chair**

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

#### **RCSA Notes:**

- 1. That it has become customary to purchase a present for the outgoing President and Chair of the RCSA*
- 2. That, combined, £80 was spent on presents the previous 2 years*
- 3. That the RCSA Committee think this is a great idea!*

#### **RCSA Believes:**

- 1. That an allocation of £60 from the Open Meeting Budget for the president and £20 for the chair would enable the committee to purchase wonderful gifts for the outgoing President and Chair.*
- 2. That these gifts should be purchased to thank the ex-president and ex-chair for their hard work and commitment to the RCSA.*
- 3. That Rosalyn and Ewan should be able to enjoy retirement in its fullest.*

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

- 1. To allocate £60 from the Open Meeting Budget for the purchase of a present for Rosalyn Old, RCSA President 2010/11.*
- 2. To allocate £20 from the Open Meeting Budget for the purchase of a present for Ewan McGregor, RCSA Chair 2010/11.*

**Proposed: Bryn 'There better be a present for VP next year...' Pickering**

**Seconded: Jimmy 'Gift-aid' Campbell**

FOR THE MOTION

BP: Ros and Ewan did sterling jobs, tradition to buy them gifts, I'm all for traditions and making us look old, so just asking for money for their presents, Ewan made a lovely speech earlier didn't he? (groans)

No speeches against.

HB asks if there are any questions?

Maria Farrimond [MF]: do we have to give them both money?

BP: putting it in parts will take time...

**HB invited the meeting to vote on motion d):**

For: 35

Against: 2

Abstain: 1

Motion d) duly passed

### **e) Underwriting the May Ball**

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. *The May Balls in 2009, 2010 and 2011 were huge successes and were only possible due to the help of the RCSA.*

2. *College Council will only grant permission for a May Ball in 2012 if the RCSA once again accepts liability for any losses incurred by the proposed May Ball.*

3. *The May Ball is not asking for any money from the RCSA.*

4. *The May Ball is proposing the same contract with the RCSA as last 3 years. (The proposed contract in the addendum).*

#### **RCSA Believes:**

1. *That the May Ball was a great success last year and it would be a great disappointment to all members of the college if it were not allowed to happen again this year.*

2. *It is unacceptable for individual members of the May Ball committee to be liable for any losses incurred by the May Ball.*

3. *The attached contract is an adequate solution for both the RCSA and the 2012 May Ball committee.*

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. *To enter into an agreement by deciding to sign the attached contract between the RCSA and the May Ball Committee 2012 at the Open Meeting on 27/11/2011.*

**Proposed: Heather "please don't make me pay" Holland**

**Seconded: Jimmy "May ball mad" Campbell**

#### **FOR THE MOTION**

HH: we have to make a profit of £3000 from each May Ball, this is required by college, but we already have £15,000 in the bank account so we'd have to lose a whole lot of money before this could ever happen. If this doesn't pass then we can't have a May Ball.

#### **AGAINST THE MOTION**

JC: I don't think we can trust Heather with this much money. It might be dangerous.

Point of order:

HH: Jimmy lost his wallet so he can't talk about not being trusted with money.

DG: why is it acceptable to make jokes in the open meeting?

## **HB invited the meeting to vote on motion e):**

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

For: 38

Motion e) duly passed

## **f) Zero Tolerance to Sexual Harassment**

### **RCSA notes:**

1. That the Hidden Marks report, published in March 2010 by the NUS Women's Campaign, revealed that 68% of women students have experienced sexual harassment while a student at their current institution. Many women students reported experiencing persistent harassment in pubs and club nights, and reported that this kind of behaviour was seen as normal at such an event

2. That 16% of the incidents occurred in a learning environment such as a lecture theatre or library

3. That the NUS's definition of sexual harassment is as follows:

*The defining characteristics of sexual harassment are that it is unwanted, persistent and of a sexual nature. Examples of unacceptable behaviour include:*

- Unwanted sexual comments (including comments about your body or private life)
- Unwelcome sexual invitations, innuendoes, and offensive gestures
- Wolf whistling, catcalling or offensive sexual noises
- Groping, pinching or smacking of your body, such as your bottom or breasts
- Having your skirt or top lifted without agreeing
- Someone exposing their sexual organs to you without consent

4. The zero tolerance to sexual harassment campaign was established by the NUS Women's Campaign with the aim of helping unions create an environment where all students can enjoy their time at university without persistent and unwanted attention of a sexual nature

5. That a number of students' unions including Cardiff, Sheffield, Swansea, and Goldsmiths have already successfully implemented a zero tolerance policy in their Union

### **RCSA believes:**

1. That no student at this institution should be forced to just 'put up' with sexual harassment, and that action must be taken to ensure all students are able to enjoy their time at university without experiencing sexual harassment

2. That sexual harassment should not be tolerated, and those who commit acts of sexual harassment should be stopped and disciplined for their actions

*3. That although sexual harassment predominantly affects women students, the policy should and must be applicable to all students, regardless of gender, sexuality, or any other characteristic*

**RCSA resolves:**

*1. To adopt this zero tolerance to sexual harassment policy and work with CUSU in publically campaigning to challenge the normalization of sexual harassment*

*2. That the Women's Officer, Daisy Pope, work with CUSU to:*

*a) Ascertain what the appropriate pathway is for students to complain in the event of an incident of sexual harassment in college, and to improve the pathway if it is not appropriate*

*b) Make this pathway clear and accessible to all students*

*c) Get training for staff members working in bar environments and porters, on both the policy itself and the process for dealing with any incident that occurs*

*3. To put a description of the Zero Tolerance Policy on our RCSA website and include it in the freshers' guide for 2012.*

*4. To deal with every situation in a non-partisan way.*

*5. To take all accusations seriously, but take into account the level of harassment that has occurred in resolving the situation.*

*6. To try to resolve situations informally when possible, but to have disciplinary procedures in place to use when necessary*

***Proposed by: Daisy "act like a" Pope***

***Seconded by: Jacob "I was told I had to sign this" Waller***

FOR THE MOTION

Daisy Pope [DP]: does what it says on the tin, we'd be the first college to have one, good to do so we have a proper policy in case something does happen that is serious, or even just needs a response from the RCSA.

EM calls for a procedural motion move that this motion is not put.

JC admits that having policy on the matter arguably makes no difference to how people view the matter but argues that it would be good to reiterate our stance and to help make people aware of what the issues are.

Vote taken on the procedural motion to not put this motion to a vote:

For: 3

Against: everyone else

Procedural motion falls.

Return to the motion.

## AGAINST THE MOTION

Forbes Lindsay [FL] There is no need for this motion, having additional and unnecessary policies will just be a burden to the actual important work of the RCSA. Surely this is covered in earlier policy anyway?

DP: We need the policy to explain what counts as sexual harassment as this is not clear in other accounts

TP: amendment to remove DP's name so that any Women's Officer can be mandated to look into cases in the future.

DP: accepts the friendly amendment.

HB asks if there are any questions?

RO: if we're going to stop create policy then what is the point of us being here? She thinks this is a bad argument against a policy.

## **HB invited the meeting to vote on motion f):**

For: 33

Against: 1

Abstain: 1

Motion f) duly passed

## **g) New Refurbishment of the bar**

### **RCSA Notes:**

- 1. The College Bar has recently been refurbished.*
- 2. The "new" bar bears a strong resemblance to the red brick cafe.*
- 3. There is now insufficient seating in the bar for groups of more than 10 people.*
- 4. There is now coloured "mood lighting" above where the stalls used to be.*
- 5. The wooden furniture in the refurbished bar is pine, and looks completely unfinished and is out of keeping with the wood of the rest of college (including all doors, cupboards, the library and the chapel).*
- 6. The banisters at the edges of where the stalls used to be exclude people from group conversation.*
- 7. The blades won by the College's 1st boats have disappeared.*
- 8. The position of the quiz and game machines are such that people trying to use them interfere with people trying to play pool.*

9. *The ledge for placing drinks on by the pool table restricts pool players' shots.*
10. *Consultations with wider college over the refurbishment were extremely limited.*

**RCSA Believes:**

1. *The bar is an essential part of student's welfare.*
2. *The red brick cafe is nice, but bars are not the same as cafes nor should they be.*
3. *A bar should be a social place where people may interact easily. The mixing of large groups people is important. People should not be limited from conversing because they are sinking into a sofa which only 4 people can squeeze onto anyway.*
4. *The coloured "mood lighting" is horrible and disrupts the atmosphere of the bar.*
5. *The bar should be in keeping with the rest of college.*
6. *The quiz and game machines should be moved and the height of the ledge altered.*
7. *The symbols of this College's finest sporting achievements should be displayed where all can see them.*
8. *The bar's users should have been consulted prior to such a drastic and expensive change.*

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. *To instruct the Catering and Amenities Officer to lobby for:*
  - a. *More suitable seating for a bar environment (ie decent tables, stalls, capacity for larger groups around a table etc)*
  - b. *The switching off of the moodlighting on ordinary bar evenings.*
  - c. *The banisters to be removed, the games machines to be moved and the rest of the wood stained/replaced so that the bar actually looks like it is in Robinson.*
  - d. *The return of the College's blades to where they belong, the bar.*
  - e. *The relocations of the quiz and game machines and an adjustment in the height of the ledge.*
2. *To ensure that in future, before such a drastic change, a far greater part of College and specifically the Graduate and Undergraduate members of the RCSA be included in the decision making process.*

**Proposed: Ewan "disa-pint-ed" McGregor**

**Seconded: Alex "sofa-so-bad" Biondini**

#### FOR THE MOTION

EM: the bar has been changed, people do not seem to be a fan of it, lack of stalls is a problem, wood looks unfurnished, makes the whole place look unfinished, blades have been removed (BP: Point of Information, blades should be returned soon), beer sales have gone down according to Simon and there has been no consultation with students as to what they would like the bar to be like.

#### AGAINST THE MOTION

RO: agrees that we should have had consultation, but thinks that it's a huge shame that we are saying this now, it might not be entirely finished so we should give it a change (JC: Point of information, Nick Milne says it is "basically finished" but that there is enough scope to make some changes if there is enough will for it)

Procedural motion from Clive Newstead [CN] can we take it in parts?

RO says this is a bad idea.

CN removes his request for a procedural motion.

RO suggests we change 1) to "instruct the catering and amenities office to consult students as to what they disagree with most in the bar and propose solutions to any concerns they have"

EM does not accept this as friendly, as he spoke to about 50 people all-ready, so consultation will just drag the proceedings out.

Vote to put the amendment in:

For: 17

Against: 7

Abstentions: 0

EM: can the chair confirm whether this is in keeping with the spirit of the original motion?

HB: says he thinks this IS in keeping with the original motion.

EM: can we include the original list as examples of things to look at "with particular reference to".

This is accepted by the Chair and RO as part of her amendment to the motion.

DG: whole motion is aggressive and angry, we shouldn't try and be like this, he would like a more reasonable and sensible motion.

FL: suggests a change to dislike most about the bar in resolve 1) which is accepted by RO

CH: thinks that our smiley catering and amenities officer will have tact so it doesn't matter that much how much it is worded.

#### **HB invited the meeting to vote on motion g):**

For: 27

Against: 2

Abstain: 9

Motion g) duly passed

#### **h) Oversea's Christmas Breakfast**

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

##### **RCSA Notes:**

*1) That the 'Overseas Breakfast' during Freshers' Week was successful and well-attended, and that it gave overseas students the opportunity to meet new people.*

*2) That there are not enough events of this kind targeted specifically at overseas students.*

*3) That organising an 'Overseas Breakfast' event for 15-20 people costs about £50 (sum of money used for Overseas Freshers' Breakfast 2011).*

##### **RCSA Believes:**

*1) That not all overseas students find it easy to make new friends, and it is harder for them to do so due to the lack of events targeted at them.*

*2) That such events allow overseas students to spend time together where in other circumstances this would be difficult.*

*3) That organising a second 'Overseas Breakfast' would give the students who are still trying to adapt a second chance to make friends, and would generally be a great opportunity to bring people together.*

##### **RCSA Resolves:**

*1) To organise a Christmas-themed breakfast before this term ends.*

*2) To target the event towards overseas students, but make it open to all, in order to help overseas students interact with home students.*

*3) To allocate £50 from the RCSA reserves to purchase food and Christmas decorations.*

**Proposed: Mimi 'HoHoHo' Kyprianou**

**Seconded: Daisy 'Welshy' May Pope**

HB suggests a friendly amendment to take the money from the open meeting budget not the reserves which is accepted.

FOR THE MOTION

MK: I'm organising a Christmas breakfast for everyone (not just overseas) due to difficulties in organising a Christmas event due to the problems with organising a 2<sup>nd</sup> formal

Questions:

TP: in resolves 2 do you want more money or is the amount you asked for enough?

MK: happy to keep it at £50

**HB invited the meeting to vote on motion h):**

For: 37

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion h) duly passed

### **i) Posters in the Party Room**

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

#### **RCSA Notes:**

- 1. The current decoration of the party room is inadequate and tacky – the Pegasus painted on the wall looks poorly done and uniform black does not look good on its own.*
- 2. There are not enough posters stuck up around the room to give it a sense of being like a club, rather than a school disco.*
- 3. Posters cannot be stuck up on their own as this proves a fire risk, so any posters put up must be either laminated or framed.*

#### **RCSA Believes:**

- 1. That the addition of some more laminated and framed posters around the party room would improve the look of the place, and encourage more people to take it seriously as somewhere worth going.*
- 2. It could also be an effective way of advertising other ents events taking place.*

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

- 1. To allocate £140 worth of funds toward the purchase of some high-quality posters, but also toward the cost of laminating these, and toward purchasing one or two frames to frame some Ents-related posters.*

**Proposed: Toby 'I'm too cool for a nickname' Hayward-Butcher**

**Seconded: William 'Don't make me play the race card' Nyerere-Plastow**

HB suggests a friendly amendment to take the money from the open meeting budget which is accepted.

FOR THE MOTION

Toby Hayward-Butcher [THB]: thinks the party room looks a bit tacky, we know it's not a nightclub, but putting up some posters would make it look better as well as being more accessible and less

tacky. These need to be laminated as Colin Barnes says it's a fire hazard to have normal posters up in the room.

CN: pictures on the wall will never be seen because it's dark, are people going to dance not look at the walls

TBH: They will be putting the posters up in some of the lighter areas of the bar

#### AGAINST THE MOTION

RO loves the Pegasus on the wall, thinks it's classy and in keeping with the bop room

TBH: thinks the Pegasus is tacky

Arun Nirajan [AN]: As this is for the long lasting benefit so shouldn't it come from the reserves?

Peter Judge [PJ]: Yes but we have enough money in the open meeting budget due to the lack of money being claimed at the last meeting.

Alex Brazier [AB]: Reminds everyone that budget meeting money cannot role over to the next meeting as with a normal open meeting budget.

HB therefore suggests a friendly amendment to take the money from the reserves after all which is accepted.

#### AGAINST THE MOTION

DG: bop room is MEANT to be tacky and cheesy, people do like that so we shouldn't change that

#### FOR THE MOTION

William Nyerere-Plastow: we can aspire slightly higher than just being tacky and turn out for the last bop suggests that people are enjoying this year's ents more than last years (Point of information, BP, turnout was slightly less than last year)

HB asks if there are any questions?

Question: Catherine Mansfield [CM] do we have to cover the Pegasus or could the posters go somewhere else?

THB: yes they can go somewhere else.

Question: Lotte Reinbold [LR] surely this is a lot of money?

THB: this is because they have to be laminated/framed due to health and safety.

Question: Mary Hughes [MH] how much of this is in my remit? And which posters are you putting up?

HB: mostly in the ents committee's remit.

THB: We haven't completely decided on which posters to get yet.

AW suggests a friendly amendment to remove the bit about the Pegasus from the motion? This is accepted by THB.

**HB invited the meeting to vote on motion i):**

For: 14  
Against: 19  
Abstain: 10

Motion i) falls

### **j) Removal of abandoned fridges**

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

#### **RCSA Notes:**

- 1. There are six fridges in the trunk room which shouldn't be there.*
- 2. Three of these need to be removed.*
- 3. There is a fridge in the RCSA office which shouldn't be there, and needs to be removed.*
- 4. Four fridges are a health and safety risk.*  
*There is a fixed charge of £50 to have a fridge removed.*

#### **RCSA Believes:**

- 1. The fridges should be removed as soon as possible.*
- 2. Tracking down the owners and getting money from them will take time.*

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

- 1. To allocate £200 from the reserves to have the dangerous fridges removed.*
- 2. To mandate the Catering & Amenities Officer to contact the owners of the two named fridges to recover the costs.*

**Proposed: Mary "the trunk room looks like Narnia" Hughes**

**Seconded: Curtis "fridge-tastic" Bonnel**

FOR THE MOTION

MH: Amends her own motion to say to "try to get money back of people" in the first part. Also that there are 7 fridges, especially some that are in the trunk room where they shouldn't be and 4 need to be removed for safety reasons, will try and get people who have named fridges to get them removed themselves.

Toni Jokinen: offers to remove them for less (he is ignored, except for laughter)

Question TP: is this is recurring problem i.e. should we budget for it in future?

HB: (speaking as last year's Catering and Amenities Officer) If we had a budget for this it might encourage people to leave more fridges in places where they shouldn't be. Also this doesn't happen every year but has built up since 2008 to now.

Question RO: have we tried to get the money from college?

MH: we are responsible to remove stuff from the trunk room ourselves so we have to pay for it ourselves too.

Question DG: surely fridges shouldn't be put into the trunk room, so these have been left there against regulations?

MH: Porters can't regulate it so there is nothing we can do about this, but yes people shouldn't leave them there.

Question AW: are they actually unsafe?

MH: Yes, they are genuinely bad. Some are missing doors others have cracks and some are leaking stuff.

**HB invited the meeting to vote on motion j):**

For: 35

Against: 3

Abstain: 4

Motion j) duly passed

### **k) South Asian Cultural Society**

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

#### ***RCSA Notes:***

- 1. That there is no society for the appreciation of South Asian culture.*
- 2. That there is widespread interest in South Asian culture.*

#### ***RSCA Believes:***

- 1. That there is a need for a South Asian Cultural Society to promote the appreciation of South Asian culture.*

#### ***RCSA Resolves:***

- 1. To form the Robinson College South Asian Cultural Society (RCSACS). The RCSACS agree to be bound by the constitution of the RCSA.*
- 2. To amend Appendix 1 of the constitution to include the South Asian Cultural Society.*
- 3. The aim of the RCSACS shall be: to promote the appreciation of South Asian culture within the College and the University.*
- 4. To approve the RCSACS constitution (see addendum).*

**Proposed: Toni "I think I'm Indian" Jokinen**

**Seconded: Shonit "Let's just humour Toni" Shah**

FOR THE MOTION

TJ: It is good and interesting and there is no society for it, we want to do film and food etc.

Question from Steve Gordon [SG] should we change the constitution to say just Robinson College members only can be members, as this was a problem with the Jelly Society Constitution last year.

TJ accepts this as a friendly amendment

**HB invited the meeting to vote on motion k):**

For: 35

Against: 0

Abstain: 6

Motion k) duly passed

## **I) Robinson College Ceilidh Dancing Society**

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

### **RCSA Notes:**

- 1. There is no society for the appreciation of Ceilidh dancing in Robinson..*
- 2. People like dancing.*
- 3. Everyone can enjoy Ceilidhs regardless of their dancing skill.*
- 4. That at weekends there is not much to do in the evenings.*

### **RCSA Believes:**

- 1. That there is a need for a Ceilidh Dancing Society, to facilitate the appreciation and enjoyment of Ceilidh dancing.*

### **RCSA Resolves:**

- 1. To form The Robinson College Ceilidh Dancing Society (RCCDS). The RCCDS agree to be bound by the constitution of the RCSA.*
- 2. To amend Appendix 1 of the constitution to include The Ceilidh Dancing Society.*
- 3. The aims of the RCCDS shall be to introduce the College to the joys of Ceilidh dancing without having to venture outside into the real world.*
- 4. To approve the RCCDS constitution (see addendum).*

**Proposer: Mary "Happy Feet" Hughes**  
**Seconder: Katy "I could have danced all night" Taylor**

MH: people like them and it would be nice to organise them in college and advertise them outside of college.

RO: friendly amendment about restricted members to only those who are members of Robinson College (for the same reasons as with the previous motion). This is accepted by MH.

**HB invited the meeting to vote on motion I):**

For: 29  
Against: 0  
Abstain: 3

Motion I) duly passed

**m) Robinson College Cycling Club**  
**THIS MOTION REQUIRES A TWO THIRDS ASSENT TO PASS**

**RCSA Notes:**

- 1) *There is not an RCSA cycling club.*
- 2) *Cycling is fun and good for you.*
- 3) *Robinson College annually enters University Cuppers without a college club.*
- 4) *The majority of Robinson Students own a bicycle in Cambridge.*
- 5) *Though very flat, Cambridgeshire has some very nice places to explore on a bicycle.*

**RCSA Believes:**

- 1) *It would be good for Robinson to have a cycling club.*
- 2) *RCSA members would like a cycle club.*

**RCSA Resolves:**

- 1) *To found the Robinson College Cycle Club (RCCC). The RCCC agree to be bound by the Constitution of the RCSA.*
- 2) *To amend Appendix I of the Constitution to include the "Robinson College Cycling Club".*
- 3) *The objects of the RCCC shall be to:*

- i. To improve the quality of life of Robinson College members through cycling.*
- ii. To be a democratic club.*
- iii. To win University cycling cuppers.*

4) *To approve the RCCC constitution provided as an addendum.*

5) *To temporarily instate the proposer of this motion as president until RCCC elections are organised and a permanent committee is formed.*

**Proposed: Alex "I want to ride my bicycle" Walmsley**

**Seconded: Nick "because Cambridge really needs more cyclists" Francis**

FOR THE MOTION

Alex Walmsley [AW2]: would like to start a cycling club, it would be good to organise cuppers teams as well as some tours around the villages where there are some nice areas to cycle.

Friendly amendment to his own motion by AW2 to correct the spelling of Robinson College in the constitution, this is accepted.

Questions TP: do we still have a bicycle appreciation society and does it matter if the two are similar?

BP: yes they exist but they don't do anything.

AW2: doesn't matter if they are similar anyway.

Question MH: the first date of the society open meeting has happened already.

Friendly amendment accepted to change the date to anytime in December.

Question AW: do we need a unique acronym?

BP: No.

Question TP: the constitution doesn't say how to impeach somebody from the society?

AW2: This is a normal constitution for all the societies so the problem (if there is one) is widespread.

Also it's not needed to specify exactly how to remove somebody from the society as you can just revoke their membership.

RO calls for a procedural motion to take it to a vote which passes by a lot.

**HB invited the meeting to vote on motion m):**

For: 30

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

**Motion m) duly passed**

## **11. Any other RCSA business**

TP: I'm worried about Jimmy's attitude to passing motions and stifling debate

TA: F\*\*\*off

JC: points noted Tobias, however I believe that most people didn't mind the jokes and I only pushed for a vote to be called when it was clear that the vote is going to go a set way, we will have a full debate on the issue on CUSU affiliation at a later date if more of the college want it.

Jokes just make the meeting more enjoyable and I think if we are going to have a proper debate then we need to make the meeting better so that people do come and get involved, sometimes people need to be a little less anal.

### **JC reports on CUSU Council**

JC: HB and I were in CUSU yesterday and distanced ourselves from the actions of CDE but not the occupation. An extraordinary CUSU meeting will now be happening on Tuesday in support of the occupation, thoughts on the matter will be appreciated so please talk to me about it.

Quick show of hands of those in support of CDE/the Occupation suggested by DG

BP: this won't be helpful as the people here are the kind of people are likely to like bureaucracy...

JC takes this point on board but thinks it will be helpful to do anyway (reads the resolves from the email) and hands on favour/against the resolves are raised but not recorded here.

DG: feels this is a back door to supporting the occupation and thinks we should be careful of this.

### **JC reports on why some motions weren't in this particular open meeting:**

People expressed concern about the TV Room/sports board not being in the agenda but this is because they have to be put to JLC tomorrow and then can go to the next open meeting once college has okayed them.

**Time of end of meeting: 18:03**