

# R.C.S.A. Open Meeting Minutes

6<sup>th</sup> May 2012 – Umney Theatre 6.30 pm

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

Catherine and Lotte – Choir

Hannah – Family

Daisy

Will – had to go home suddenly

Favourite – didn't send apologies

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

No guests

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

No guests

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

Rosalyn Old (RO): move AOB to in front of ordinary motions... fine!

## **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.**

Ewan McGregor (EM) would like Alice Udale-Smith (AUS) to change his point about Nazi Germany to read correctly in the last minutes... accepted.

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

Jimmy Campbell (JC): I think what Ewan said comparing the Boat Club's treatment to that bestowed on post-Nazi Germany was outrageous.

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

Steve Gordon (SG): In September I'm going to MIT for a year so we need to have an interim officer for fresher's week and next ter. So at some stage I will send out an official resignation email and then we can elect a new officer for the gap in between. As this might be my last meeting as an RCSA officer I've brought pumpkin pie!

Harry Brunton (HB): Constitutional referendum TOMORROW – it is REALLY important that everyone votes 8am-8pm. CUSU also have their own referendum which Ros wants to speak about later.

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

RO: was looking at the website. I couldn't find the old manifestos – think they might be under a password but they are still there somewhere and if not can we put them back?

HB: we'll get it linked up properly but they are still there somewhere at the moment if you look hard enough.

## **9. Co-Option of the vacant LGBT RCSA committee position**

HB: we had one nomination; Sean can't be here today due to family matters but have a statement to read from him...

Statement:

*I'm really sorry I can't be there, but family matters call at home.*

*I think I would make a good LGBT officer because I will:*

- *Stand up for LGBT rights and fight discrimination*
- *Organise swaps if people want them (I am aware that it's exam term and the general decline in social activity that it entails)*
- *I am friendly and approachable (despite being a second year medic)*
- *I am gay. (I'm not a lesbian, bisexual or trans-sexual, but life is long and I'm an open individual- so never say never). Regardless, I believe I can relate to any LGBT issue, having experienced some difficulties myself but can also refer to CUSU LGBT if necessary.*

*I will be a committed member of the RCSA and will sincerely try my best to represent the interest of Robinson Students.*

Vote to Co-Op

In favour 25

Against 0

Abstain 1

Sean is elected as LGBT officer.

## **10. Extraordinary Motions**

## **11. AOB**

RO: CUSU referendum about the trustee board, want to reform it so two current students can sit on the board as well as adding an external trustee to help the whole thing run better. It takes like two seconds to vote so please do.

## **12. Ordinary motions**

### **a) Essential Supplies**

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. When in College, everyone finds themselves without an essential item of stationary when:

- a) The weather is really bad and the short journey into town is just not worth it
- b) They have a deadline of 9am and they're in the library at midnight
- c) It is exam term and they really don't want to have to take that time off as it will start a procrastination spiral.

2. Members of College can currently do nothing in this situation other than skive bits and pieces from friends/other poor souls in the library or break down and cry.

3. Wholesale pens work out at around 10p each, similar for pencils.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. We should not be standing by while people reach such dire emotional states.
2. That a provision of primarily stationary items could be supplied in the JCR or TV Room.
3. All members of College are honest people, and would be willing to pay for something even if there was no one there to force them to do so.

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate £90 from the Open Meeting Budget to purchase a lockable coin box (with slot) and stationary items.
2. To mandate the Catering & Amenities officer to set-up an honesty box system in the JCR/TV Room, using funds raised to purchase further stock in the future.

**Proposed:** *Bryn 'onest guv'nor' Pickering*

**Seconded:** *Mary 'essentially supplied' Hughes*

**Speaking for the motion:**

Bryn Pickering (BP): The system would be an honesty box, only take a small initial amount to start it off and then any money received for supplies would be used to buy more stuff in the future so if the scheme doesn't work we can simply discontinue it.

**Speaking against the motion:**

EM: I don't think this is a good idea – people won't necessarily pay for them all the time. JCR is not safe stuff might be moved and/or stolen as might the coin box; it's also locked some of the time so people won't actually be able to access it all the time. I don't think it brings much benefit to anyone and will just be complicated for people to run.

**Speaking for the motion:**

BP: The coin box would be locked into the JCR like the other expensive stuff in there and could be in the TV Room so it could be open 24-7. The idea is that everyone should have their own condoms but we still keep an emergency supply for people and in Cambridge a spare supply of stationary might be as important for some people. Obviously it might not help everyone but it could help some people not get to stressed.

**HB asked if there were any questions.**

RO: Suggestion that we put stuff into the porters lodge instead so people have to buy it from the porters rather than just being able to take stuff?

BP: That is a possibility but the porters might not be keen for it.

DG: Presumably if it was just on their desk in the porters lodge they wouldn't have to do anything in particular about it just check people didn't nick stuff.

BP: They were annoyed about the ballot box being on the desk so we'd have to talk to them about it first.

PJ: Who'd be in charge of the money?

BP: it would probably just go through catering and amenities officer and not through the general budget as such as it would be self funding.

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

For: 24

Against: 1

Abstain: 1

Motion a) duly passed

**b) RCSA Supplies**

**RCSA Notes:**

1. Before the age of the internet, everything that was anything to do with the RCSA was archived in paper in the RCSA Office.
2. This ended some years ago but, due to the slow switch-over and email accounts not being the best back in the day, many documents have been lost and it is all just a bit of a mess.
3. The new constitution (provided it passes a referendum) will require that important documents be archived in the RCSA office.
4. We have no equipment with which to archive.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. In order to successfully archive everything that is currently in the RCSA Office and future documents, we will require filing equipment.
2. Filing equipment doesn't grow on trees.

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate £50 from the Open Meeting Budget to cover printing and the purchase of folders/paper/dividers.
2. Mandate the RCSA Chair to organise the purchasing of this equipment.

***Proposed: Bryn '12 inch file' Pickering***

***Seconded: Jimmy 'archiving – more pleasurable than Real Tennis' Campbell***

**Speaking for the motion:**

BP: just need some stuff for files and file-dividers etc. just to archive stuff required by the new constitution.

**Speaking against the motion:**

**Harry Brunton (HB) asked if there were any questions.**

CN: Not that much space in the RCSA office?

AUS: Harry and I are going to be dealing with stuff in fresher's/end of this term.

DG: Why not use computer system?

EM: Actually easier to find some stuff on paper.

RO: If you're going to sort out all the stuff, maybe scan the important stuff in when you do that.

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

For: 24

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion b) duly passed

**c) Squash Supplies**

**RCSA Notes:**

1. We have broken a squash racket.
2. We have few squash balls left.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. We need a new racket.
2. We need a few more balls.

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate 20 pounds from the open meeting budget for a new racket.
2. To allocate 10 pounds from the open meeting budget for new balls.

***Proposed: Jimmy 'loves smashing balls' Campbell***

***Seconded: Toby 'squash tour to Magaluf' Butcher***

**Speaking for the motion:**

JC: some lad broke a squash racket so we need a new one. Same with the balls.

**Harry Brunton (HB) asked if there were any questions.**

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

For: 25

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion c) duly passed

**Time of end of meeting: 7pm**