



**RCSA Open Meeting Minutes**  
4pm, Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2014, JCR



**1. Apologies for absence or lateness**

George Barton  
Alex Maynard

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

No guests present.

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

N/A

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

Request from Mark Driver (MD) to move CUSU reaffiliation from position a) in agenda to position f).

*Approved.*

Request from Niamh Spence (NS) to move co-opting of RCSA members from before ordinary motions to after.

Greg Barbour (GB): We're splitting it in two as half of the people to be co-opted aren't here yet so they can go at the end.

**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.**

N/A

**6. Matters arising from the minutes**

There are no matters arising from the minutes

**7. Reports from the Committee**

There are no reports from the committee.

**8. Questions to the Committee**

MD: Can the treasurer sign cheques yet?

Karl Thompson (KT): Not yet, I'm waiting for the old treasurer to get back from holiday.

**9. Co-option of vacant RCSA committee positions**

**Vote: Toby Marlow for LGBT Officer**

The majority vote in favour.

*Toby Marlow is now LGBT Officer*

**Vote: Annabelle Monnot for Oversea's Officer**

The majority vote in favour.

*Annabelle Monnot is now Oversea's Officer.*

## 10. Extraordinary Motions

There are no extraordinary motions.

## 11. Ordinary Motions

### a) Darts

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. There are only two intact darts left in the bar.

#### **RCSA Believes:**

1. That there should be at least three darts for students to borrow.

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate £25 of the Open Meeting Budget to the purchase of six new darts.

**Proposer:** John Jarman

**Seconder:** Nathan Procter

#### **FOR**

John Jarman (JJ): There should be darts in the bar but there's only two left.

#### **AGAINST**

None.

#### **QUESTIONS**

Rohan Giblan (RG): Do they cost £25?

JJ: £25 will get us about 6 darts.

#### **VOTE:**

For: 28

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

*This motion passes.*

### b) Robinson College Geographical Society

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. There are a large number of Geography students in college and both the students and the new Director of Studies want a college based Geographical society.
2. Other colleges with comparable numbers of Geography students have set up Geography societies. These include Girton, Fitzwilliam and Sidney Sussex.
3. Robinson has an Engineering, English, History and Medical society.
4. Geography Societies have been known to put on great events for their colleges and Robinson plans to do the same.

#### **RCSA Believes:**

1. The creation of the Robinson College Geography Society would be a good idea.
2. It will help create a friendly and fun atmosphere for Geography students at Robinson.

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To create the Robinson College Geography Society.
2. That this society will be bound by the constitution and policy of the RCSA.
3. The society will contribute to the academic and social aspect of the College
4. That this society will also help to support Geography students at Robinson.
5. The Robinson Geography Society will have events at which the whole college will be welcome.

**Proposer:** Harry Kalms

**Secunder:** Holly Carter

**FOR**

Harry Kalms (HK): The RCGS would be open to everyone. We're not asking for any funds yet, just to be set up.

**AGAINST**

None.

**QUESTIONS**

Alex Bate (AB): Have you got a constitution?

HK: We were told we didn't need one before asking for funds.

MD: Yes you do but if you just send a copy to Greg and Grace it'll be approved and be fine.

**VOTE:**

For: 28

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

*This motion passes.*

c) [Robinson College Cross Country and Athletics](#)

**RCSA Notes:**

1. People in college want there to be a budget for 'Robinson College Cross Country & Athletics' (RCCCA) of £100
2. £50 would go towards college league so that members of Robinson can compete in CUH&H league fixtures.
3. £50 subsidy for vests so that members of Robinson can compete in CUAC and CUH&H events.
4. Ideally have a selection of vests people could borrow at each race, as well as personal ones for those who want to buy them.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. It would be good to represent Robinson in kit at running and athletic events

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To give initial funds to the RCCCA.

**Proposer:** Patrick Roddy

**Secunder:** George Ramsay

**FOR**

Patrick Roddy (PR): The RCCCA didn't exist before the budget meeting so rather than waiting an entire year to get funding we thought we would ask now. We'd want £50 from the open meeting budget for college league fees and £50 to get some vests for people representing Robinson can borrow.

**AGAINST**

None.

**QUESTIONS**

MD: So long as you know it has to be in two separate categories – so one for league fees and one for kit?

PR: Yeah that's ok.

MD: Did you submit a report for this? Because it's two thirds of the open meeting budget?

PR: No?

JJ: No, they don't need to.

### **VOTE**

For: 28

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

*This motion passes.*

#### d) Underwriting of Robinson May Ball 2015

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

1. The cogs are in motion to deliver a May Ball 27 weeks and 5 days hence.
2. In living memory the May Balls have all occurred.
3. There is, however, a vanishingly small chance that the May Ball collapses financially, physically, or emotionally.
4. Should this happen it is preferable that the RCSA absorbs the fiscal impact given the capability their sizable money pot affords them.
5. College Council will not permit the May Ball to occur if the RCSA does not adopt this position.
6. The RCSA are not being asked for any money, simply to underwrite the 2015 May Ball as outlined in Addendum A - May Ball Contract between the RCSA and the May Ball Committee.
7. No lawyers have been paid during this process.

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

1. Money makes the world go round. We're not saying that it should but it does.
2. The majority of College unquestionably want to see, hear, taste, and feel a May Ball in 2015 having emphatically elected May Ball Co-Presidents a dozen and a half days ago.
3. It would be pant-soilingly scary for individual member of the May Ball Committee to be personally liable for any losses incurred by the May Ball. It would also be unfair.
4. The proposed agreement referenced in Notes 6 is more than adequate and acceptable for both parties.

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

1. To authorise the RCSA President to enter into the agreement attached as Addendum A on behalf of the RCSA.

**Proposer:** Steven 'The May Ball's in your court now' Gordon

**Seconder:** Cameron 'May (Ball) the odds be ever in your favour' Gardner

### **FOR**

Steven Gordon (SG): The underwriting is just a legal thing – it means if we collapse then the treasurer isn't running from creditors. It's really rare that we will collapse, it's never happened when I've been here and we have a good committee so it should be fine. It's really just a box ticking exercise so college will let us have a may ball.

### **AGAINST**

None.

### **QUESTIONS**

None.

## **VOTE**

For: 28

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

*This motion passes.*

### [e\) Renewable Policies](#)

#### **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 policies contained in the list in the addendum.

**Proposer:** RCSA executive

## **FOR**

James Clark (JC): Read out policies to be renewed.

## **AGAINST**

SG: Some of these aren't important for us to renew, we only renew them because we have done previously. The cafe one and the CCTV one don't really need to be renewed.

## **QUESTIONS**

GB: So we don't need to renew the cafe and CCTV policies?

MD: The CCTV policy is important in terms of privacy issues so it's probably still relevant to have it. Can I propose we split the motion into parts so we can vote each one through separately?

GB: Alternatively it will be quicker if we just vote them all through together. We need a vote on how we are going to vote.

[Vote: split the motion into sections for each separate policy](#)

For: 7

Against: 20

Abstention: 1

*Vote for the policies to be renewed all together.*

## **VOTE**

For: 28

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

*This motion passes.*

## f) CUSU Reaffiliation

### **RCSA Notes:**

1. According to the constitution, a list of organisation 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 approximately £3,000 a year.
3. That CUSU's support in terms of welfare, access, 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. That the RCSA should stay affiliated to CUSU.

**Proposer:** RCSA executive

### **FOR**

MD: I like CUSU.

NS: CUSU is really important for welfare, they run the training and supply the condoms and lots of other stuff and college give us the money for it so I can't see why we wouldn't reaffiliate.

### **AGAINST**

None.

### **QUESTIONS**

Tom Baines (TB): If we didn't reaffiliate would we be able to spend the £3,000 on something else?

Chris Parmee (CP): No, college wouldn't let us.

MD: If we disaffiliate we wouldn't be able to do the shadowing scheme and we'd lose applications which we don't have many of anyway.

Elle Shea (ES): 53 people have signed up for the shadowing scheme, it's quite popular.

Kayani Kayani (KK): If the RCSA disaffiliates would we all individually lose our membership?

MD: No, technically we would all individually still be members of CUSU but in terms of college welfare supplies we would lose things – it would be a lot more work for Niamh to get supplies and training.

SG: You would still get your individual things like the bulletins etc.

AB: If Corpus and Caius have disaffiliated and can still do the shadowing scheme, why couldn't we?

MD: I think the more colleges disaffiliate, the greater effect it has on their money for these schemes.

### **VOTE**

For: 26

Against: 1

Abstentions: 1

*This motion passes.*

## Addenda

1. May Ball Agreement
2. Renewable Policy List

## [1. May Ball Agreement](#)

### **May Ball Contract between the RCSA and the May Ball Committee**

*Agreement between Robinson College May Ball Committee ("the Committee") and the Robinson College Students' Association ("the Association") for the provision of financial support in respect of the 2015 Robinson College May Ball ("the Ball").*

#### **Clause 1:**

This agreement is intended by the parties to govern their duties towards each other in respect of the provision of financial support by the Association to the Committee in respect of the Ball. All references to "the Ball" in this agreement refer only to the Robinson College May Ball to be held in 2015, and shall be constructed as such.

#### *Duties of the Parties*

#### **Clause 2:** The Association undertakes

5. That should at any time the Committee have insufficient cleared funds to meet in a timely manner any liabilities to third parties incurred by the Committee in respect of the Ball, the Association will, on request of the Committee, provide such funds as may be necessary to enable the Committee to meet said liabilities in a timely manner, and the Association shall not require payment by the Committee of any charge or interest whatsoever in respect of said funds, nor shall it hold this over the Committee's head in a smug manner.
6. That it shall not demand repayment of any funds provided under clause 2(1).

#### **Clause 3:** in consideration of these undertakings, the Committee undertakes:

7. That it shall repay on demand by the Association, any funds received under clause 2(1), provided that at that time the Committee has sufficient cleared funds to meet such a demand.
8. To permit the Treasurer of the Association to inspect the accounts of the Committee at any time and to provide such he as he may reasonably require to do this.
9. That it shall not voluntarily incur any financial liability in respect of the Ball, which it does not at that time, have sufficient cleared funds to meet, unless the Committee has obtained the express written agreement of both the President of the Association and the Treasurer of the Association.

#### *Termination of Agreement*

#### **Clause 4:**

This agreement shall terminate automatically upon written confirmation by Senior Treasurer of the Association and the Senior Treasurer of the Committee that they are satisfied that all outstanding liabilities incurred by the Committee in respect of the Ball have been discharged.

#### *Applicable Law and Acceptance of Agreement*

#### **Clause 5:**

This agreement shall be governed by English Law and by signing, the parties indicate that they have read and accepted the terms of this agreement.

The Association Date

The Committee Date

## [2. Renewable Policy List](#)

### RCSA Reserves

- *October 16th 2005 - Renewed January 27th 2008, 27th November 2011*
- That RCSA reserves can be used for the continuing development and improvement of the RCSA.

### Constitution & Open Meetings

- *February 12th 2006 - Renewed November 26th 2008, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2011*
- That all members of the RCSA Committee should have a working knowledge of the RCSA constitution
- That attendance at Open meetings is important.

### RCSA Song

- *November 26th 2006 - Renewed November 26th 2008, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2011*
- That an adapted version of Simon & Garfunkel's "Mrs. Robinson" is the official song of the RCSA.
- That the RCSA is in favour of this becoming the official college song.

### Wifi

- *November 26th 2006 - Renewed November 26th 2008, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2011*
- That students should have access to an effective wireless internet service
- That where needed the RCSA supports the improvement of this service, particularly to the same standard as conference facilities.

### CCTV Data Storage

- *November 9th 2008, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2011*
- That the RCSA believes that the College should store CCTV data for a maximum of 14 days.

### Open Meeting Budgets

- *November 9th 2008, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2011*
- That the Open Meeting budget will be divided equally between the eight ordinary Open Meetings specified in the constitution.
- That any money unspent from the Open Meeting budget at a particular Open Meeting shall be made available to the next Open Meeting (with the exception that funds from the Budget meeting cannot rollover).
- That no single motion may request financial assistance in excess of 12.5% of the Open Meeting budget without also complying with the conditions in article 11f of the constitution.

### Cafe Opening Hours

- *November 29th 2008, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2011*
- That the RCSA supports the opening of the Red Brick Cafe on Saturdays.

## **12. Any other RCSA business**

GB: The last two people to be co-opted aren't here so I'll just speak for them from their manifestos and then we can vote.

**Vote: Alex Maynard for Men's Officer**

The majority vote in favour.

*Alex Maynard is now Men's Officer.*

**Vote: George Barton for Newsletter Editor**

The majority vote in favour.

*George Barton is now Newsletter Editor.*