



## RCSA Open Meeting Minutes 2pm Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2015, JCR



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

George Barton  
Jack Sibley  
Brian Wang  
Richard Odle

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

David Hoare

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

Presence and speaking rights approved.

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

Grace Atkinson (GA): the agenda has been changed slightly since being sent out – the BT sports motion has been withdrawn and I've just swapped the other two motions around, so the RCBC motion will be first and then the RCMS motion.

### **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**

James Clark (JC): I think Freshers week has been a success so thanks to Clare and ents for organising it all.

Mikey Teal (MT): Yes, thanks everyone for last night.

Greg Barbour (GB): One thing to make people aware of: there's a current plan to switch off the lights on Burrell's Walk from 12am-6am every day starting in April.

Niamh Spence (NS): I think Trinity will step in to prevent it from happening.

Martha Krish (MK): Is there something we should be doing to campaign against that?

GB: James, you could get onto Bill Nolan about this.

JC: Is this not more a CUSU thing?

NS: Yes, but it's a welfare thing for Robinson students as well.

MK: So shouldn't we be adding our voice to the campaign?

Mark Driver (MD): You could have an extraordinary motion about it.

GB: shall we do that?

MK: And then if we get involved we have the evidence that we all support the campaign to prevent it.

## 8. Questions to the Committee

N/A

## 9. Extraordinary Motions

### a) [Burrell's Walk Lights](#)

#### **RCSA notes:**

1. Burrell's Walk is heavily used by Robinson students between 12-6 in the morning.

#### **RCSA believes:**

1. Adequate lighting is important for the safety of its members especially during the early hours of the morning.
2. In previous years attacks have occurred during this time on the streets that would be affected by the plan to turn off lights.

#### **RCSA resolves:**

1. To support the campaign against the county council's plan to turn the lights off on Burrell's walk.

**Proposer:** The RCSA Executive

#### **FOR**

MD: A lot of people use Burrell's Walk to walk back from clubs, without the lights it will be dark and we won't be able to see.

Chris Barton (CB): The rationale behind doing it that the council need to find money from somewhere. I know it's the wrong thing to do as it would be intimidating and unsafe to get back to lots the colleges form town at night. But at the same time most of that light is going to waste and it's money wasted. College recently got motion sensitive lights to save money, maybe they should replace the streetlights with those instead. There is still a little bit of light all the time but they get brighter with movement.

MK: But surely that would be a massive expense so wouldn't save money?

CB: It would in the long run.

NS: The point is I am fairly sure that someone was raped on Burrell's Walk several years before we came here and I don't think any amount of saving money or energy is worth that so I think safety should come first.

MK: Personally whenever I've been walking back there have always been other people coming back at the same time. And even if it was 5 in the morning and you were the only one walking back, there should still be light. I don't think it's wasted light.

Karl Thompson (KT): There's some bumps as well you have to see if you're cycling.

CB: I wasn't talking for the plan to turn off the lights, just trying to see if there was another way to save money.

#### **AGAINST**

N/A

#### **VOTE**

**For:** 27

**Against:** 0

**Abstention:** 0

*This motion passes.*

## 10. Ordinary Motions

### a) RCBC

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. RCBC didn't spend as much on insurance; British Rowing Membership & Cam Subs as originally thought but have spent more on boat repairs and wish to purchase a new set of blades.
2. We are also not carrying out a refit of our IV as originally planned and would like to use the money towards the blades instead.

#### **RCSA Believes:**

1. That RCBC should be able to race in well maintained boats and use new blades.

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To reallocate £52.50 from **British Rowing to Equipment**
2. To reallocate £80.02 from **Cam Subs to Equipment**
3. To reallocate £76.00 from **Insurance to Repairs**
4. To reallocate £33.04 from **Insurance to Equipment**
5. To reallocate £1600.00 from **Refits to Equipment**

**Proposer:** Ben Gates – RCBC Treasurer

**Seconder:** Joe Mullaly – RCBC Men's Lower Boat Captain

#### **FOR**

Ben Gates (BG): Basically we have leftover budget allocation from our British Rowing membership, insurance and county subs and I don't want to see this wasted so want to instead move it into equipment. Also we have numerous incidents this year and our repair bill is slightly over our allocated amount so we need to find £76 to cover that so I just want to use the money.

#### **AGAINST**

N/A

#### **QUESTIONS**

NS: Just to clarify this is money you already have?

BG: Yeah we just want to move it.

#### **VOTE**

**For:** 28

**Against:** 0

**Abstention:** 0

*This motion passes.*

### b) RCMS

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. RCMS did not expect to be charged for the end of year Garden Party as they were not advised they would be provided with refreshments. This cost was therefore not factored in spending of the budget in the Easter Term.
2. RCMS spent money on concerts last year and does not have sufficient funds currently in the account to pay college.

**RCSA Believes:**

1. Even though RCMS asked for an increase on the previous academic year, this was a rough figure on what was originally thought and did not factor in the amount of money college charged for the refreshments.
2. RCMS should be granted this money to pay college.

**RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allow RCMS to have an extra £344.59 to cover the cost (see invoice).

**Proposer:** Zoe Silkstone

**Seconder:** Rhian Davies & Zhuan Faraj



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**COPY INVOICE**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	
BOOKING REFERENCE	<b>23430</b>
INVOICE NUMBER	<b>10434</b>
INVOICE DATE	<b>23/06/2014</b>
PURCHASE ORDER NUMBER	
EVENT START DATE	<b>17 June 2014</b>
EVENT END DATE	<b>17 June 2014</b>
EVENT TYPE	<b>Col Chapel</b>

EVENT TITLE: May Week Concert Refreshments

Date	Item	QTY	UNIT PRICE	NET	VAT %	VAT
17/06/2014	Strawberries & Cream	90	3.00	270.00	0	0.00
	3144 Tierra Antica Sauvignon Blanc	12	4.97	59.64	20	11.92
	Cartons of Orange Juice	3	1.01	3.03	0	0.00

<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	£	<b>332.67</b>
<b>VAT</b>	£	<b>11.92</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	£	<b>344.59</b>
<b>DEPOSIT</b>	£	<b>0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL DUE</b>	£	<b>344.59</b>

Payment of this account is due **28 days** following the date of invoice.  
Interest at 4% per month will be added if payment is received late.

This account may be paid in our Bank: Barclays, Benet Street, Cambridge  
Sort Code: 20-17-19 A/C No: 70769746  
IBAN: GB07 BARC 2017 1970 769746  
SWIFTBIC: BARC GB 22

Please make cheques payable to Robinson College, and address to the Office Manager.  
Please quote Account Number and Invoice Number(s).

**FOR**

Zoe Silkstone (ZS): So basically we are asking for money because we had an end of year garden party that we were told we wouldn't be provided food or drink at so of course we brought our own supplies and when we arrived and they gave us wine and

strawberries which we weren't expecting and then they sent us an invoice at the end of the year. The problem is we can't not pay college because it was consumed but we don't have enough money in our account to pay them at the moment.

### **AGAINST**

CB: To be honest I don't think you should have to pay that. It was their fault, you had no idea it would cost anything.

MK: Did they not send you an email saying there would be food and drink?

ZS: We sent an email asking and then Rhian went to see them to ask in person and both times they said there wouldn't be anything.

MK: Chris, as the catering student rep could you argue their case?

CB: Yeah, especially as you didn't know it would happen. You should at least get a discount.

Alex Bates (AB): If you have to wait for the next open meeting then it will be next year's budget but can you'll be spending it on something from this year, so is that an issue?

MD: Money allocated at the budget meeting in the budget motion is for events/purchases in the following budget year (ie for 2015/2016 at the one in a few weeks). Motions asking for money there and then will take money from the current year (2014/2015). Receipts/invoices have to be dated from within the budget year you are claiming from.

### **QUESTIONS**

NS: Didn't we already give you more money earlier this year for the performances? I think if we have to do it again then there should be some assurance that there will be better financial regulation instead of us having to keep bailing you out.

ZS: Yes, so basically as we went along there were things we hadn't expected other than the garden party that we needed to pay for such as photocopying and the accommodation for outside performers. This year we only have one outside performer lined up so we are cutting back.

MD: The money for the garden party is for food, which has caused issues in the past at budget meetings, like last year the Jewish Society putting down 'kosher supplies' in the budget which was just for food. In previous years if a society has asked for money for food it has been rejected by college so yes you're out of pocket but it's a college policy under this financial bursar that societies don't get money for food.

CB: We can't just leave them out of pocket though.

MK: What we are discussing is that college has taken advantage of one of the society so we should focus on fighting that rather than the money being used for food issue.

GB: We are obliged not to leave people out of pocket. For the moment are we suggesting then that you leave it and Zoe you talk to Chris and James and together you try to convince college to drop it and we'll back it. If they refuse then the RCSA will pay for it.

NS: Just say no we are not going to pay you- this is your mistake so go in really firm.

MD: So long as you still have the emails as proof that they said there wouldn't be anything.

JC: But they also went in person to talk to them so it's not a good case.

NS: Maybe if you reason with them they'll be fine.

GB: Ok so the motion's been retracted.

### **VOTE**

*This motion was withdrawn.*

## 11. Any other RCSA business

### a) [Extraordinary Motion for Robinson College Rugby](#)

Tom Baines (TB): Can I submit a quick extraordinary motion?

GB: There's only one more thing to do so if no one minds and it's quick then go ahead.

TB: Ok, we just need to reallocate money, not asking for more. We want to take all our unspent money from transport and put it into kit.

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. The rugby society doesn't have enough money for kit but has £421.20 left from transport.

#### **RCSA Believes:**

1. The rugby society should have enough money for kit.

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To reallocate £421.20 from transport to kit.

## **VOTE**

**For:** 28

**Against:** 0

**Abstention:** 0

*This motion passes.*

### b) [Budget Meeting Announcement](#)

Karl Thompson (KT): I have set a deadline for the 25<sup>th</sup> of October for society heads to propose to me next year's budget. The following week I will meet with Ross the financial manager to discuss how much money they think the RCSA should have.

MK: If you have a society that isn't actually a society yet can you get money? Basically, could I get money for femsoc even though it's not official?

MD: It would have had to be created today. Or you could get round it by asking for more money for women's officer?

NS: I think its better to keep femsoc and women's officer separate.

MK: Could I submit an extraordinary motion to officially create femsoc now?

Grace Atkinson (GA): You need to have a constitution.

MK: What?

GB: Or we could have another open meeting before the budget meeting so you can create a constitution and submit a motion. So if everyone is ok that with it, let's have another open meeting next Sunday 2pm in the JCR.

MK: Ok.