



RCSA Open Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 13th June

7pm

JCR



Agenda

1. Apologies for absence or lateness
Tom Hinch (May Ball training)
2. Announcement of the presence and purpose of guests
N/A
3. Approval of the presence and speaking rights of guests
N/A
4. Approval of the order of the agenda
N/A
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
N/A
7. Committee Reports and Resolutions
N/A
8. Questions to the Committee
Mark: Why was the title of the Ordinary Motion D altered?
Annalise: Unintentional oversight.
9. Extraordinary Motions
N/A
10. Ordinary Motions
 - A) Motion to support 'Why Gender Neutral?' campaign and lobby for implementation of gender neutral toilets in college
 - B) Motion to refurbish the JCR
 - C) Introduction of a second position for Welfare Officer
 - D) Allocation of £150 to RCRPGS to purchase rulebooks and simple gaming aids

Ordinary Motions

A) Motion to support ‘Why Gender Neutral?’ campaign and lobby for implementation of gender neutral toilets in college

RCSA Notes:

1. That in CUSU LGBT+’s 2018 Big Cambridge LGBT+ Survey, out of 400 respondents, 95.2% of the trans and non-binary students supported the introduction of more gender-neutral toilets, with a further 84.8% saying that the current provision is insufficient.

RCSA Believes:

1. That, as a place of knowledge, tolerance, and diversity, the University – along with its colleges and faculties – has a duty of welfare towards its students and should learn to act on it when and where appropriate.
2. That creating an inclusive environment for trans and non-binary students is a goal that falls under the University’s access objectives
3. That while the current provision of gender-neutral toilets in some areas of college is a laudable first step, it is not satisfactory – gender-neutral toilets need to be easily accessible, public, and visible regardless of where one is in college.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To officially support and endorse the Why Gender-Neutral? Campaign.
2. To lobby college administration to implement accessible, permanent gender-neutral toilets across the entirety of college, acknowledging that disabled toilets are not an adequate option.

Proposed by: Jess Henderson

Seconder: James Hedge

James: This motion is to show that we all agree to support the introduction of gender neutral toilets.

Jess: Introducing gender neutral toilets would not a sudden ‘free-for-all’ change; it’s more about making an inclusive step for the college and making it more welcoming. It is also important for access tours. Lots of other colleges do it; a simple sign just has to be put on the door. It would be very straightforward but is also very important.

Vote on motion:

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

This motion passes.

B) Motion to refurbish the JCR

RCSA Notes:

1. That the JCR is not used as often as it could be and as it is in other colleges.
2. That since the disposition of the room has been changed, more people come in the JCR. And that more events have been organised by RCSA officers in the JCR this term (Second hand sale, Women's forums, Royal wedding event, Eurovision night...).

RCSA Believes:

1. That we should encourage such initiatives and try to make the JCR more attractive, especially with Freshers' week coming to reinvent the image of the room for new-comers.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate a budget of no more than £450 to buy new games, a shelf to display them on, two white boards (*one for outside the room to advertise termly events, one for inside for people working in there*), and large prints of the College events (*Bops, Formals, May Ball, RCSA events*) to decorate the JCR
2. To allow a budget of £100 a term – to be taken from an existing budget for Michaelmas 2018- to run weekly events each term/make more improvements for the JCR (Bake Off for next Michaelmas).

Proposed by: Valentine Lauwereins

Seconder: Natalie Johnson

Valentine: Tom Hinch (Treasurer) says it's not a problem for the budget. It should be a valuable investment.

James Millington: Can we get the furniture replaced?

Valentine: Nick Milne wants to change the furniture to be paid for with college money next summer. This motion is just to introduce games and events, rather than refurbish the JCR.

Vote on motion:

For: 28

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

This motion passes.

C) Introduction of a second position for Welfare Officer

RCSA Notes:

1. That the role of welfare officer is very demanding.
2. That many colleges share these responsibilities among two welfare officer.

RCSA Believes:

1. That sharing responsibilities would allow welfare officers to organise more events and provide better support both to students and to other RCSA welfare officers.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To mandate the RCSA committee to start discussions about the conditions of the introduction of a second position for welfare officer.
2. To mandate the RCSA Chair to organise a referendum to include this new position in the RCSA constitution.

Proposed by: Natalie Johnson

Secunder: Bradley Sawyer

Natalie: Most other colleges have 2 Welfare Officers and some have two per position on the welfare team. It's quite a lot to do and would be nice to have another person who can help organising events and with concerns.

Valentine: The approval of this motion would mandate RCSA to hold a referendum, not change it now.

Jess Henderson: This could tie in with the idea of dividing the role of Women's Officer into Women's Welfare Officer and Women's Officer (which would be a more political role).

Mark Driver: Let me take you back to the constitution of 2002. What you find is two welfare officers (male or female) but none of the other subcommittee roles at all. Years ago, the welfare team was expanded to represent different groups. This might be a matter of considering how the work is divided up within the Welfare Team.

Natalie: Each officer has their own role and duties. As the 'Welfare Officer', I do everything - welfare in general - so often the organisation of big events is difficult to deal with. For example, it would have been useful for organising the Puppy Therapy day, as well as dealing with big issues that need another point of view and generally having someone else looking out for everyone.

Mark: You could do something similar to Ents: usually only one person eligible to hold position but this can be changed so that up to two people can hold it, meaning people can run on their own or in a pair. Any constitutional change has to go through college council.

Amendment:

RCSA resolves:

1. To mandate the RCSA committee to start discussions about the conditions of the introduction of a second position for welfare officer.

Amendment taken as friendly.

Mark: It should also be amended to create subcommittee to do constitutional change.

Second amendment:

RCSA resolves:

1. To mandate the RCSA committee to start discussions about the conditions of the introduction of a second position for welfare officer, and to create a subcommittee for constitutional reform.

Amendment taken as friendly.

Mark: Note that aiming to reach a decision before committee elections would mean a very tight turnaround.

Vote on amended motion:

For: 27

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

The motion passes.

D) Allocation of £150 to RCRPGS to purchase rulebooks and simple gaming aids

RCSA Notes:

1. That the Robinson College Roleplaying Game Society was formed at the open meeting on the 29th April 2018
2. That it is currently mid budget cycle
3. RPG rule books are fairly expensive
4. RCRPGS would like to buy copies of RPG rule sets for people to borrow and use within college
5. RCRPGS would like to purchase some basic dice sets and other supplies (e.g. mats and screens) required for new players/DMs to borrow.

RCSA Believes:

1. That this will be beneficial for people to be able to try new RPGs without having to invest money themselves

2. These supplies should last a long time, and will provide an archive of games in the future.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate £150.00 from the open meeting budget to the RCRPGS to purchase rulebooks and simple gaming aids.

Proposed by: Mark 'The Chamberlin' Driver

Secunder: Sam 'The Whisperer of Secrets' Sully

Mark: This society was founded in the last open meeting. We want to start compiling a collection of rule books. The resources purchased should last two decades, and it would save people spending money on their own.

Valentine: Tom Hinch (Treasurer) wanted me to request an amendment which would mean the money would not necessarily be taken from the Open Meeting Budget, but rather from whichever budget the treasurer sees fit, since it can't necessarily be taken from the Open Meeting Budget.

Amendment:

RCSA Resolves:

1. To allocate £150.00 to the RCRPGS from whichever budget the RCSA treasurer sees fit to purchase rulebooks and simple gaming aids.

Amendment taken as friendly.

Vote on amended motion:

For: 28

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The motion passes.

[Any other business](#)

N/A