

Attendance

- Present: Charles, Monica, Aaron S, Richard, Yuning, Claire, Philip, Ingrid, Amy C, Julia.
- Apologies, Zeina, Dominik, AJ.

General Business

- The committee concurred that there had been a decent turnout at freshers' events thus far. They noted, however, that a clear correlation obtained between turnout and quantity of alcohol served. Members expressed some ambivalence towards this trend.

Specific Business

- Claire resolved to entice the freshers with cheese and chocolate at a fondue night. Yuning took responsibility for purchasing the fountain.
- The committee discussed potential themes for upcoming MCR Dinners. Monica suggested that a poll should be conducted to determine the theme of the Halloween dinner. It was proposed that the dinner on the 1st of December should be Harry Potter-themed once more. A debate then ensued regarding whether hiring an owl was feasible, particularly if the Cambridge University Brass Band (CUBB) were hired to play during the drinks reception.
- A number of fourth-year undergraduates had expressed interest in joining the MCR. Members of the committee debated the implications for community cohesion of advertising membership to all fourth-year undergraduates. Members were eager to welcome incomers, however feared that the mass immigration of JCR members would preclude effective assimilation. Concerns were also raised over access to MCR benefits without fiscal contribution. Could integration best be managed through a more restrictive approach, or an Australian-style points-based system? It was concluded that fourth years could be voted in on an ad hoc basis during the busy freshers' month period. Following this transitional period, membership rights would be advertised to the entire cohort.
- Yuning declared his desire for the standing orders of committee positions to be updated prior to the open meeting on the 21st October.
- There henceforth ensued a lengthy and heated discussion regarding the absence of ovens from Cripps Court gyms. The discussion ranged from hall opening times, College catering policy and the relative status of hostels and Cripps Court. Ingrid resolved to write to the Operations Manager in order to raise the concerns of MCR members and ask for clarification of the College's position on the matter.
- Following the substantial inflation of the MCR Dinner price, members wondered what the breakdown of costs was. It was argued that other Colleges were able to provide higher quality food for a similar or lower price. It was noted that the food at high table is superior to the regular fare.