

## **Selwyn College MCR Open Meeting 17<sup>th</sup> May 2015**

### **Minutes**

Meeting opened: 20:30

14 members in attendance

7 items for the Agenda

#### **1) A referendum on the new MCR Constitution**

- Because the MCR has had decreasingly less spending power over the years (due to inflation), a change has been made to the constitution to amend this. In the updated constitution the MCR will be able to spend 5% of its budget (rather than the previous set amount of £300) so that spending power will incorporate the rate of inflation.

\* Members present approved this change.

- In previous drafts of the updated constitution, Class D members (those members who are partners or spouses of MCR members) were not included. The MCR committee would like to maintain this class of members, but add that those in this class will not be able to hold executive positions on the committee (i.e. President, V.P., Secretary and Treasurer).

\* Members present approve this change, and approve the committee members' decision to keep Class D members.

-Issues were raised about the status of fourth year JCR members, and whether or not they should be allowed to join the MCR. Members agree to address this in a future open meeting.

#### **2) Decisions over MCR charity contributions**

- Each term, money is collected via the college bill from the MCR members. This donation is intended to go toward charities. The college donates this sum to a charity after consultation with the MCR. Last year, no consultation occurred and the money was not distributed. As a result there is now a reserve of £3, 587.47 that needs to be donated to a specified charity/charities chosen by the MCR members. In previous years, the charities were chosen by voting.

\* Members present agree to adopt a similar system. The maximum number charities the MCR will donate to this year will be three. Members will send in requests to the committee online, and the committee will draw up a shortlist that they will use for the vote.

-Members have been requesting to opt-out of the MCR charity charge so that they can donate to their desired charity independently. Due to this development, the committee

proposes that the MCR abolishes the charge. Instead, the committee and MCR members can organise separate events for charitable collections.

\* A vote was taken. 4 voted against abolishing the charge. 2 abstained. 8 voted in favour of abolishing the charge. Majority ruled that the charge would be abolished for future terms.

### **3) Annual Dinner plans**

- Proposed plans include a 2-3 hour garden party with pre-drinks (Pimms and sparkling wine), cocktails, and light nibbles. There will also be a string quartet and the annual photograph will be taken. The garden party will be open to the entire MCR (non ticketed event) as well as the SCR, porters, and selected members of the college staff. A proposed budget for this event is £1,200, which will also cover the jazz band after the dinner.

\*Members present approved this budget.

### **4) Events to be held this term**

-Due to conflicts with various garden parties and June events, the first BBQ will not held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June as previously scheduled. Tentative dates proposed by those present at the meeting included 31<sup>st</sup> of May, and the 6<sup>th</sup> of June.

### **5) Voting in of Margaret Maurer as the Female Welfare Officer.**

\* Members present voted in Margaret unanimously.

### **6) CUSU affiliation**

- Last year the MCR paid £591 for CUSU affiliation. As individuals, MCR members have all the rights that provided for Cambridge University members even if their college is no longer affiliated with CUSU. Max Conway has been in contact with CUSU and hopes to receive a document from them outlining the benefits of maintaining affiliation. After this, the committee can create a proposal.

\* Vote taken to decide to negotiate and have a MCR referendum. Members present voted unanimously to proceed with this action.

-An issue was raised that the committee should contact JCRs and MCRs who are no longer affiliated with CUSU and get feedback concerning their experience.

### **7) Privacy concerns and policy for MCR public social media platforms**

- Because the MCR has recently created a public facebook page and instagram account to generate publicity, a privacy policy must be established for photos posted on these sites.

\*The following statement will be circulated:

Selwyn College MCR Privacy Policy-

*The elected Publicities Officer may be present at any MCR event, taking photographs for publicities purposes. Some of these photographs will be used for promotional material on the publicly-accessible MCR website (<http://www-mcr.sel.cam.ac.uk/>), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/SelwynMcr?fref=ts>), and Instagram ([https://instagram.com/selwyn\\_mcr](https://instagram.com/selwyn_mcr)). All attendees at events have the right to opt out of having their photograph taken or shared. The Publicities Officer will not 'tag' photographs on the aforementioned social media pages/links (individual members of the MCR may 'tag' their own photos or photos of friends if they wish to), and if a photograph is published of them online that they object to, they have the right to request it be removed, and it shall be removed with no further justification required.*

\*Members present approved this statement and raised the point that email contact must be made (rather than simply facebook) for all issues concerning photo privacy.

### **Other Business**

- A report that on Friday night after the MCR dinner, there was a lot of noise at 2-3 am in Cripps court.

Meeting adjourned: 21:30