

Selwyn College MCR Committee Meeting 6th July 2015

Apologies from Max Conway. 12 people present. Meeting opened at 19:37.

Agenda:

- 1) Voting in of Liz Hinchy for Common Room Officer
- 2) Voting in of Isabelle Bush for Ents Officer
- 3) Newmarket Racing
- 4) MCR BBQs
- 5) Buying back gowns

Minutes:

- 1) After Liz Hinchy expressed her interest in taking Corinna's place as the Common Room Officer, the committee unanimously voted Liz into office.
- 2) After Isabelle Bush expressed her interest in taking Nathalie's place as the Ents Officer, the committee unanimously voted Isabelle into office.
- 3) The Newmarket racing event will occur the 25th of July, and the committee has agreed to advertise the higher price package. At the moment, transport via a local bus would be the most convenient method because it is more direct and organizing transport would not rely upon numbers.
 - Harvey will begin selling tickets tomorrow (7 July 2015). Tickets will be sold until the end of the week, and both email and facebook reminders should be sent out asap.
 - For payment, the committee has agreed to charge members the full price and reimburse them at a later day with the appropriate discount.
 - The committee will set a maximum price (on the basis of 30 people attending) and advertise this price to those interested in attending.
- 4) The next MCR BBQ will occur on 19th of July
 - For this BBQ, the committee will buy more supplies than expected in order to avoid running out of food. If there are any leftovers, those can be stored in the MCR fridge or given to MCR members at the end of the BBQ.
 - An inventory should be made in order to assess what soft drinks and alcohol the MCR currently possesses.
 - Harvey, Afnan and Isabelle will go to Alex and place a large beer and Pimms order to be used for all future summer events.

- A facebook page should be created to advertise this BBQ event.
- 5) Luca and Lucia have inquired about the MCR's policy of purchasing gowns at the end of the year. Due to issues from last year, the committee must make sure that these gowns are cleaned before selling them to new members. The price of dry-cleaning per gown is £12.99. Although the dry-cleaners can offer a discount for a large quantity of gowns, the MCR rarely (if ever) reaches this amount. Currently, the MCR sells gowns for £40 and buys them back for £30. The committee must decide if this policy (with the additional dry-cleaning cost) should be continued, or if it should be eliminated.
- Several committee members raise the issue of profit-making and believe that the MCR should not be making a profit from these gown sales.
 - The dry-cleaning price should be included in the total price of the gowns. In order to ensure that these gowns are clean, a committee member (the Welfare officer) will take the gowns to the dry-cleaner at the beginning of Michaelmas.
 - The committee sets a new policy in which the gowns are sold for £43 (to cover dry cleaning costs) and bought back for £30.
 - Those voted in favour of this new policy: 11
 - Those voted to eliminate the policy entirely: 2 (Max by proxy)
 - Majority rules that the new policy will be enacted.

Other business:

- MCR communal camping gear
 - Heidi will investigate the cost of purchasing a tent for MCR use. This proposal should then be discussed in an Open Meeting to assess people's interest before any further action is taken.
- Seasonal pass for punting
 - Selwyn MCR currently holds a discount from Scudmore's punting company. However, this discount does not greatly diminish the price and it is subject to the company's daily price increases
 - Other colleges possess a season pass that allows them to use one boat for free daily. The committee agrees that this may be a better option.
 - Harvey and Isabelle will look into the prices of a seasonal pass.
- Issue of I.T. charges.

- Josh has spoken with the Master about the additional charges that college places on MCR members. These charges include those such as the I.T. charge and the KFC. Because these charges are placed outside the college and university fees, they are not covered by many graduate students' scholarships. These charges therefore unfairly cut into those students' living stipends.
- The committee agrees that these charges (particularly the I.T. charge) should be included in the college fee. While members have raised concerns about the KFC for those living in private accommodation, the committee will focus on the I.T. for the moment. Josh will raise these concerns with Nick Downer.
- Keble and Selwyn Social
 - Keble (Selwyn's sister college at Oxford) has inquired about coming to Selwyn in Michaelmas. The plan is to have a football match in the afternoon, and a formal dinner in the evening. This social will then be reciprocated in Oxford during the Lent term.
 - While Keble has proposed to take a bus back to Oxford at the end of the evening, committee members hope to provide a space for the Oxford students to stay at Selwyn. The committee will look into having them sleep in the MCR with college's permission.

Meeting adjourned at 20: 22