

Open Meeting Minutes

30-04-17

Meeting commenced - 13:14

Chair: Anna

Attendees (13): Max, Charles, Neil, Nicholas, Hannah, Parker Valentina, Afnan, Alexander, Anna, Yuning, Isa, Pablo

1 Updates from Previous Meeting

-Keeping the MCR clean: We put signs up to remind people to wash up and it has been getting better. If the MCR is very messy after a big event the committee can organise clean-up parties.

-Keble swap: We had to cancel because nobody wanted to go or play on the team. We have tried to organise a return swap but they haven't replied.

-Survey on accommodation: have done a general survey including questions on accommodation so we know more about what people want. However, only 28 people participated so survey results are not completely representative of the whole MCR. Parker attended the Accommodation Meeting and found out there isn't yet a date for the Room Ballot but it will probably be in July. Last year the fellow for rooms delayed it but it's meant to be during term time.

2 Feedback from Survey

2.1 Accommodation

Everyone wants to live in 21 West and 30% of people want to move out of college accommodation. 21 Grange Road will be on our ballot after refurb.

-Pre-allocation for new students: MCR members weren't happy with the ballot last year and they don't want houses allocated in year groups as this leads to less mixing. College forced us to assign staircases to be preallocated to incoming graduate students, but this probably contributed to the lack of socialising. We should bring this up at the next accommodation meeting- which should be in a couple of weeks.

-Unfair treatment for vets and medics: Vets and medics feel they are unfairly treated by the accommodation situation- they are guaranteed college accommodation up to 3rd year and then no accommodation is available afterwards. The reason for this is that college offers 3 years per degree and the vet/medic degree only counts as one course. There have been individual cases where a vet/medic has managed to get 1 extra year but only after a lot of pleading. The idea of making use of the late late ballot was discussed, because pre-allocated rooms (that might be highly desired) that don't get filled end up on the late late ballot and can end up empty. However, the late late summer ballot has to be after applicants turn down/miss offers but by then it's too late for current students.

2.2 Events

In general people were happy with events but would like earlier and more frequent

notice/reminders. Hannah and Nicholas have started sending out a weekly Ents Bulletin. The committee also need to keep the calendar updated, advertise on both Facebook and email, and send a reminder on the day on Facebook. A new idea was brought up to keep a pinned post with a list of events going on that week and Hannah agreed to be in charge of it. Doctor Who on Saturdays will be a new weekly event.

MCR members want more food-related events so, for example, the Italian night and the Bollywood night, and we will have Summer BBQs. It was also agreed that we should do events with other colleges over summer when undergrads are gone.

2.3 MCR Dinners and Bops

MCR members want them to be more fun but don't always say how. Some people have voiced opinions that there are too many fancy dress themes so the next MCR Dinner will be formal.

Bops have been unpopular and ideas were discussed about how to increase attendance. We also discussed not always having bops after MCR Dinners and treating them more like parties and inviting other colleges. There are no more bops this term anyway, but we could have garden parties (these require permission from college). There is a gap in quiet period when we could have a garden party and invite another college such as Robinson.

Churchill have guest bops when each member can bring up to 10 guests, but we are already allowing large numbers of guests at MCR Dinners in order to increase attendance. This has made MCR Dinners feel less sociable because MCR members don't recognise most of the people attending, and it was decided that we should sometimes have small dinners in the SCR instead of always allowing more non-Selwyn guests.

2.4 Other Issues/Complaints

People complained that the speakers for the TV don't work, but it is a new sound system and it definitely works so they probably don't know how to use it even though there are instructions stuck onto the wall.

Quite a few MCR members wanted a games console: one obvious choice would be an Xbox 360 because we already have games for it. Voted and decided on a budget of £200 for a new console and games etc.

3 Internet Allowance

Many MCR members have had their internet throttled due to going over the limit. Individual usage hasn't changed much for some people but emails only started coming recently so it is likely that College weren't really enforcing the limit but have become more strict recently.

Anna presented some information from the Minutes of an IT meeting:

Current limits are 5 GB per day or 15 GB per week- Selwyn has one of the lowest limits out of all colleges. The university gets 1Gbit pipe and Selwyn currently pay 5p per GB to the University. We can avoid the limit by connecting to a different network such as a VPN or by somehow logging in anonymously into eduroam.

The JCR President is in the process of writing a proposal about increasing the limits, and they will send it to the MCR so we will get a chance to make suggestions/amendments before we bring it to college council.

4 Cidergate

The MCR committee spent £2611.98 in a single transaction ordering alcoholic drinks from the College Bar. We now have 30 crates of cider that we don't have storage space for, and ideas were discussed about how to store or get rid of the cider. Alex the Barman doesn't want to buy the cider because he doesn't sell much of it. We voted to provide free cider at bops in some way such as free cider (or one free cider) during the first half hour, and to stock the fridge regularly with cider for MCR events.

5 MCR Trip

Pablo presented proposals for the MCR Trip this Summer with approximate dates of early June.

Lisbon: £150 for flights, £15 per night for accommodation.

Marseille: £60 for flights, £17 per night for accommodation.

Basque Country: £100 for flights, £20 per night for accommodation.

Brighton: £15 for bus, £25 per night for accommodation.

Nice was suggested as an alternative to Marseille and Pablo agreed to look into it.

It is difficult to find the best dates because deadlines are so spread out. We need a minimum number of people to go through with the MCR Trip, and need a vote with details about the holiday so people are willing to vote and show commitment. Pablo agreed to make a doodle poll this afternoon for just the timings of the MCR Trip, with a separate vote for just the destination afterwards.

6 Info about MCR/Selwyn

-Sexual Assault Policy: College have a new sexual assault policy so people can read about what constitutes as sexual assault and harassment, who they can talk to and what can be done about it.

-Faith Groups Policy: College policy that emphasizes that every faith group is welcome as long as it is all-inclusive (open to anyone) and upholds freedom of speech. The Chaplain is welcoming of all such faith groups, and they are welcome to use the chapel.

-Perks from College/MCR: Anna gave a reminder of some perks offered by the MCR and Selwyn College:

The MCR will reimburse MCR members up to £10 for the purchase of bike lights or a helmet, and this can be claimed once a year.

College pays half of the language exam fee if you pass, for language courses offered by the Language Centre.

The MCR has a punt card which can be used once a day. MCR members need to check the MCR Calendar to see if the punt is available, and then email James Xiao to book the punt. The punt can be booked up to 2 weeks before the desired date and an MCR member can book no more than

13:00

Sunday 30th April 2017

Location: MCR

two bookings a week or one booking in one weekend. Instructions for the punt card are on the MCR website.

7 Budget Approval for Annual Dinner

Anna proposed that the budget for Annual Dinner be set at £2000, similar to the year before, in order to pay for bands, a garden party, decorations and other entertainment. This was approved by vote.

8 AOB

There are no more condoms in the bathroom, and Valentina agreed to restock them. Attendees were reminded that the welfare condoms are for emergency use, not for personal supply.

Meeting adjourned - 14:02.