



Trinity Hall MCR

Open Committee Meeting
7.00pm, 1st May 2018
MCR Blue Room

1. Matters arising

i. Committee member reports

ii. Approval of minutes

iii. Proposal for a £500 one-off grant from the MCR's savings to redecorate and refresh the MCR

The redecoration will include new art for the blue room. It will include the hanging of new pictures in the Red Room, new low-maintenance plants, new lamps, LED lighting for the whole of the blue room, a welcome sign and a new set of chalk for the boards. It will also include new cupboards to store the board games and papers in the MCR more tidily. It will also include some additional folding chairs or stools for large meetings, evening events and lunchtimes. Lastly it will include a dedicated new board for committee notices, including Swaps, Ents, resources, etc. This proposal would ensure we have a physical space that is bright, welcoming and reflects the wonderful and active community in the MCR. It would make a more inviting space whether members visit once a day or once a month. It will also serve to welcome members joining us in the next year.

Proposed by: Stephen Rainbird (Steward) Seconded by: Holly Dayton (Computing) Jack Smith (Internal Ents)

iv. Vote on Ethnic Diversity Officer Committee position

v. Buy speakers for MCR

Proposed by Verity Smith and seconded by Aime Rankin.

vi. Coffee machine

2. Any other business

Present: Verity Smith (VS), Aime Rankin (ARa), Jack Smith (JSm), Jules O'Dwyer (JO), Stephen Rainbird (SR), Emma Venter (EV), Ben Cooper (BC), Lucy McDonald (LMc), Eduardo Corredera (EC), Tony Seston (TS)

Apologies: Melanie Jensen, Lucy Mackie, Alice Roullière, Holly Dayton, Daniel Ott, Joseph Reid, Oded Rimon, Pippa Carter, Sebastian Fica, Rhiannon Clapham, Ashley Clark, Josh Smeltzer

1. Matters arising

i. Committee member reports

VS met the Bursar with Alice to talk about the budget for next year. From now on they would like to see what we have in savings and how we plan to spend our money. VS said we should thinking of ways to spend our money as we now have to spend it rather than save it. VS reported that the events team want to screen a movie on the lawn and that it would be £8 pp including popcorn. JSm pointed

out that this was expensive for students and EV commented that it was not a new release film. VS said that the acting Senior Tutor wanted to meet on Saturday to discuss the divide between College and the MCR. Not many people said they could attend as it was the bank holiday weekend. SR said that the meeting was a good idea. VS suggested that he could attend one of our meetings. SR thought it was important to meet with William to discuss the budget, rent etc. A member commented that as regards to rent, College was trying to break even with us at best. VS said that the garden party was a lot of effort for the ents team to organise and it might be useful for a separate group to meet up and help plan it. JSm said this would be helpful.

JO talked about the Edward Carpenter lecture series and ways College were looking to fund it. The inaugural lecture is due to take place in Michaelmas 2018. JO had been talking to the alumni and development office who would like to fund it through ClickHall and then the alumni and College. On the 17th of May a photographer is coming in to take a photo in Front Court of students and staff with the rainbow flag.

LM talked about campaigning to get the University to change its disciplinary procedure to ‘beyond all reasonable doubt’. The Master has decided not to distribute or sign the open letter on this matter as he views it as too political. LM said that a report was being written on how badly College dealt with the Peter Hutchinson case.

EC talked about the McLuhan Symposium, which went well. The quality of talks were good with lots of fellows and post-docs attending. Going forward it may be useful to hold it as an after lunch event.

TS met with the alumni and development office. They have thanked the MCR for their help during the Telethon and they made more money than expected. They are considering a strategy change to get more MCR members involved. They wanted to know if we’d be interested in inviting alumni to grad halls. VS commented that MCR members would not know who the alumni were. TS then suggested having a more bespoke dinner for the event rather than use a grad hall. A member said that ‘meet the boss’ events were already happening. JO asked what events they had put on recently. TS said that they were mostly skill orientated events. ARA said that they were competing with events run by student’s departments (e.g. career and skills events). LMc asked if they did mentoring. TS said no, they did not. JO said that their USP was intimacy and closeness and that the College should stick to that.

BC reported on sales of Keep Cups and said that Meat Free Mondays had now been introduced. JSm said that there was not enough protein in the vegetarian meals. BC was ill when the fairtrade event was due to take place so he will hold it on the 19th instead. In June there will be an organic smoothie event. BC also said that the New Builds were being terrorised by a crow and that the recycling should be kept inside for pick up. BC will talk to housekeeping for a solution. For example, we could put lids on the recycling. A general discussion ensued on the craftiness of corvids.

ARA has been writing up minutes.

JSm has been preparing for the Annual Dinner. There is a problem in that the Oxford swap is on the same day. VS said that this happens every year as the Annual Dinner comes at an awkward time. In future we may wish to swap it with the graduate buffet. EV said that there would be a band, photo booth etc. JSm said that they needed to find a drum kit. ARA suggested asking members of the ceilidh band, some of whom are Trinity Hall members.

SR and EV have been continuing to stock the cupboards with tea and coffee. SR has drafted an email to William about his thoughts. They said they would be happy to consider any requests with regards to tea and coffee.

EC went to the library and archives meeting. HE said it was hard to get College to realise just how bad the library is over summer/Easter. JO suggested changing the reading room to a laptop friendly

zone. An informal show of hands suggested that most people in the room were for the proposed change. A member asked if there was anything that could be done with regards to the noise created by punters.

ii. and iii. Approval of minutes and proposal for a £500 one-off grant from the MCR's savings to redecorate and refresh the MCR

As quorum was not reached, VS said that a vote to spend money outside of the budget would need to be conducted online.

SR said that the refurb would be to tidy and freshen up the MCR. New lamps, more LEDs, repaint the walls, rugs, etc. A few things to brighten up the room. New mugs, glasses, pillows, chairs, plants, photos. SR asked for people to send in suggestions. EV said that if we increased the budget we could get a professional to come in and do the painting. VS said she would check with College about that. VS also said that committee decisions would have to be made about what would be bought with regards to taste.

iv. Vote on Ethnic Diversity Officer Committee position

VS said that the recent survey showed that some people were interested in the creation of this committee position.

v. Buy speakers for MCR

VS said that Sasha Turchyn could spend some of her entertainment budget on new speakers. VS asked how much we would need to spend. EV suggested going mid range, VS proposed about £100. A member suggested getting one for each room. JO stressed that it should be done quickly so that people could enjoy them. VS asked College about the broken tv and who was responsible for fixing it.

vi. Coffee machine

VS said that we have the budget to spend money on a coffee machine. She said she would put it to an online vote. Option 1 would involve subscribing to a machine. It would be £15-25pm, including maintenance. VS pointed out that it was not too much more expensive than what the stewards spent on coffee each week (£10). Option 2 would be to have a one off spend on a machine where we would be responsible for buying ingredients and repairs. A member pointed out that although we have great stewards today, that this might not always be the case and so option 1 might be preferable. EV said that since people don't even clean up their own dishes that option 1 might be preferable. EV also said that it would come with 1 month trial and that we should keep the vote open until this had finished. BC asked if the beans were fairtrade and SR said she would find out.

2. Any other business

None.

Respectively submitted by,
Aime Rankin
MCR Secretary

