

AGENDA
GENERAL MEETING
ST EDMUND HALL MCR
3rd of May 2017, 7pm

Apologies:

Nidi (Treasurer)
Ryan (Vice-President)
Andrew (IT Officer)

12 Ordinary Members present

Reminder from Independent Chair

that nominations for next year's committee are still open until Friday 9am, 5th of May. Hustings will take place on Tuesday 6pm, 9th of May. All MCR members are encouraged to attend.

Reports from MCR Committee Members

President

- College has received permission to transform Norham Gardens 26, which will make 11 newly renovated rooms available for graduate students
- The University Graduate Committee is currently reviewing the graduate suspension policy
- The President and college have come to an agreement about MCR membership categories, resulting in a financial contribution from college to the MCR

Vice-President

- The contract for the MCR punt has been extended for another year, with an increase in price of 50 pounds. The punt will be moved to the river on Sunday, 7th of May.
- The art rotation is in its final stage

Treasurer

- All planned events for Trinity Term can be covered financially with the contingency fund remaining untouched.
- The charity funds are expected to be paid soon.
- The treasurer secured an additional 800 pounds contribution from college due to a 25% rise in student numbers in the past. As this contribution has to be spent on sports events it will go towards the Zumba and Yoga classes, which from now on will be

shared with the JCR, offering members of both common rooms to sign up for the classes organised by either committee.

- The Blues Fund will be restructured, increasing the funds available for Half Blues and for those without Blues but who are actively involved in sports. Details about the restructuring of the fund will be brought to the next general meeting.

Stewards

- The organisation of the Garden Party in Week 4 and the Trinity Dinner are in progress. Members are encouraged to support the Stewards.
- Three exchange dinners and one Magdalen Liquid Lounge are planned for Trinity Term.

Welfare

- Zumba and Yoga classes are up and running, so is the weekly Peer Support.
- This term cake breaks are at 11am on Fridays
 - Last week it was started off by an informal careers event with representatives of the St Edmund Hall Development Office and the Careers Service attending to inform students about the services they offer.
 - Leaflets with more information are in the MCR.
- Shut up and write sessions will continue to be on Fridays.
- Cherrelle and Sneah have organised a guest lecture (Prof. Mindy Chen Wishart) which will take place on the 18th of May
- Volunteers for Consent Workshop Facilitators are needed.
- College is currently reviewing the Harassment Policy, with the aim to create more accessible information in the form of posters and flyers.

Academic Rep

- The next graduate seminar will take place on the 22nd of May.

IT

- College has changed the mailing lists in order to avoid students to receive e-mails twice.

NSE & Sports Rep

- nothing relevant to report

Nomination for Guest Membership

Following individuals have been put forward as nominees for Guest Membership of the St Edmund Hall MCR:

Ordinary Member

Micol Chiesa

Nominated Member:

Guilherme Vaz de Melo Trindade

A medical PhD student who lives in NSE and is not affiliated with any other college
Passed without objections.

<u>Ordinary Member</u>	<u>Nominated Member:</u>
Tonia Thomas	William Stockdale
Tonia Thomas	Mala Rohling

Both of them are in Tonia's lab and not affiliated with any other colleges and would like to get involved in the MCR and join St Edmund hall sports clubs.
Passed without objections.

Motion in favour of adopting a college cat

Motion withdrawn by Lucy Kissick

Motion to purchase a better coffee machine and coffee

Brought forward by: Linde Wester
Presented by: Linde Wester

The results of the survey showed that students would appreciate having better coffee in the MCR. A motion for better coffee has already been brought forward last year. After discussions with college, the purchase of a coffee machine would have resulted in a 5 pound charge for each MCR member which was rejected in an online vote.

Two options for a coffee machine

1. A machine that grinds whole beans
 - price: 100-300 pounds
 - disadvantage: cleaning and maintenance
 - would need a detailed manual on how to use it
2. A Nespresso machine
 - price: 30-160 pounds, around 30p per capsule
 - environmental aspect: original nespresso capsules can be recycled, which would result in an extra task for one committee member to carry the capsules to a recycling point
 - capsules would have to be funded through a honesty system which realistically would mean that some of the price would have to be covered by MCR money

Either machine would be an ADDITION to the current machine

Purchase of better coffee

College is currently bulk buying our coffee together with the coffee for lunch and dinner. But they would be happy to order more expensive coffee, if the MCR payed for the additional cost. Alternatively, the MCR could bulk buy whole beans, 10kg would be around 70 pounds. Either way, a termly budget for coffee could be set aside (the current budget for tea is 50 pounds) to cover these costs. Currently, it is not clear, which of the two options would be cheaper as this depends on the coffee that is chosen.

In the following discussion it was pointed out that an honesty system for capsules is unrealistic as previously such a system had not worked for the cookie tin. Also, a capsule only makes a small cup of coffee, resulting in students using several capsules for one cup, which would make it relatively expensive.

As there was a strong agreement that a Nespresso machine would not be feasible, the discussion focused on the kinds of attributes a machine that grinds whole beans should have. If such a machine was bought it should have more coffee options (e.g. espresso, cappuccino).

The general agreement was that college should be asked whether they would be happy to buy whole coffee beans with the MCR only paying the difference to the current coffee price. If that is not an option a fixed termly budget should be decided for the MCR's own coffee purchase.

Vote on:

- A maximum of 250 pounds for the purchase of a coffee machine that grinds whole beans with multiple coffee options.
- An additional budget of 70 pounds per term for beans, but with the goal of ordering through college so that the coffee is subsidised.
 - If this is not possible the motion will be brought back to the next general meeting.

Vote on the motion as it stands here:

In favour: 10

Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

Motion passed.

Motion to change the MCR Membership Structure

Brought forward by: St Edmund Hall & MCR committee

Presented by: Linde Wester

MCR membership structure

- The MCR will remain in charge of its own membership policy, as was the general consensus in the last GM.
- A constitutional change would allow college to add DTP students who are not members of a college to the MCR as associate members.
- In return, college has been forthcoming in accommodating MCR needs by giving an additional 800 pounds to the MCR because of rising student numbers in the past
- Linde is still waiting to hear how much money the MCR would receive for this associated membership category that the DTP students would fall in.
 - The exact amount should be known before the next general meeting and as any constitutional change needs to be passed in two consecutive general meetings, the motion can still be voted down if students do not think that the financial contribution would be sufficient.
- In order to maintain the positive relations with college it would be very important for this motion to pass.

No concerns or points of discussion raised.

Vote on the motion as it stands here:

In favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

Motion passed.
