

## Downing MCR Committee Meeting 2017-01-23

**Apologies:** Sam

**Absent:**

### **Burns Night**

- Went well, good job by all.
- Parsa: still need to take a close look at numbers but at a guess we did well on money.
- **Next year:** 27th January 2018.
- Problems arising following Burns Night.
- More people on bar? Don't underestimate need.

### **Swap**

- Swap was planned with Robinson for 3rd Feb but was cancelled because clashed with May Ball Launch Formal. Swap will be delayed

### **Access to bank for Parsa**

- **Action:** Handover ASAP: this week with Andreas and Nicky

### **Access to MCR Office for Bridget and Bar Officers**

- Still not sorted.
- **Action:** Andreas to send email ASAP.

### **Graham Virgo Talk next week**

- Philip Rubery asked to advertise this.
- **Action:** Emma to Google Form to estimate numbers and publicise.

### **MCR Seminar Night**

- Information on planned Lent date (1st February) lost in translation from previous committee.
- **Action:** Welfare officers to delay. New date is 22nd February (preliminary)

### **May Ball Launch Formal**

- Is happening Feb 3rd: inform people no guests.
- Tom raises point that a lot of Friday formals this term have been blocked off/no guests.

### **Midway Dinner**

- Bridget raises point about guests: last year Midway attendees were allowed one guest.

### **Rowing Tank (Parsa)**

- ~650k rowing tank has been approved by finance committee with one abstention.

- Quite a few big donors (who generally only come out of the woodwork for 'big' projects), loan from Downing enterprise which they'll earn back from lending them to other colleges and schools.
- Tom points out that although these donors might not be convinced to give as much money to "useful" college things, even if it was a tenth of what was spent that was still valuable.
- Bridget says that Oxford boat club rowing tank generates £20/hr when rented out which is a lot of money for a few hours a day over many years.
- Alex suggests that maybe a small percentage of the money earned could go back into student welfare.

### **Graduate Union**

- In December, question of whether to reaffiliate with CUSU and GU was asked as one question rather than two separate. It passed but was not legitimate. In January for Bar officer elections, was asked again as two separate questions but did not receive enough responses to be quorate.
- How do we proceed?
- **Action:** Tom to consult previous committee members, senior tutor

### **Chinese New Year**

- Negotiations with regent street suppliers
- Spreadsheet for sign-up tasks
- Bar will be open
- Request for music playlists