

Downing MCR Committee Meeting 2017-05-15

Apologies:

Absent: Pranay, Alex, Sam

Request to put GU election poster up in MCR

- Someone running for GU President has requested to put up an election poster.
- Tom wonders whether this follows election rules.
- Suggestion to wait and check before putting one up.

Actions taken from last committee meeting (minutes)

- Check respective obligations about the website and continue to follow up with tasks.

General Purposes Committee (GPC) Feedback

President and Vice-President in attendance

Welfare

- Continuing welfare concerns brought up at GPC, following discussions with Master.
- General feedback was that there is a variety of figures that you can go to (Senior Tutor, Tutor, supervisors, chaplain, dean) and incoming part-time counselor.
- Not as supportive of a welfare committee because welfare is supported through quite a few systems, but quite diffuse, but a concern that JCR/MCR welfare officers do take on quite a lot of responsibility.
- Acknowledgement that there is a disjointed approach between College and JCR/MCR to welfare, and that this can be approved.
- JCR have full support of this issue, with their own parallel issues with specific issues related to welfare.
- **Action:** Now that general concern has been raised, welfare officers to arrange meeting with JCR counterparts to decide on specific solutions to propose.

Bar Wristbands

- New policy incoming: wristbands for external guests on Wednesdays and Sundays (identified by Bar and Amenities Committee as being particularly problematic nights due to undergraduate formals, swaps, and nights out focussing on these nights).

- Technically this applied to the MCR bar too but we never open on Weds/Sun.

Sexual Misconduct Guidelines

- Going through, and will ideally be approved by the next GPC.
- This is a stock set of guidelines issued by the University, has to be modified by the College to fit in with the statutes and ordinances of Downing (which are not the same in every College, and so there is some incongruity).
- Some questions about what classifies as harassment, to what extent the College is allowed to punish. There are large grey areas that bodies (including CUSU) are aware of.
- On our end, we will wait for approval and then publicise when finalised.

Puppy Welfare Day (3rd/4th)

- Puppy welfare day has been provisionally approved by General Purposes Committee.
- Dates: either 3rd/4th July.
- Question of wet weather provision: going into the MCR?
- Dido brings up concerns about allergies if we go into the MCR. Christine suggests Grace Howard Room.
- **Action:** Welfare Officers to chase up potentially booking an alternative room, or think about other options.

New Emails

- We have new emails! [officer-position]@mcr.dow.cam.ac.uk.
- **Action:** Please update your hermes and Emma to update the website with the new emails.

Attendance at CUSU Council

- MCR Vice-President is in charge of attending CUSU and GU events, but not getting all the emails to the vice-president account (result: Tom missed the CUSU Council!)
- Tom to request from CUSU that the Vice-President be moved onto the CUSU council mailing list in line with MCR Committee roles.

Bar Sports and Amenities

- Introduction of bar snacks! Final discussions about pricings, etc. ongoing.
- Possibly have a special voting night.

Mini-Ball

- Saturday 15th July.

- Andy Lingham has provided a copy of previous booking instructions for us to take logistical and thematic inspiration from (circulated).
- Mini-Ball will take place as follows: garden party-style in the afternoon with drinks and canapes, then formal dinner in the hall, then bar & live music in the Howard Building 'till late.
- Theme ideas:
 - [REDACTED TO KEEP THE THEME A SECRET!]
- By next week:
 - We should all about ideas for one of the two themes.
 - Tom to confirm with Andy the exact date/times, and to contact last committee to ascertain exactly how much interaction we have with College through the process (no doubt less than the real may ball but we should make sure we're in college's good books nonetheless).
 - Andreas to send out a save the date ASAP