

DCSA Minutes

1st November 2005

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|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Present</u> | Katie Tanner (KT) | President |
| | Melanie Keene (MK) | Treasurer |
| | Rosienne Farrugia (RF) | Secretary/Womens |
| | Claudia Crovace (CC) | Ents |
| | Chris Tighe (CT) | Green |
| | Will Flynn (WF) | Council Rep |
| | Patrick Boner (PB) | Sports |
| | Martyn Dade-Robertson (MDR) | Comms |
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| <u>Apologies</u> | Su Il In (SI) | International/Council Rep |
| | Caroline Scott (CS) | Admiral |
| | Yuri Ji (YJ) | Welfare |

Elections

KT reports that the DCSA has received applications for the posts of international officer, welfare & external officer, women's officer, communications officer and the currently vacant ents position. No one has asked to stand for greens officer. CT had been approached by an interested candidate. He will remind her to send in her manifesto by midnight. The manifestos will be sent out in Whatsup on Wednesday.

GU meeting

KT reported that the GU elections would be held on Wednesday 2nd November. The GU are encouraging students to use their online voting system. Online voting will be available between midnight and 8pm. Paper voting at the GU headquarters will be between 8pm and 10pm. KT asked that all DCSA members vote online.

Ents – 2nd Officer

The Ents officers are elected in the June elections, thus the currently vacant 2nd Ents position will be filled by co-option. Nicky Pickering has approached CC and sent in a manifesto to KT outlining her interest in the position. She has been social secretary during her undergrad in Oxford and seems very interested in the position, has already discussed ideas and possible activities with CC.

The exec co-opted Nicky Pickering as the 2nd Ents officer. She will be joining the exec along with the new members elected next week.

Gym Equipment

PB has discussed with Colin what other equipment needs to be bought for the gym using the left over money from the gym refurbishment allocation. Colin suggested a list of extra weights and stands for them that can be used with the multi-gym as well as dumbbells of various weights. The total cost will be of £570.

Introductory course on how to safely use the new equipment could be organised if enough people show interest. A list of simple instructions will also be put up in the gym.

KT noted that the dumbbells and maybe the free weights could be labelled as DCSA property to discourage students from taking them out of the gym and to their rooms.

Buying of the extra weights was approved by the exec.

The stereo for the gym has now been bought. The installation is being discussed with the Clerk of Works.

DCSA-exec picture - frame replacement

Due to an unfortunate accident during the bar/common room refurbishment the frame of the last DCSA-exec photograph was damaged. KT received a very nice, apologetic note from maintenance about this. The frame is currently in the office of the Clerk of Works and WF will go and see what can be done about it – fix the frame or replace it. The DCSA will pay the costs of fixing or replacing.

Budget

The budget open meeting was held on Thursday 27th October 2005.

Details are in the budget meeting minutes.

- The men's basketball officially asked MK to reconsider and increase their allocation. They have been allocated £1000 in total.
- No money was allocated to the music society because they requested money for the buying of new equipment which we have nowhere to store since the bar cellar flooded. The sheet music they want can be bought through another college fund and the DCSA do not fund concert tickets for personal recreation.

The exec voted and passed the budget

MK will discuss the budget with the bursar to finalise the procedure.

Feedback to Project Ideas Scheme

Only 2 clubs sent in feedback.

- The men's football club has asked for portable goalposts.
- The boat club asked for £1500 to help launch the boat club Alumini scheme. The money will be used to help fund a boat club trip to Seville during the spring break to help foster ties between current and previous members and

create the strong social network necessary to keep Alumini active and interested in the club once they have moved away. Jost Schatzmann the men's captain has discussed possibilities with the Alumini officer and will be discussing this with the bursar.

The DCSA thinks that

- Money for this purpose cannot be given as a one off to the boat club.
- Once such a practice is started it has to be made available to all clubs and societies.
- Alumini schemes in themselves can be a great financial to help to the club. Thus the money given to help start up an Alumini scheme can be seen as an investment which in the future will make the club more self sufficient and better endowed.
- To get money for this purpose the boat club, (or any other club or society that may ask for such funding in future), needs to show that they are fully committed to initiating and maintaining an Alumini scheme. They also need to provide concrete plans on how such a scheme can benefit the club in the long term.

College Issues

1) Inadequate laundry facilities

KT received an email from Rebecca Cristopolou (copies of the email were also sent to the housekeeper, the Clerk of Works and the Accommodation office) noting that the washing machine in Frank Young House is often broken. There are 30 students living in Frank Young and needing to use this laundry machine.

KT also noted that of the 3 laundry machines on the main site, 1 is almost always broken, leaving only 2 laundry machines for the use of at least 130 students who live on the main site as well as all the laundry that needs to be done by housekeeping to clean and maintain the guest rooms and the public parts of college.

3 laundry machines on the main site and 1 in Frank Young house are not enough to meet the needs of the number of students living in these residences even when all the machines are functioning. When 2 of them are constantly broken this stretches the facilities even more.

The DCSA suggests that the number of open access machines on the main site as well as the machines at Frank Young be doubled – 6 laundry machines on site and 2 at Frank Young House.

The current committee hopes that this issue can be resolved by the end of the current dcsa-exec term in June 2006.

2) Band practice on site

KT has also received a request for information on the booking out system of the common room for band practice. The band has 2 Darwin members and 1 Pembroke student and is still looking for a 4th member. They would like to book the common room for 2-3 hours and week and would like to store their equipment in the bar cellar.

CC believes that the keyboard and the drum kit currently in the bar cellar belong jointly to the DCSA and the Music society. This band uses this equipment, or has used it in the past. With current situation in the bar cellar there is not even space to store these items properly and therefore definitely no space for more personal band equipment. CC will be talking with the Clerk of Works to see how more high and dry space can be built into the bar cellar. In the meantime only the equipment belonging to the DCSA will be stored in the bar cellar. Space will be put aside for the replacement equipment that ents need to purchase and then ONLY if there is extra space will band equipment be allowed in the bar cellar. This is highly unlikely.

Until the end of last academic year, the common room was available for booking for band practice on Sundays. Around 4 hours in the afternoon.

Last year there were also a number of complaints because 1 or 2 bands booked out the common room every Sunday for the whole time period and these bands had few Darwin members playing in them.

Thus the booking system needs to be revisited. We cannot have one band monopolising the common room. Besides band practice can also be noisy, effecting both staff and students.

It has been suggested that:

- Bookings are taken in 2 hour slots.
- Bookings are only taken for the next fortnight to give time for bands formed later in the term to book the room.
- Booking will stay through the bursar's secretary but CC will monitor who is booking the room and how often and will approve bookings.

Goodenough Students Visit

Twelve students from South Africa will be visiting Darwin on Wednesday, November 30th. They will visit Cambridge for the day and come to Darwin for lunch. KT asked that 6 Darwinians help host this dinner. She has already approached 2 Darwinians who are South African and they have accepted to help hosting the event. The other 4 will be DCSA members: CC, MK, PB, RF.

RF will be co-ordinating the Goodenough visit.

CUSU cards

The CUSU cards were finally delivered to the porter's lodge on Sunday 30th October. KT, MK and RF have attempted stamping the cards with the Darwin College stamp in readiness for handing out to students. However, since the cards are already laminated the ink will not stay on. KT has emailed the CUSU president Laura Walsh, to notify her of this and ask what other colleges are doing. No answer has been received yet. Students will be given the cards and asked to write in Darwin College themselves.

Ents replacement equipment

CC will look into what new equipment needs to be bought to replace what was damaged in the flood. She will give the list and projected expense to MK.

Computers for loan scheme

Two new computers are available for the computer loan scheme. These will replace 2 older ones which the computer officer will dispose of. MDR will co-ordinate the transfer of the new computers from the deanery to the DCSA office. There are 3 computers available for the computer loan scheme. Once the 2 new computers are set up the loan scheme will be advertised.

Diverse – AIDS awareness group

Diverse is a Cambridge group that distributes information on health issues and how to prevent AIDS transmission. The housekeeper told KT that the housekeeping staff have been trained by this group but she would like the group to be invited to college to give some talks and basic training to students. Raising the students' awareness will not only help to keep the students themselves safe but also the housekeeping staff who take care of the cleaning.

KT has proposed that if the freshers' day proposal goes through and is implemented (proposal will be discussed later this year) then talks from Diverse could be scheduled during this day.

Elections

Elections will be held on Tuesday 8th November, Wednesday 9th November and Thursday 10th November. Voting will be at lunchtime between 1pm and 2 pm and at dinnertime between 7pm and 8pm.

Manning of the desk will be as follows:

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|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Tuesday 8 th lunchtime | WF |
| Tuesday 8 th dinnertime | CC & MK |
| Wednesday 9 th lunchtime | WF |
| Wednesday 9 th dinnertime | CT & RF |
| Thursday 10 th lunchtime | MK |
| Thursday 10 th dinnertime | CT & RF |

Outgoing Officers

KT thanked all the outgoing officers for their contributions and the great job they did during this past year.

Next meeting: Tuesday 22nd November 2005 at 7.30pm in the Old Library

November Elections: 8th – 10th November 2005