

DCSA Minutes

25th April 2007

Present

Rosienne Farrugia (RF)	Secretary
Jenny Symonds (JS)	Ents
Graham Robinson (GR)	Sports
Tomás Ryan (TR)	Ents
Maja Ivankovic (MI)	Womens
Caren Weinberg (CW)	Council Rep
Nico Petty (NP)	Welfare
Svetlana Yudina (SY)	Treasurer
Bettina Schreck (BS)	Greens
Amir Chaudhry	f/Barchair
Nick Healy	f/Mayball

Apologies

Sarah Hamylton (SH)	President
Will Flynn (WF)	Council Rep
John Mifsud (JM)	Admiral
Alice Hall (AH)	External
Mikhail Kibalchenko (MK)	International

MayBall

Nick Healy reports on behalf of the May Ball Committee:

Before the Easter break, half the Ball tickets had already been sold. This leaves a further 200 tickets for sale. To date, Darwinians have been restricted to 1 guest per member to give the maximum chance for members to purchase tickets.

The Committee asked Ents if tickets can be sold during the next bop: Approved.

Work in progress includes contacting companies and individuals to get sponsorship, meeting catering companies and looking into ents for the night. A number of bands have been booked already.

An email will be sent out to whatsapp asking for staff and volunteers.

RF reminded Nick that the budget will need to be presented to DCSA as soon as possible.

JS reminded Nick that if the Ents carpet is to be used, then the May Ball committee needs to pay for half of it – approx £150. The carpet has only been used once so far and is still in very good condition.

Rachel has discussed with JS and TR the use of the DCSA PA system which is new as of last year. The PA system will be willingly lent to the May Ball committee.

Library Committee

Meetings are held once a term. Deborah (the student librarian) has been setting up a DVD library. There are lists of available DVDs in the study centre and on the notice board. An application form has been put together requesting a £15 cheque deposit. However, cheques are only valid for 6 months and then the librarian will have to ask for new cheques. NP suggested a cash deposit instead. This will be implemented soon. Deborah is handing in soon and so the job will come up for appointment in August. Deborah is putting together a job advert to be sent out before vacation.

Election of Welfare Office

NP would like to suggest that the position might be better elected in June rather than in November especially since this way there is someone in the role over summer in preparation for the new arrivals. NP noted that most of the queries arise over summer when people are preparing to arrive to Cambridge and so it is necessary to have a welfare officer in place.

DCSA voted – 9 in favour

0 against

The Welfare officer position will be elected in June.

RF will make the necessary amendments to the constitution.

Bar Questions

Budget – DCSA would like to at least see the finances even though we do not have any say in the decision.

AC – changes happen frequently because alcohol prices change throughout the year. Also the DCSA president is entitled to attend the AGM where the budget is discussed.

CW - recommended that updates be posted regularly

AC - Mentioned that messages can be sent via WhatsUp

TR – recommended that since it is not practical to submit a prospective budget, presenting the previous year’s budget would be very welcome, that way it is clear where the money went.

GR – does not see why DCSA should be involved in how the surplus money is spent.

JS – DCSA is not in anyway asking to be involved in money spending just an increase in transparency to ease potential concerns such as where the surplus money is spent.

AC – the bar tries to keep the surplus to a minimum, if there is a surplus it is kept aside for big projects such as the recent refurbishments. [Does not understand what the concerns are.](#)

JS – noted that price increases were noticed over this year but there have been no recent refurbishment efforts.

AC – any big projects will be discussed with the DCSA and Bar Surplus Fund Meeting exists for exactly this purpose. Small things like replacing speakers will be dealt with by the bar independently. Asks for clarification as to what the problem with the bar actually is. AC not aware of any problems so is confused as to nature of issues

JS – one of the reasons all this has come up is that the barchair has not sat on the DCSA committee over the last 2 years and so DCSA is not aware what is happening.

AC – if an agenda is sent out before the DCSA meeting and there is patently a bar issue then someone from the bar will attend the meeting.

RF- pointed out that the DCSA requires that a representative of the bar committee sits on all the DCSA meetings, regardless of whether bar issues are discussed or not.

NP – Asked that since the DCSA has representation on all committees, why not bar?

JS – the underlying reason for the DCSA – bar connection is because the bar com are not elected in. This is perceived as a problem because there is a danger of this becoming an oligarchy. It is more like an employment role and because only 6 people vote for the inclusion of 2 or 3 new people. JS enquired as to why would hustings not work for the elections.

AC – [Disagrees that elections are an appropriate way select BarCom and](#) would rather discuss this when SK and SH are here. [As already requested by Sarah by email.](#)

TR – recognises that experience and knowledge are necessary characteristics of the barcom members but this could surely be taken into consideration. We do acknowledge that the whole student body cannot vote for barcom.

GR – asks that since barcom does not vote on DCSA, whether cross voting – barchair votes at DCSA meetings and DCSA votes on BarCom – would improve communications.

AC – points out the obvious separation between DCSA and BarCom as in the constitution, [which is approved by licensee.](#)

CW – asks why there might be potential problems with DCSA and bar

AC – mentions that bar does not exist as a source of income for college/DCSA. That potential misuse of pricing to raise funds for projects is undesirable.

RF – points out that running the bar is a complicated process and too much for it to be a DCSA run facility. It needs its own committee.

NP – asked if barcom meets regularly and take minutes which are available.

AC – 2 meetings a year. No knowledge if the minutes are openly available.

JS – this is one main issue of increasing visibility/transparency and making it more student friendly

AC – disagrees with implication that bar is student *unfriendly*.

TR – thinks it is somewhat student unfriendly as students have commented that they do not know who runs the bar and how to get involved.

AC – comments that people do communicate to barcom over the bar.

RF – a recommendation that the bar staff might vote or have a say on who sits on bar com

AC – [Staff rotate regularly and there are many staff that don't work much. Reiterates that discussion should not continue without SH and SK present.](#)

Use of TV room

The porters are concerned that the TV room is being used by clubs with no Darwin member present. Yesterday the Hispanic society booked the TV room and Darwinians wanted to watch the football. Luckily the Hispanic society did not turn up.

Porters would like DCSA to make clear again:

- (1) no club booking unless there is a percentage of Darwinians present
- (2) if it is found that there is a party without Darwinians then they will be asked to leave
- (3) there can be no block bookings longer than 3 hours
- (4) no daily bookings

CW asked if the TV be set up in the bar when there are big matches like it is done for the world cup.

AC does not see this as a problem and will mention it to the rest of barcom.

A whatsapp will be sent and the rules and regulations will be written clearly and posted on the TV room door.

DCSA dinner

Dinner needs to be organised – budget of £700. Volunteers needed. NP volunteers and AH will be asked if she is willing to help. IF AH cannot help CW will help out. A dinner and the annual photo need to be organised

DCSA elections

According to the constitution the elections will need to be held before the 1st of July. Traditionally they are held before May week to allow for a proper hand over. Positions up for election are: President, secretary, treasurer, Ents (x2), Welfare officer and sports officer.

Ents will organise an event in the next fortnight to raise profile. The people whose positions are up for election are expected to attend.

The exact dates of the elections will be decided during the next meeting. Two weeks notice needs to be given before the elections are held. Nominations close 3 days before the elections.

Budget

SY has put together an updated budget – what has been spent so far and what is left in their budget allocation. This will be sent out to all clubs' and societies' presidents and treasurers with a reminder to claim whatever expenses they have already incurred.

The DCSA officers are requested to go through their budget and check that it is all up to date.

Punts: DCSA will leave the punts account separate. DCSA will pay the needed £5600 and then punts will return £3000 to DCSA. Since the punt account will be kept separate the Admiral is required to present the Punts' accounts at the end of his/her term – prior to the November elections.

Sports Day – overspent by £226.48 thus the extra money will be taken from the sports officer's budget.

Ents entry – revenues and expenses column is in negative. SY explained that the ents entry states they have £145 in profit. Ents would like to use this profit to have a free bop at the end of the year.

Sports – Darwin wear

GR reports that he is still looking into an online ordering system. AC knows of a website where the society can send their logo and then members can order whatever they like. AC will find the website and send it to GR.

The budget of the internal sports days could be cut down to make up for the sports day over-expenditure.

Pool cues:

AC notes that Sports is over budget on pool table items. Notes that new cues are not being kept behind bar since this seems unfair to members who wish to play out of bar hours. NP suggests that wherever money from pool table goes should indicate who pays for new cues. AC believes that bar rents the Pool table and Table football. Will look into it. RF mentions that if there isn't a servicing deal then maybe DCSA can look into purchasing pool table. AC suggests some kind of rack on the wall to prevent damage to cues. Possibly locked. GR and AC both report that porters do not wish to police the pool cues.

Next meeting Tuesday 8th May 2007 at 7.30pm in the Old Library