

Minutes: 19/02/2017

Apologies Sent:

- Peter Winch
- Ramnik Uppal
- Georgia Gridley
- Daniel Walsh
- Isabel Cocker
- Niveditha Yalamarathi
- Reuben Andrews
- Savannah Adeniyan

Unapologetic

- Andrew Carey

1. Rent negotiations

- There will be a 4.2% overall increase, inclusive of a 0.2% upgrade to unlimited Internet
- Small increase in Kitchen Fixed Charge (approximately 1.2%)

2. Housing ballot updates

- The ballot will take place around the 10th-12th of March
- The system this year will be the same as last year, with slight changes
 - o Tutorial cases will need to be declared earlier
- The Scholars Ballot is remaining the same this year, with the intention of reducing Scholars' privilege next year
- *Actions to be taken:*
 - o **Katie** will finalise ballot rules and timeline over the coming week

3. Exec/Officer Updates

President

- Discussed cycle racks at the north end of college at the Bursar's meeting
 - o College has enough money to complete renovations, but action is being delayed because work cannot proceed until Murray Edwards okays the material to be used on the roof
 - o Suggested that we get an eco roof
 - However, this will probably cause further delays
- Freezers in gyp rooms
 - o Talks of trialling them in A-C staircases
 - o Also a possibility of replacing fridges with fridge-freezers
 - However, fridge space is already limited
 - o All future building plans will include space for freezers
- College wants to push D, E and F blocks out into the Huntingdon Road carpark to create accommodation similar to what is currently in A-C
 - o Plans are in the works, but requires money from donors

- *Actions to be taken*
 - o **Carl** will enquire about getting a double-level cycle rack, similar to those in the New Museums Site
 - o **Katie**, if she decides she'd like to take it forward, will approach the Bursar about the eco roof

Vice President

- Been working on housing ballot
- Food and beverage update (*see below*)

Welfare

- Organising events for exam term
- Holding drop-in sessions

Green

- FairTrade formal and Fitz Off are in two weeks time
- Trying to get a speaker for formal

Ents

- Halfway Hall bop went well
- There were not, however, 150-200 people
 - o We estimate less than 70 at the busiest point
 - o Ended early (2300)

BME

- In contact with a few charities that specifically help Year 11 and 12 BME students with university applications
- *Actions to be taken*
 - o **Danielle** will coordinate with **Emily** to encourage more BME students to come to open days

International

- Has emailed about international storage for Scotland and Wales
 - o Carl brought this up, however the Bursar said that there was not enough storage space for internationals
 - o However, internationals would still gain priority and home students would only be able to access storage should there be space leftover
- Has also enquired about what the international college fee is going towards, however has yet to receive a reply
- Last week, held a successful international bar night with Medwards
- *Actions to be taken:*
 - o **Tom** will observe the usage of international storage over Easter break to see whether there is a significant shortage of space

Treasurer

- Has spent the week writing budget with Carl and will present it at the JMA executive meeting on Tuesday
- Has also got cheques for everyone who has spent money on behalf of the JCR

Women's

- Planning women's dinner
 - o Trying to convince people to talk
 - o Some of the first women to matriculate at Fitz will be attending
 - o The Sirens will be singing
- Working on the 'I'm a feminist because' campaign

Target and Access

- *Actions to be taken:*
 - **Emily** will work with **Dan and Andrew** to organise a presentation about giving presentations at schools and to make leaflets on the same topic
 - She will also email Aemilia about BME leaflets on open days and work on the possibility of a Fitz JCR social media (possibly Instagram) account

Websites

- Working on redoing the way the room ballot website works
 - Replaced function-limited password protected regions on the website with a Raven entry point for better security and functionality

4. CUSU Agenda

- CUSU council has to mandate reaffiliation to an organisation every three years
 - No objections to remaining affiliated to UK Council for International Student Affairs or the Cambridge Council to Voluntary Services
- Motion to maintain affiliation to the NUS
 - NUS affiliation fees originally slated at GBP250 have now gone up to GBP 6,000 because NUS misunderstood how CUSU gets money
 - CUSU has a total budget of around GBP900,000 that it obtains both from the university, JCR affiliation fees and raising money independently
 - Council has three options
 - Go back to referendum with new info
 - Let it go through and let Amatey negotiate the amount down
 - He has a date set to meet them
 - Withdraw from NUS through council itself
 - Controversial: referendum mandates to stay within NUS, so now it is technically CUSU's responsibility to deal with the problem
 - Sabbatical officers get free training by the NUS to do their jobs more effectively
- Amendments to CUSU constitution
 - Taken to referendum at the same time as the Sabbatical elections
 - Make changes to the constitutions to make it easier for the Council as a whole to make changes
 - No objections
- Ratify employment contracts for sabbaticals
 - Right now, sabbatical officers work from 10am-4pm, however it is difficult to maintain current structure because some sabbaticals have work that requires less sociable hours, eg when completing projects for deadlines
- No one opposes Carl and Katie not attending CUSU council, as none of the issues directly affect Fitzwilliam

5. Food and Beverage

- Concern about behaviour in formals has been communicated to college
- More care will be taken in the café when it comes to the handling of gluten-free items to prevent cross-contamination and ensure suitability for coeliacs
- *Actions to be taken:*
 - o When he sends buttery feedback next week, **Charlie** will ask the Catering Manager whether he's had time to review and respond to feedback.

6. Accommodation and Housekeeping Feedback

- Societies room above archway is available for student societies to use without booking
 - o However some societies use it until very late at night, and there have been incidents involving the denigration and disrespect of college property
 - o Possible implementation of noise ban after 11PM
- Fining
 - o Housekeeping denies having threatened fines on anyone without good reason (the Housekeeping Manager personally checks this)
 - o They have never fined anyone, though they have a right to do so
 - If a fine is imposed, it has to go through individual tutors
 - o Housekeepers do have a duty to clean the kitchens, and students must be understanding of this, however due to the number of people living in corridors/houses and the nature of Cambridge terms, standards may be difficult to obtain
 - o The relationship between students and housekeepers isn't ideal, as some housekeepers feel unwelcome
- Housekeepers and maintenance sign agreements stating they won't touch personal property and will knock several times before entry
 - o Any violations of this rule should be reported through helpdesk tickets
 - o However, it is not possible for housekeeping/maintenance to give advance notice on when they are coming to make spot checks
- *Actions to be taken*
 - o Investigate the possibility of having porters check up on the societies room during the night-time checking rounds
 - o **Carl** will also look into the possibility of creating some kind of event involved with both housekeepers and students

7. ROTA

- Every term, accommodation and housekeeping struggles to get students to fill in the 'ROTA' form that states when students will be leaving and returning
- *Actions to be taken:*
 - o Put it on Facebook and explain how it is useful to students (l.e. for requesting out-of-term accommodation)
 - Call it 'Request for Out of Term Accommodation' vs ROTA

8. Miscellaneous

- Charlotte would like to get a recycling bin put in the library
 - *Actions to be taken:*
 - **Charlotte** will talk to Chris in the library about the possibility of getting a bin
 - Cost may be able to be covered by the library budget, subject to her approval
 - Otherwise, it can come out of the JCR budget
- Raised possibility of getting a Fitz Snapchat filter
 - *Actions to be taken:*
 - **Tara** will coordinate with **Izzy** to run a design competition in the Goat Post