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**Minutes of the
DCAC Open Meeting**

Monday 14 March 2005, 7.00pm

Prepared for:

JCR Committee 2005-6

Prepared by:

Daniel Jackson
JCR Communications Officer

22nd March 2005

i. Approval of last DCAC Open Meeting minutes

Minutes were approved.

ii. Matters arising from last minutes

None.

iii. Point of information: DCAC Investment Fund

Kat wants to encourage thought about spending £50,000 presently held in the DCAC investment fund.

iv. Announcement from the Ball President

Will is opening up applications for the next ball committee this week, and is going to select the new committee over the holidays.

v. Presentation of DCAC Budget

Emile has reduced the ents allowance by £1000 because they are now almost self-sufficient. This money will go into the depreciation fund.

vi. Approval of minutes of DCAC Emergency Meeting

Minutes were approved.

vii. a) Formation of a Downing College Fair Trade Society

An informal fair trade society has already existed in Downing, but they want to formalise and affiliate the society. They are asking for no money now, but may want money in the future.

VOTE:

42 in favour

0 against

3 abstentions

b) Splitting of the Basketball Club

There are presently women's and men's basketball teams playing in Downing, but they form one club. They would like to split to form separate basketball clubs so that they can have their own budgets and equipment. The clubs won't be sharing balls.

VOTE:

41 in favour

0 against

0 abstentions

c) Establishment of a Dance Society

Downing dancers represent us at university level and above. They have been training as an unofficial society for many years. The coppers competition could give an opportunity for others to get involved if they are interested, but the dance society will not be running dance classes in Downing. They will want to reclaim travel expenses to competitions. They already perform around college e.g. in the Cabaret last term.

VOTE:

45 in favour

0 against

1 abstention

d) Formation of a Downing College Darts Team

A team have started playing matches this year, but they would like to purchase a darts board to go up in the party room.

VOTE:

40 in favour

0 against

5 abstentions

e) Establishment of the Volleyball Team

A team already exists. They have to pay league fees of about £50 a year.

VOTE:

45 in favour

0 against

1 abstention

f) Smoking in the Party Room

Kat introduced a motion to allow smoking in the party room.

Comments: "It's not allowed in clubs because people get stubbed."
"People will do it anyway."
"Is it a good idea to allow smoking just because the rules are being broken?"
"The party room is a small space and so would become very smoky."
"Why can't smokers go outside?"
"It is cold outside."
"You could smoke upstairs."
"The party room is carpeted; smoking will cause damage."

Lachy asked whether college are planning to ban smoking in all public places anyway. College have not given a statement yet.

VOTE:

6 in favour

39 against

3 abstentions

g) Bar Opening Hours

Tom Larsen proposed an amendment to the motion, which was accepted by the proposer. The motion now resolved “to campaign for the bar to stay open until 11.30pm during Easter term”.

Comments: “Could we have a trial week?”

“The windows stay closed, so it is only at kicking out time that noise is a problem”

“People come from the library to catch last orders; they would get an extra half hour of work!”

The present restrictions also apply to graduates. The bar president and bar committee have not expressed their support or disapproval of the motion.

VOTE:

41 in favour

1 against

1 abstention

viii. DCAC Emergency Motions

None.

ix. Any other business

No other business.

Interlude: Gurbinder Singh and his drinks of Dhoom

x. Approval of last JCR Open Meeting minutes

Minutes were approved.

xi. Matters arising from last minutes

None.

xii. Reports from the JCR committee:

a) President

Kat reports a busy term, with the rooms ballot, second round elections and meetings in college taking up most of her time.

b) Vice-President

Tom has been working on the same things as Kat. Tom reports that they also went to CUSU council. He invites the JCR to join them at future CUSU councils.

c) Treasurer

Emile has purchased a load of new ents equipment, and is looking into replacing the basketball nets. He has been trying to formalise the Downing societies that existed unofficially.

d) Academic Affairs

Lachlan has been working on bringing a motion through the JCR about “desk hogging” in the library during exam term. The library will be open until 2am for the Easter term. He wants to extend the current pilot scheme for late opening into the Michaelmas term. He has been meeting with the Education Committee about requests to close the “Applying to Downing” forums when they are not appropriate.

e) Welfare

Prachi reports that, after discussion with college, the physiotherapist will be returning for five weeks of next term. The Emergency Taxi Scheme will also be ready for next term.

f) Communications

Daniel has taken over moderating the JCR forums, website news posts and e-mails sent to the undergraduate lists. He has also been making and putting up posters for various events.

g) Ents

Roger sends his apologies for his absence.

xiii. Questions to entire JCR Committee

No questions.

xiv. JCR Ordinary Motions

a) Establishment of a DVD library

The proposer withdrew motion.

b) Constitutional Changes

There was a discussion about the proposed change to move Freshers' Reps into the ents division.

Comments: "They don't only do ents!"
"The motion is just to increase the ents officers involvement"

Our freshers' reps elect oppose the motion. The motion was changed by the proposers, and voted on separately to the other constitutional changes.

VOTE: Freshers' Reps to remain directly under the JCR President

34 in favour
0 against
6 abstentions

VOTE: All other proposed constitutional changes

30 in favour
0 against
10 abstentions

xv. Emergency Motions

None.

xvi. Any Other Business

No other business.