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Minutes of the DCAC Committee Meeting

9th Oct 2007

Prepared for:

DCAC Committee 2007-8

Prepared by:

Laura Hughes

DCAC Junior Treasurer 2007-8

17th Oct 2007

i. Present

Livvy Brinson (JCR/DCAC President), Amy Goymour (DCAC Senior Treasurer), Laura Hughes (DCAC Junior Treasurer), Lynne Cresswell (MCR Treasurer)

Apologies: Jennie Doolan (MCR President)

ii. Approval of minutes of the last meeting

There were no corrections to the minutes.

iii. 2007/08 Budget

A proposed budget was presented by LH. AG is going to look it over and report back with any queries later in the week before the budget is formally accepted. LH raised a query regarding the DCAC Ents budget being solely spent on MCR events. LC agreed to check with her predecessor and with Jamie Saunders, the latter of whom replied with the email below.

Hi Lynne,

I believe in some previous years the JCR Ents did also receive a subsidy, but because the JCR Ents nearly always ran at a profit, this was never really spent. Because of this it was removed from the budget. The MCR Ents however continued to require a subsidy, and it was decided that in terms of where DCAC money was best spent, some money should continue to be donated (partly because MCR are here all year round, and not everyone lives in College, so their Ents require a little more investment).

It should be noted that this decision was taken after consulting the JCR Ents officer at the time, who said he did not really need any money. If this years JCR Ents officers put in a request for money, I personally feel it should be considered, because many would probably argue it is 'unfair' that DCAC Ents money is spent only on MCR Ents. However it should also be asked why the JCR Ents suddenly need the money – remember that no DCAC money is allowed to be spent, or to subsidise, alcohol.

It was also decided by the previous JCR Committee that because of this arrangement, any profits from DCAC (joint) Ents would be kept by the JCR, and reinvested either in new DCAC Ents equipment, or subsidising future JCR Ents (usually the Garden Party).

I feel that instead of the situation existing where jcr ents are 'supposed' to be self sufficient (as you put it), the situation last year was that the jcr ents 'were' self sufficient, and hence required no subsidy.

This is certainly an issue which could be improved, and the current DCAC Committee/ Treasurer could change if they feel a better budgetary arrangement exists – I look forward to seeing what you decide to do...

Hope this helps, let me know if you need more info, Jamie

iv. JCR Ents

AG was brought up to date on the increasingly worrying situation regarding the JCR Ents team. This included the lack of any accounts being kept since the start of their term in February, the potential loss of £1000 as a consequence, and the lack of a bank account (the current bank account is held in the name of Ed Taylor, the previous Ents Officer, who is now in Africa, and is one of the signatories). LB also updated on the new plans to combine the Ents team and the Bar Committee, and to introduce the Bar President as a member of the senior JCR committee. This would solve some of our financial handling problems, some organisation problems, would stop the competition between the bar and the Ents team and would be a fairer deal for the bar (who struggle to break even at the moment). The downside to this would be the sharing of all Ent profits 50/50 with the bar. The bar are currently holding the takings from the most recent start of term Ent, partly because no one has asked them for the money yet. AG agreed to speak to the one remaining Ents officer, Rachel Thomassen, regarding the accounts and bank account, and LB is going to draw up a formal contract regarding the Ents and bar agreement.

v. Men's Football Kit Request

A request was made by Oliver Carter (Men's Football Captain) in the last few weeks of the summer holidays for some new football kit. The committee agreed by email communication that the purchase could go ahead.

vi. Netball Lost Kit Request

The new captain of the netball team has reported that all of the netball kit (balls and bibs) disappeared from H cellar over the summer, and has requested funding to buy more. The committee agreed that not enough searching had taken place and agreed that funding would not be granted until a proper search had been undertaken and proof of said search presented.

vii. Table Tennis Tables

The issue of the missing table tennis tables was raised again. In the proposed budget the team has been granted enough money to hire out some tables at Kelsey Kerridge. This is not an ideal long-term solution however, and LH will meet with Dick Taplin to clear up the confusion as to whether Downing students are supposed to have free access to tables at Kelsey Kerridge and if not can this be arranged? If not can we look into purchasing some more tables?

viii. TV Licence

LH recently received a letter from the TV licensing authority telling the DCAC we do not have a TV licence. After further investigation it was discovered that the bar has a licence which runs out at the end of October. As every separate building needs a separate licence, this does not cover the TV room, which consequently does not appear to have a licence at all. LC did not think the MCR did either. LC agreed to check the MCR status, and if not covered apply for one, for both the MCR and the TV room (same building). The DCAC will pay 2/3 of the bar's licence again this year. The bar licence is to be applied for by the bar committee.

ix. Next Meeting

The next meeting is to be held three weeks after 9th Oct, on approx Tues 30th Oct. Probably at 6pm.