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Minutes of the
JCR Committee Meeting
Monday 24th November 2008 – 7pm

Prepared For:
Downing JCR Committee 08/09

Prepared By:
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JCR Communications Officer

1. Present:
Dan Chapman (President), Sarah Gibson (Vice President), Andy Campbell Smith (Treasurer), Alasdair McWhirter (Communications), Fielder Camm (Services), Laura Davenport (Academic Affairs), Hannah Salisbury (Griffin), Ben Peirce (Mens Welfare and Equal Opportunities), Ben Goodchild (Internet), Mishal Verjee (International).

2. Apologies:
Tom Owen and Jenni Stuart (Head Freshers Reps), Anna Marsland (Womens Welfare and Equal Opportunities), Ben Copsey (Ents Officer), Matthew Cooper (Griffin), Emma Sherling (Green), James Dibble (Sports), Jack Watson (LBGT), Hannah Perry (Academic),

3. Report on Recent Open Meeting (13/11/08)
 - Went well
 - TCS have been contacted about the article they published with regards complaints about Howard Court.
 - The rent scheme change will not be going through this year. The college will most likely propose the system again with alterations made.

4. Open Meeting discussion of the renovation of Howard Court
 - Dick Taplin addressed the issue well. It was a business decision, and it is hoped the costs will be paid over 5 years. It was thought that, as other colleges were also improving conference accommodation, it was necessary to improve accommodation to Kenny standard.
 - D. T. appreciated that Lensfield had been completely neglected, but piecemeal fixes are not practical. Major projects have to be considered and carried out over the summer vacation in order to improve the Lensfield accommodation gradually.

5. Christmas Formal Bookings:
 - Christmas formal booking will open on tomorrow. It was agreed that, as is the usual, 3rd years would be given priority, and so booking will be opened 30 minutes before in order to all 3rd years to book.

6. Last Night of The Bar:
 - Has had to be moved to Wednesday (3/12) so that it does not clash with the MCR Christmas formal.
 - Last year there was a disagreement with the bar as to how much money the JCR would get. This year, may look into taking £1/2 from the ticket for the JCR.
 - Problem for people who wish to come to the bar on that evening but not drink £12 worth of alcohol. Will talk to the bar committee.
 - Problem that the bar need to be careful as alcohol needs to be left over for Fairbairns dinner on the Friday night.

7. Discussion of Party Room booking system

- Proposal in the Open meeting for a change in the booking system.
 - Didn't like it that Downing Clubs had to pay, especially on weekend mornings, when no one is using the Party Room.
 - Agreed that the possibility of making Saturday and Sundays 9am-12pm free would be considered, once the amount of money being brought in at those times in the past was assessed.
8. Discussion of International Storage:
- Over Christmas it is likely that P cellar would have to be used again.
 - M Verjee going to send out an email requesting people to contact her with damages.
 - B Goodchild offered his room for use over the Christmas period. Also could use T11. D Chapman will discuss it with College.
9. Officers Reports: Vice-president
- Would like to update the photos on the JCR website for accommodation.
 - B. Peirce volunteered to go around the houses and take photographs.
 - Suggested by A McWhirter that a picture of the outside of the accommodation also be added, so people know what the house looks like, and whether it has a drive etc.
10. Officers reports: Treasurer
- Nothing to report
11. Officers reports: Academic
- Nothing to report
12. Officers reports: Services
- Nothing to report
13. Officers reports: Communications
- Nothing to report.
14. Officers reports: Men's Welfare
- Nothing to report
15. Officers Reports: The Griffin
- New issue will be coming out in the next week
16. Any Other Business
- Looking for people to be yearbook editor as well as organisers for Midway dinner.