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Minutes of the
JCR Committee Meeting

Thursday 18th February 2010 – 7pm

Prepared for:

Downing JCR Committee 2010/11

Prepared by:

Erin Young

I. Present

Ali McWhirter (President), Erin Young (Vice-President), Karim Javeri (Treasurer), Louwai Muhammed (Academic Affairs) Emily Wakeford (Ents), Sandy Shanklin and Georgie Erangey (Head F'reps), Sam Turner (Access), Rob Legg (Sports), Helen Picot (Green), Timur Kary Niyazov (International), Samantha Osborne (Women's Welfare), Samantha Hawley (Services)

II. Apologies

Anna Herlihy (Ents), Jonathan Evans (Men's Welfare)

NB. Communications, Internet, Griffins, LBGT and Ethnic Minorities waiting to be filled in second round of elections.

III. Officer Reports and Questions to the JCR

a) President:

- The date for second round nominations for the JCR Committee has been set for 25th February. Hustings will be held on 4th March, and elections for the unfilled positions will take place on 5th March.
- Ali requests that the committee email him photos of themselves for the JCR website.
- At the next meeting, a DCAC Open Meeting must be organised, with a minimum of 40 students attending.

b) Vice President:

- The room ballot is now finished and went smoothly.
- People still need to sign up for the CUSU elections on Friday 26th. We should collectively make more Downing students aware of CUSU.
- Erin asks whether the committee think Downing should purchase bike lights which are now available in bulk from CUSU; the committee decides not to.

c) Ents:

- The Downing Ents Facebook group is now up and running.
- Emily asks whether the committee think that clubs and organisations not run by Downing students should have to pay to use the Ents space, the Party Room; the committee do not think they should.
- A diary system has been put in place, which will be sent to Conferencing and a copy to the P'lodge at the beginning of each week so that both parties know when the Party Room is in use.
- Emily requests that shelves be put up in the Ents cupboard.

d) Women's Welfare:

- Trying to involve Downing in the peer support scheme which provides certain students with training for an hour a week on how to help others combat stress.

e) Services:

- The TV room has been painted.

f) Head Freshers Reps:

- Applications to be a Freshers Rep are now open to the first years.

- Georgie and Sandy are in constant contact with catering, and are in touch with last year's Head Freshers Reps for guidance.
- g) Access:
- Planning talks with schools organised with Access.
 - Planning to offer a Q&A service for potential students.
- h) Academic Affairs:
- A self-service system for the library is being looked into, with a view to implementing the system as soon as possible.
 - The Downing website will soon include different sections for each subject offered, providing more information to potential students. Information on the new A*AA standard offer will also be added.
- i) Treasurer:
- There are serious talks about getting rid of the water-cooler in the library, despite the students need for it, especially in exam term.
 - The bar would like to purchase another TV screen, exclusively to be used there.
- j) Green:
- The temporary double glazing film has now been ordered. Helen will check with the Dean as to when it will be fitted.
 - In order to encourage Downing students to save energy, talks by Emma Green will be publicised.
- k) Sports:
- Rob asks whether it would be possible that the student holding the Sports Officer position should also be made a Griffin, although a non-voting member.
 - In the process of gathering information about Sport in Downing, such as the captains and fixtures.
- l) International:
- In touch with other International officers for information on how their International Storage systems run.

IV. Any Other Business

- Midway Dinner made a profit this year, but the organisers are unsure about how to use the money. The committee decided that an email will be sent to the second years informing them that the profit will be donated to charity. Students may email back if they would prefer to be reimbursed with the amount due to them.