

St Catherine's College Middle Common Room

Open Meeting Minutes

Sunday 12th June 2016
at 1930 in the MCR

In attendance:

33 MCR Members in total

Executive Committee Members Present:

Julian Malisano - Co-President (Meeting Chair)

William Beuckelaers – Co-President

Florian Zobel – Social Secretary

Phil Earp – Secretary

Christoph – IT and Publicity Officer



Minutes taken by MCR Secretary, Phil Earp

I. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

Minutes Approved

II. Selection of charities for Garden Party Raffle

Proposals for each of the four charities were read out. Votes were taken by a show of hands:

The Bumblebee Conservation Trust – 10 votes

One-Eighty – 13 votes

Keen Oxford – 1 vote

Red Squirrel Survival Trust – 1 vote

The proceeds from the raffle at the MCR garden party will be donated to One-Eighty.

The first prize for the raffle will be High Tea for two at Quod on High St. Runner up prizes to be announced.

III. Changing Guest Dinner Signup Rules

The plan is to allocate 15 spots to guests at each guest dinner. At exchange dinners, these places will go to the exchange guests. For people bringing guests, there will be a ballot, weighted by a probability which depends on how successful you have been in the ballot through the year. This will encourage people who are less active in the MCR to become more involved, whilst at the same time there is still a probability of active members getting a space.

It is planned to change the Week 1 and 8 guest dinner to have no guest spaces – potentially rename this to the ‘Black Tie Dinner’?

The standard priority pass will be eliminated, but the advance pass will remain unchanged.

A. Q&A (Julian Malisano)

Q: Can we increase the number of people at guest dinner?

A: No, hall is inundated with the SCR guest night on Fridays so could not serve more high-table food.

Q: Could we change the day of the guest dinner?

A: I can ask hall, but it’s something for them to decide – we obviously would have a vote on any changes.

Q: Can we still use advance priority passes on the exchange dinners?

A: That is the plan, yes.

Q: If there isn't enough demand for regular members at the Black Tie Dinners (for example in Trinity Term), would tickets be re-released to be available for guests?

A: That would be a sensible suggestion, yes.

Q: Could we move the signup one day earlier so people have more time to plan?

A: Concern is that people are busy on Saturdays, but this needs more thought.

Q: Can you confirm these changes are only for people who are bringing guests? Will it remain first-come-first-served in this case?

A: Yes.

Q: What happens to MCR members who are not selected in the ballot?

A: They will automatically be considered in the usual (sign-up time based) system.

Overall, the plans need more thought in places – thanks to everyone for their input to the discussion

IV. Update on increasing food charges effective MT 2016.

Food charges are increasing by 1.5 % with effect from Michealmas Term 2016

V. AOB