



St Catherine's College Middle Common Room

Open Meeting

Minutes

Sunday, 23 November 2025 at 7:00pm

Hybrid: Middle Common Room, Ainsworth Graduate Centre and via Microsoft Teams

1. General Business

Item	Led By	Related Documents
1.1 Welcome	Co-presidents	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 25 MCR members present. 		
1.2 Approval of previous Open Meeting Minutes	Co-presidents	Page 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes approved. 		
1.3 Stash Font	Co-Presidents	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Item added by MCR Merchandising Officer, unable to attend meeting. Led by co-presidents. Merchandising Officer not happy with the lettering on the most recent stash gear, felt it was inconsistent. Raised issue with Redbird, they said they can't fix it unless the font is changed. Proposed alternative font to adopt for future stash orders. <p>Discussion</p> <p>Q1: <i>Can we request water bottles?</i> A1: There is a form on the MCR website to request specific items.</p> <p>Q2: <i>If we change the font, is it guaranteed that the stitching will improve?</i> A2: Not guaranteed, but probably going to be better quality, if still subpar would raise that again.</p> <p>Vote</p> <p>Approved by majority to change font.</p>		
1.4 Earn with Us Initiative (Stash)	Co-Presidents	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Item added by MCR Merchandising Officer, unable to attend meeting. Led by co-presidents. MCR was signed up to RedBird initiative "Earn with Us" without knowing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 1: For every item purchased, MCR gets £2; or Option 2: Receive a discount code that gives £2 off each item. Currently signed up for Option 1. Raised about £500 last stash drop. Initially, we weren't sure if we could accept, but college confirmed we could and class it as a 'charitable donation'. Wanted to see what the MCR as a whole thinks—whether to continue with Option 1 or change to Option 2. If staying with Option 1, would reinvest money raised back into MCR events/services. <p>Discussion</p> <p>Q1: <i>Will we get the £2 if people don't use the discount code?</i> A1: No, can only have one or the other, not both. If we sign up to Option 2 and the discount code is not used, the £2 disappears.</p>		

Vote:

Majority voted to stay with Option 1.

2. Motions

Item	Proposed By	Related Documents
2.1 Charity motion to donate £50 to SolidariTee	Hannah Fuchs	Page 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hannah has volunteered with SolidariTee for 4 years. • Explained purpose of SolidariTee (aims to create long-lasting change, improve refugees' treatments, raise awareness, outreach, funds for partner NGOs, ongoing crisis in Greece, dependent on fundraising, legal aid and psychological aid) • Recent changes in UK, increasingly hostile environment, propose to donate £50 to SolidariTee. • £50 is enough to support NGO office three weeks, fund information sessions, reach hundreds of people. • SolidariTee has teams all over, including in oxford, always happy for more people to get involved. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p>Q1: <i>Is this individual, or part of a broader drive with other colleges?</i> A1: Coming as an individual, but will approach other colleges, aim to get the word out.</p> <p>Q2: <i>(Treasurer) Not sure if we can practically do this, apparently bound by legislation, expenditure only to benefit students.</i> A2: Can make it motion for MCR to buy five posters, would still result in £50 going from MCR to SolidariTee.</p> <p><u>Vote</u></p> <p>Motion passed (1 abstained).</p>		
2.2 Photo and Video Rep for the MCR	Val Michael	Page 7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking to introduce a committee role responsible for taking photos at social events at St Catz, posting on Instagram, MCR website, etc. • Benefit is that people want documentation, this helps to show how sociable we have been as a college. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <p>Q1: <i>How will this overlap with the digital rep?</i> A1: Their focus is on posters and digital material. Plus, this stops them having to be at every event.</p> <p>Q2: <i>Would you take the role?</i> A2: Yes.</p> <p><u>Vote</u></p> <p>Motion passed (unanimous).</p>		
2.3 Replacing Gender-Based Welfare Officer Representatives with a Team-Based Approach	Welfare Officers	Page 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed to make team-based approach—replace male/female specific roles with broad team roles. • Inclusion of LGBTQ+, reflect diverse needs, move away from binary assumptions, enhance inclusivity and accessibility. • Practically, will improve support capacity with multiple points of contact, reduces pressure on individuals, rotating duties. 		

- Intend to retain LGBTQ+ rep.
- *(Co-president noted that the welfare team is bigger than welfare reps—includes nurse, counsellor, junior deans, etc—the reps aren't really welfare trained. Additionally, from a practical perspective, need to look at who is applying for the roles)*
- *(Treasurer noted that there are no gender requirements for any other role)*

Discussion

Q1: *Will it still have 'diverse' members of the team?*

A1: That would be good, but it depends on who runs for the roles. This year and last year, there has been no male welfare rep. It is a challenge to attract males to run for the role. Even having a designated male role doesn't always end up with that.

Vote

Motion passed (unanimous).

2.4 | Amend the Constitution to Remove the Requirement for Regular Committee Meetings

Joe Foster

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- Article 9 of the MCR Constitution creates a requirement for both regular and whole committee meeting.
- Proposal is to remove the necessity to have a regular committee meeting apart from the whole committee meeting.
- Regular committee could still call one if they wanted but wouldn't be obligated to do it.
- Whole committee is everyone on the Committee, Regular Committee is everyone in the Committee who isn't on the Executive Committee.
- *(Co-president noted that this proposal is committee specific, probably doesn't make a lot of sense to the broader MCR)*

Discussion

Q1: *What does the Regular Committee think?*

A1: (Members of Regular Committee) The less time we unnecessarily spend in meetings, the better. Anything that we would need to raise would need to be raised with the Executive Committee anyway. Don't really need a Regular Committee meeting separate from the whole Committee meeting.

Vote

Motion passed (19 votes)

3. Any Other Business

Item	Led By	Related Documents
3.1 N/A		

Meeting opened: 7:10pm

Meeting closed: 7:48pm