Liaison Committee Meeting – 20th January 2010

1.1 Attendance

Oli McFarlane, TCSU President
Sarah Leiper, TCSU Vice-President
Alex Sault, TCSU Secretary
Alyson Thompson, BA Society President
Dr Rod Pullen, Junior Bursar
Mr Rory Landman, Senior Bursar
Prof Grae Worster, Senior Tutor
Prof Kevin Gray, the Dean
Prof. Hilton, the Steward
Joel Cabrita

1.2 Apologies

Jo Miles
Rev Alice Goodman
Sascha Morrell, BA Society Liaison
Alastair Sloan, BA Society Secretary

2.1 Minutes

Minutes of last meeting accepted.

2.2 Matters Arising from Minutes

No matters arising.

3 Matters arising from College Council

Trinity Street Post Office

The Post Office managed an almost uninterrupted service over the Christmas period. The old tenants decided to leave the premises, but new temporary tenants have been found, and the Post Office closed only for a few days whilst the changeover between old and new took place. It is thought that this year will see the permanent relocation of the Post Office to Jesus Lane. This will not happen, however, for at least three months.

4 Matters arising from the Junior Bursar

Kitchen Renovation

The snow over the Christmas period and longer than expected Archaeological investigations had delayed work. The unexpected work in the Bakehouse Yard is still creating noise. As such, the rent reduction of 10%, which was offered to residents of staircase I New Court last term, will be extended to those living in K and L as well. This work is being completed by outside contractors, as it relates to the electricity supply in central Cambridge, and as such is outside of the College’s control.

Fire Equipment

There have been a number of incidents recently in which fire equipment has been tampered with. The Dean wishes to remind the students that this is not only against College rules, but is also a serious offence according to the Fire and Rescue Service. Anybody caught tampering with the fire equipment is simply too dangerous to have in the community and as such will be Sent Down. The Dean, TCSU and the BA Society are to collaborate in notifying students that tampering with fire equipment is not to be tolerated.
Action: The Dean, TCSU and BA Society to send emails to the student body.

Wolfson Lift

The doors of the Wolfson lift became jammed at the end of last term because the doors came off their runners. This results from the blocking of the doors – presumably when students are trying to keep the doors open whilst emptying their rooms. TCSU noted that students are unaware that blocking the doors can cause such problems. The JB should thus email the students to inform them. A key is available for use by TCSU to lock the doors open when moving heavy equipment or drinks to and from the WPR – they are to use this in future.

Action: JB to email students.

Bikes

Another bike cull is to occur soon. Bikes that appear to be unused will be taken to the farm where they will stay for six months. If they are not claimed, they will be donated to charity.

University Card Replacement

Previously, the College has not charged for the replacement of stolen cards, but has charged for the replacement of damaged cards. This is the opposite of the University policy, which College is now adopting.

Possessions Insurance

Currently, the College accepts no liability for items in College rooms. It is possible, however, that insurance could be introduced for possessions in student rooms. This would be a compulsory, flat-rate on top of the room charge. TCSU and BA Society requested further information regarding pricing and the type of cover on offer. They will then ask the student body whether this is something that would interest them.

Action: JB to provide further information.

TCSU and BA Society to consult students.

5 Matters arising from the Steward

Bar

Prof. Hilton has now returned from sabbatical. Due to this and the kitchen renovations, plans for the bar have thus been on hold. However, some improvements have been made. The food service in the Bar at lunchtimes has proved very popular, and made the Bar a social centre of College life. TCSU reported that students are very pleased with the new location of the buttery inside the bar. It was suggested that the Bar Committee meet prior to completion of the Kitchens to discuss the changeover period.

6 Matters arising from TCSU

Elections

The TCSU elections are taking place on 29th January.

WPR Renovation

Works have started in the WPR to enlarge the bar. Plans are also being finalised about the future running of WPR Events. The Catering Department have agreed to oversee operation of the bar. TCSU will continue to choose the drinks menu and will handle pricing. The Catering Department would like to split profits after covering bar costs. TCSU President notes that this is still under negotiation, as TCSU also have essential running costs.
7 Matters arising from the B.A. Society

Portugal Street Residents’ Association

The first meeting with Bidwells was a success and positive reports have come from both sides. The BA Society is glad that the lines of communication are now established and open.

BA Rooms Renovation

The BA Society wish to thank the Works Department for all their help in updating the BA Rooms. Progress has slowed slightly as the Works Department have been unable to provide all services needed, but the renovation is still going strong.

8 AOB

Liaison Committee Minutes

The minutes of Liaison Committee meetings are to be put online. TCSU Secretary can provide Minutes for the last twelve months.

Alexandra Sault, 22nd January 2010