



## Executive Committee Meeting - 09-10-2020

Attendance: SWC (President), MW (FCO), MP (VP), SS (Social Chair), JS (PG&M), ES (Senior Welfare), BT (JCR Chair), TB (Sports & Socs), RM (PR Officer), MF (Facilities), ER (Librarian)

Apologies: LB (Outreach Chair)

Absent: -

Location: A Zoom Call

Agenda:

Updates (SWC)

Michaelmas Ball replacement? (SWC)

Bar (SWC)

Engagement (SWC)

Participation Fund (MW)

Heaters for the library (MW)

Bar Steward JCR Membership (BT)

AOB



## Updates (SWC)

SWC EE has officially resigned, so this will be advertised soon. Does anyone need help with anything/have any urgent updates? From my perspective not much has changed, have been working with the SU and JS (who is now chair of PresComm)

MF When can livers out come into college? Gym will likely open soon

SWC Still unclear. Could be phased re-entry, potentially with Bar first. I will emphasise the strong organisation of our Facilities and Library.

MP I'm organising Cuth's Sliders, potentially TB can help me advertise these. I'm here to help others if needed

MF College Facilities have given go ahead with college gyms, so setting that up.

ER I need help with moving some COVID-19 protection screens from Brooks Bar to the Library. We have contacted Hild Bede about this. Overall things look ready to go. I don't want to open without the screens. We may need to walk the screens across, and I'll need volunteers for this.

JS I've been to lots of meetings, and organised a lot behind the scenes, but I think I don't need any help right now. Just remember to post things to the PG page if needed, it might be worth people just popping in.

BT Me and AW (SRO) have considered doing Method II elections in meetings, currently investigating online voting options. This could increase engagement. I would also like to have an easier option to send the exec questions.

TB We could organise that in a similar way to how we organise Welfare supply forms.

RM When we fill the role of Webmaster they can help

ES Sorting out campaigns team right now, been doing a couple of teams calls. Nothing too major, just thinking about how we can do bookable drop in sessions, I may need assistance about this. Had some email issues but nothing major

RM Been doing the newsletter, I have an oven-ready SU Comm application form. Been to as many SU meetings as possible. They are also having a Student Trustee consultation soon. I have housing stuff to organise.

ES The SU are doing a cross college housing campaign launching in late October

SS Been organising online events. Could use a hand with sorting applications, had very few applications.

MW Been quite free since Freshers' Week, if you need help please let me know.

SWC Can you contact the website people about membership? We need a section on the website that can only be accessed with a log-in due to GDPR Complaints, potentially we could put minutes behind it.

MW We could do it somehow linked to the Levy payment. We can discuss this in more detail later.



TB A lot of this week has been responding to emails. Don't have all in the info on return to play.

### Michaelmas Ball replacement? (SWC)

SWC Sadly Michaelmas Ball will likely not take place, we could designate an evening where people dress up and do a live stream. For livers in we could do some sort of Pizza thing

SS One of the suggestions I got from Social Comm would be an outdoor event, and we could do booking in households, ran across multiple nights within the marquee spaces. I feel like Zoom can be more depressing than good. I would rather try and put something on in person across multiple nights. It could be very competitive for tickets. It could be good for the bar. Operation could be similar to Freshers' Week. It's optimistic to think rules will relax by then. An issue I see is that COVID restrictions mean going to bars is more limiting than staying home.

MW & ER Agree

TB How does this work for Students who live with no other Cuth's people?

SS Haven't thought of that. No clear solution to it. Outdoors you can meet in groups of 6, we could need outdoor heaters. Russian Winter theme can encourage people to stay warm.

SWC Could be a good idea, could be horrific if it rains.

MW Ski Social themed? Very Durham, very on brand, very Bailey hot choc

TB Could be a Christmas theme? Winter Cuths' Day?

SWC Catering could be an issue, food vans could be a solution, just doubt college will take this on. We'll have to sit people at tables as they will mix around otherwise. What Ents could they do?

SS Basically no Ents just have a creative drink

JS Is this not against advice at the very least?

TB We could have housemates from other colleges in to make sure that we let people from households come?

SWC We could hold this over multiple weeks if needed, if not every single person can come that isn't any different from other years. SS please talk to Bar and college about this, I'll mention it to college management. As long as we don't break the law



## Bar (SWC)

SWC The Bar isn't the JCR, but I am worried for them, they aren't getting much business as Freshers do not have an emotional connection to them. Hopefully this will be fixed when Livers-Out come in. Have a think about how we could encourage Freshers to come in.

SS We could have an Oktoberfest event. Needs to be something that they can't have at home.

ER Might be worth talking to Bar steward, he's looking to get another beer pump.

SS College can be sceptical of overly alcoholic festivals, but other colleges have similar things so potentially we could do so. Could use reserves to fund some incentives to go.

## Engagement (SWC)

MW Levy numbers are quite good, nearing 300, may well be better than last years' total.

SWC General worry of engagement remains, Bar lack of engagement is telling

ER Lots of first years applied for Library

SWC Method II positions in meetings will hopefully help. AW mentioned that we could even do an in bar JCR meeting. Exec may not even need to be there.

TB We could use the Marquee or Bar for this.

SWC For interviews, let me and MP know when you want to hold applications, hopefully you will have all been given a rubric in your handover. This will likely be a running agenda point through the year.

MW

## Participation Fund (MW)

MW I believe we should increase the participation fund. It makes expensive sports & socs more accessible. People who reach out are always serious.

RM Last year I think the fund was poorly advertised.

SWC We could make it a form.

MW That would potentially be less intimidating. I also would not use an application window

TB Specifically this year, a rolling system might make more sense.

SWC We usually don't have a rolling system because we prioritise Cuth's sports then give the rest to DU Sports, a deadline avoids a first come first served basis.

MW I think deadlines makes it less accessible



JS From personal experience I did DU Baseball, costs often come unexpectedly, if we open it to DU sport deadlines don't work.

MW We could cap it, as a % of the overall subs, or a flat fee. We could also do soft deadlines. I will do number crunching for this.

### Heaters for the library (MW)

MW Library is cold, we should heat it up, it'll be less than £300. I will check with College Operations for health and safety.

Consensus is that we should do so

### Bar Steward JCR Membership (BT)

BT Bar Steward wants JCR membership, should he get it for free?

MW In some ways he's a 4<sup>th</sup> year and he did pay in First year.

SWC It wouldn't be a huge loss to give him Sabbatical Membership. We could put this in a motion.

BT This may have to be conditional that they were in Cuth's as a Student.

MW Could be associate membership no matter who they are, or change sabbatical to include them even though it isn't a JCR position.

### AOB

SWC I am in 2 minds as to if we should post something as to why we haven't lowered levy yet. This includes complaints from 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years. I don't believe that anyone is currently disadvantaged

Consensus opposes posting it unprovoked.

ES Who do minority reps report to currently?

SWC At the moment I technically chair it. By nature I am only there to facilitate their work.

\*Meeting Adjourned\*