



Lincoln College MCR  
General Meeting  
Wednesday 27 April 2016 (Trinity Term)

### Agenda

#### 1. President's Welcome

Annual fund applications were accepted. Got lots of money coming out way  
LC Noise

-Email sent, detailing stuff going on. Env health officer from Oxford has been pursuing. Come to conclusion that building itself is sufficient. Wine café is too loud. City council is continuing to make measurements to make sure that they are keeping their word by turning down noise. Fill out the OCC form to make sure your issues are formalized.

-Four new associate members from senior tutor meeting

-Librarian survey: detailing everything we asked. Big 3 – seating, hot drinks, opening hours. Our task is to get the feeling on these three issues. Floor opens.

\*We can now drink coffee, but only in the right cup. Their fear is that they will have to struggle to enforce the bodlean “keep cup” rule.

“is it any lid up” – no.

“where do we purchase” – Bod

“Cost is 5.50 GBP”

“When” – unclear. Likely to start Michaelmas. Ultimately the college has the power here.

\*Seating – TT has lots of library people. Can you leave stuff? No. Idea proposed that we can pink slip someone. This gives license to shove people off. This seems open to corruption, and JCR doesn't like it.

“Who does the pink slipping” – Librarian

“How long?” – 1 hour. The librarian must do it. “can we have a more rigorously enforced system where we have the librarian fix check you out.” No.

“You should have a parking clock system like Switzerland” – yes this country tends to run very efficiently, much like Germany.

“We will have to have more discussion”

\*24 hour library scheme? In practice the library doesn't really close until 3, opens up at 6, so it is only 3 hours. MCR doesn't seem to care about that.

#### 2. Treasurer's Report

Josh – Money is all good. New croquet kit, we are going to need to get a key from lodge to use it. Shared with JCR. That is all.

### 3. Secretary's Report

Housing ballot is over subscribed. JCR is unhappy. Housing brochure needs more people to submit stuff.

### 4. Welfare Report

Movie night tomorrow. StarWars with pizza. Welfare tea Friday. Lincoln for life funding for the away day. Put it in your diary. Talia tried pilates on Tuesday, people did not come, to any of the time. So maybe no pilates, but email rose if you've got a hankering to do the pilates.

### 5. Social Report

Party Saturday. Emily Carr. This should be sweet. Lots of booze. Help setting up! We'll send out another reminder.

Another MCR Lunch on Tuesday. Lots of interest in Wine tasting exchanges. We will try to diversify, so you may only get one tasting. Our home exchange will hopefully be more than the 15 allocated to the other legs. We do outnumber the other MCRs so that is an issue potentially.

### 6. Elections

- **Contested**

- **Social Rep**

- **Jess Milligan x**

- **Nominated by Rose Mortimer**
      - **Seconded by Michael Ben Yehuda**
      - Economics MPhil – I run fun activities. I was captain of my hockey team, which was mostly social. I founded a Russian society and socialized there. I was a management consultant, and I made them have fun. Very militant about fun. I want to bring gin and elderflower jello shots to Emily Carr. Lets celebrate Shakespeare's death, that's always fun.

- **Lucie Kaempfer x**

- **Nominated by Glenn Cahilly-Bretzin**
      - **Seconded by Michael Ben Yehuda**
      - English DPhil – spends lots of lonely time in library, wants to spend free time doing some socializing. From Switzerland! College system is very new, wants to see the behind the scenes. I like to party and party as a team!

- **Grace Turner x**

- **Nominated by Alexandra Kennedy**
      - **Seconded by Liam Elliott**
      - Chem DPhil – its great to come to college with active social calendar, and met lots of lovely people. Now I can get involved.

- **Hilke Gudel – eliminated ballot 1**

- **Nominated by Sarah Hastings Rudolf**
      - **Seconded by Oliver Flaeschner**
      - MPhil European politics – I was helped to come from Germany by the social team. I would have some ideas, slightly nervous about going to events, lets try to get as many people as possible. A "refreshers" week at the beginning of Hillary term. I think we should have a say in the theme of Emily Carr. I am now wearing a witch hat, and we can have costume workshops. We'll have the best costume ever. If you like my hat, vote for me.

- **Aisling Leow x**

- **Nominated by Daniel Rowe**
- **Secoded by Michael Ben Yehuda**
- Politics DPhil and I've been here forever. I know a lot of people in college, and know a lot of things about the way that college works for this reason. I would really like to merge with the environment rep to have a "tye-dye" vestment party! The oxford imps, the footlights in Cambridge. We should go see that comedy at the wheatsheaf. This is stuff that I really like to do, so if you vote for me that would be great.
- **Food Rep**
  - **Skaiste Aleksandraviciute**
    - **Nominated by Glenn Cahilly-Bretzin**
    - **Secoded by Daniel Rowe**
    - DPhil linguistics – I spend a lot of time for MCR, I have been here for 5 years. I have a really good relationship with the kitchen staff. Listing them by name. I can talk to them all the time. Let me be the advocate for you because of my personal relationship for them. Solmeng has done a great job, and I would like to try to make it as good as he has done. So vote for me. Adds: Guest night, we should find a way to have these.
  - **Alexandra Kennedy x**
    - **Nominated by Grace Turner**
    - **Secoded by Mia Brun**
    - MPhil in English – If you want to know how I feel about Lincoln food, look at my jean size. Brunch lunch and dinner fan. I am open to suggestions. My thoughts about food. Food waste – we need to figure about what we do with this. Veggie meals – we should have improvements in this regard. Eager to hear your concerns!
- **Environmental Rep**
  - **Jay Patel**
    - **Nominated by Henry-Martin Demasco**
    - **Secoded by Andre Nemeth**
    - DPhil in physics. I would like to focus on divestment. We need to have grad accommodation fixed. LED Lightbulbs. I will force the college to change these things. Updating its windows. See where we can save energy. Where do we buy them, use the money from the fossil fuel investments. There is still a great deal of lag from college and get up to the modern times! Sure it will take time, but we should put that money into things. Cotton bags that say Lincoln on them as a reusable things.
  - **Sophia Koepke – Dropped out**
    - **Nominated by Andre Nemeth**
    - **Secoded by Aisling Leow**
  - **Holly Hathrell x**
    - **Nominated by Alexandra Kennedy**
    - **Secoded by Carrie Talbot**
    - I am Holly, I have so many ideas. All the ideas. Sea levels are rising people, get on this information. I have a personal plan – veggie pledge for November, we should be doing this. Film screening. More veggie meals. Social team! No waste weeks! No buy weeks! Make due and mend. Have more options in town, the charities shops, the coop cafes and things, the food reps, the sustainable food sure. Can we go pick our

own veg! Yes! Swap shop and move out garbage disposal. Fill out our bookshelf. Make less waste. Set up bike coop. Recycled bikes. Accommodate – better info graphics for what we can recycle. Battery waste is key. Divestment is so key. We should get out of this, its ridiculous. This needs to get fixed. Green living, green Lincoln.

- Question from Aisling:
  - Are you prepared for college to say no.
    - HH – yes. I would like to do things that are long-term solutions, but also small things.
    - JP – “we are better than college, so they should listen to us”
- **Sports Rep – Unprecedented Tie! We will have two sports reps (after rapid motion by Kevin).**
  - **Arutyun Arutyunyan x**
    - **Nominated by Adam Steel**
    - **Seconded by Fabian Gunzinger**
    - DPhil materials – People love that. I am the sports rep at the three unis that I have been to, so I know the responsibilities of this. Awareness, involvement and management. We need to be aware of the sports, where and when these are... This should be on the website. We should have more involvement, a freshers fair like event for instance, get them actually talking. Management. We can have someone as a manager, and that’s what would do
  - **Tom Pert x**
    - **Nominated by Josh Abbott**
    - **Seconded by Lars Gladhaug**
    - I am a rugby player. That’s why I am standing here. I want there to be more information about the sports teams. If I were elected I would want to be the person to get the information for this. We have underwater hockey, who knew? Not me. I will meet with the captains of all of the sports teams. We should have engagement with the social team, watching the rugby, or playing JCR and MCR thigns. That’s what we should do.

#### Voting for contested positions.

- **Uncontested**
  - **Academic Rep**
    - **Heather Mann**
      - **Nominated by Michael Ben Yehuda**
      - **Seconded by Tom Pert**
      - MPhil in history – I will host conversazion. I will also create an open arena for the problems that want to take to college. I don’t know that we have what things to have. Seminar series with external speakers. Internal and external speakers. I would like to do this in Hillary. History idea – they do a DPhil/thesis writing morning, but extended into open space for proofing and stuff. Social study time. Sometimes library is lonely. Sometimes the MCR isn’t great. Lets motivate eachother through this thesis. Tea and biscuits. Lets do it.
      - **Heather wins over RON**
  - **Charities Rep**
    - **Beatrice Montedoro**
      - **Nominated by Henry-Martin Demasco**

- **Seconded by Francois Lavergne**
- DPhil English – I have been on the team for two years, and I would like to take the lead and do it properly! I have much experience. I would like to mix it up by getting more hands on activities. If you would like to suggest charity for afternoon volunteering etc. Extra event, open mic night as a fundraiser. Food collection, clothing collection. People need to join the team!
- **Diversity Rep**
  - **Elise Maes**
    - **Nominated by Annina Graedel**
    - **Seconded by Rose Mortimer**
    - Second year in MPhil and next year DPhil. This has never been filled so I can set up a whole new platform. I will do my best to represent us all. I'm a peer supporter, so you can talk to me about that. I would like to see more diversity in the hall portraits! I want to do consent and racial workshops.
- **LGBTQ Rep**
  - **Alex Foley**
    - **Nominated by Rose Mortimer**
    - **Seconded by Michael Ben Yehuda**
    - DPhil pathology – Twenty-three years being gay, pretty good at it. Five years in brighton, that's pretty gay. I'd love to carry on being gay. Stelios did a great job, I'll let him keep doing that. Film nights, queer history, things like that. Learn about what we've been doing for ages. Doing some queer lit reading group, and take it really slow. Vote for me because you don't have any other options!
- **Open for nomination**
  - **IT Rep**

## 7. Motions

### Motion 1 – Granting Laura Perrins Honorary Membership of the MCR

#### **This MCR notes that:**

As a member of Simon's team behind the bar at Deep Hall, Laura is a valued member of Lincoln College and contributes a great deal to college life. Having been at Lincoln for a great many years, Laura has dedicated countless evenings to serving the MCR.

Simon has been awarded Honorary Membership to Lincoln MCR and JCR in recognition of his service to our common rooms, but Laura - despite her many hours of dedicated service in Deep Hall - has not.

#### **This MCR believes that:**

Laura plays an important role in the postgraduate social scene and deserves Honorary Membership of the MCR.

#### **This MCR therefore resolves to:**

Authorise the MCR Executive Committee to issue Laura with an Honorary Membership certificate.

Proposed: Kevin Ray; Seconded: Nico Kist.

Kev – She does sterling work serving us, and she should be recognized for her hard work.

“What does this mean” – we give them a certificate that says we like them, and they can turn up to our events, and not be charged a guest ticket price

Vote: Many Yays , none opposed, two abstaining

**Motion 2 - Updating College investment policy regarding fossil fuels****This MCR notes that:**

1. There is a general consensus that only a small proportion of the world's fossil fuel reserves can safely be burned without risking irreversible climate change.
2. In light of this, there is now a global movement for divestment from fossil fuels, endorsed not only by organisations like the United Nations and individuals such as Barack Obama, but also by financial institutions – including the World Bank, the Bank of England, and Standard and Poor's – that warn that markets have so far failed to adjust to this fact, leading to a 'carbon bubble' that could leave investors in oil, gas, and coal 'stranded' when the value of these commodities collapses.
3. Many higher education institutions have divested from fossil fuels, including Stanford, the Universities of Warwick and Edinburgh, and the LSE – which has divested from oil sands and coal, and pledged not to invest directly in any fossil fuels in the future.
4. The University of Oxford does not currently invest in coal or oil sands, and as of May 2015, is committed to avoiding any future direct investments in either.
5. In June 2015, Wolfson College made the decision to mirror University policy, and divested from companies that derived a majority of their revenue from the exploration, ownership or extraction of thermal coal and oil sands.
6. The College's current position on divestment – following MCR and JCR motions calling for College to stop investing in fossil fuel companies, and a joint motion to the Finance Committee calling for investor engagement and divestment from coal – is:
  - a. that the College's two Investment Managers will be asked by the Bursar to calculate the exposure to fossil fuel investments on a biannual basis;
  - b. that the Sustainability Committee will continue to monitor and explore possibilities for steadily shifting investments away from carbon-intensive assets and toward low-carbon opportunities.
7. In August 2015, the College's cumulative investment in fossil fuels and oil and gas amounts to approximately £683,000 – or 2% of the college's total investment.

**This MCR believes that:**

1. Divestment can act to temper consumption of fossil fuel reserves in two ways:
  - a. by directly reducing the funds – and therefore activities – of fossil fuel companies;
  - b. by setting an example for other consumers and investors.
2. It is important to discuss divestment vis-à-vis Oxford colleges, and not just the University, as their combined endowment of £3.8 billion is roughly 4.5 times larger than that of the University, and could have significant impact according to 1a.
3. If College were to divest, this would encourage divestment not only within the college system at Oxford, but also more broadly, given its status as an institution at a university with a global reputation, as in 1b.
4. Divestment from fossil fuels would be an act of responsible investment that would mitigate risks of irreversible climate change, and of being 'stranded' in the future.
5. Divesting would not be out of line with College's obligations as a charity, because:
  - a. there is no significant financial detriment to divestment, and;
  - b. the College could lose support from potential beneficiaries – specifically, current students and alumni – if it does not invest ethically in this way.

**This MCR therefore resolves to:**

1. Petition College, together with the JCR, to take concrete steps to divest from fossil fuels, including but not limited to:
  - a. Updating their investment policy on this issue, following the example of other higher education institutions, using the University's policy as a minimum standard;
  - b. Communicating this change to the College's investment managers;
  - c. Publicly announcing divestment on the College website, through a news article or other appropriate means;
  - d. Actively working to encourage other Colleges to take similar actions.
2. Mandate the MCR Environment representative to work with the OUSU Environment and Ethics Representative to mobilise support among colleges more generally.
3. Engage with the relevant College bodies, including the Sustainability Committee and the Finance Committee, to work towards divestment.

Proposed: Aisling Leow; Seconded: Kevin Ray.

Aisling – Climate change is happening. Divestment means that we take our money out of FF, pledge not to put any money into FF. Uni has done it, Wolfson has done it. We would like to do it. College holds 2% of budget into FF, Total college (all included) is a massive amount. Lincoln would have an opportunity to lead the colleges in this regard. We would have a mandate from MCR to pursue and try to get college do this thing. We would also have mandate to publicise.

“How would this feed into the ongoing conversation with college? What is the addition” – Convos began in 2014, finance met about it. The outcome was that college agreed to consider it. They would assess how much they have. We know that they considered and dismissed this. We’re in the position now where the issue can come up again. We also are coming with concrete proposals.

“Falling oil prices means they get a loss” – What about the large loss that college would take. This gives the MCR gets to go to college, but not to make college do anything. But we can come with a plan to have them go to a discussion. What and when meeting, then a meeting of all interested parties.

“Any ideas of how the reinvestment for the money. We don’t want them going to Defense companies, for instance” – colleges are registered charities, which means that they need to make money. We want them to choose to invest ethically, so not in defense companies for instance. This would be covered by that same idea. But from an environment point of view, we can’t mandate that. We can ask them about this in another mandate, but we can’t make them.

“This is a process. Years potentially. Should we form a committee about this so it does not just fall on the Environment Rep. That way we can keep hounding them” – Yes, in 2014 they went through this and formed a working group. They formed the committee, but there was nothing really done. We can form one within the MCR, potentially with the JCR. I don’t know how feasible it is, but it could be worked into this.

“Do we know why they have not divested” – several reasons. Kev – they have changed bursars, and the interim bursar has not wanted to do anything about this. He’s a fellow of the college, but doesn’t do anything like investment banking. That was this year, Michaelmas. So, there really hasn’t even been any room to do anything. AL – The previous bursar did not want to rule out making any investment that might make money. Also this was before the Uni had made these changes. I should say that I am open to ammendments. I think this will let us move forward in a lot of different directions.

Votes: Many for the motion, 1 against, 2 Abstain

**Motion passes.**

**Motion 3 - Providing the Lincoln College Boat Club (LCBC) 100 GBP towards subsidising Pimm’s at the boat house on Saturday of Summer Eights.**

**This MCR notes that:**

The final day of Summer Eights is a large social event with thousands of spectators. Many Lincoln students regularly attend, and LCBC appreciates the support of the MCR and JCR members.

**This MCR believes that:**

The bar is run by Simon and, while Pimm’s are inexpensive, in the past the first drinks have been subsidised in order to attract more Lincoln students down early in the day, when there will be Lincoln boats racing, too.

**This MCR therefore resolves to:**

Provide 100 gbp towards LCBC in order to subsidise drinks for Saturday of Summer Eights. LCBC has asked the JCR to also contribute 100 gbp.

LCBC notes their intention to reserve 30 of the subsidised Pimm's from each the JCR and MCR for rowers on the day. There are a total of 36 MCR members rowing or coxing in Summer Eights. This is a tradition of Summer Eights as to recognize the substantial time commitments those individuals put into making the day the event it is, so that each rower, cox, or coach may have one subsidised drink.

Proposed: Leah Rand, seconded: Francois Lavergne

Motion is from the glorious boat club. Summer VIs is happening, this is a rowing race that involves all colleges in oxford. 100s of boats, 10000 people. Quite big. We propose something that has been done a number of years. The MCR subsidise a bar at the boathouse, 100 GBP subsidy for PIMMs. 30 reserved for rowers. JCR will also provide this. This is in order to motivate people to come to boathouse and cheer.

"After the race?" – yes.

"From what budget" – general allocation, but we do this pretty much already.

"Do you count twice? As a rower and coach" – no

"How does the subsidy work" – The 100 GBP goes to simon, who has a number of drinks. Ff

"Simon needs this to know that people will come down and do this, because he finances this on his own. It's a barometer for interest as well"

Vote: Many for, 2 opposed, 4 abstain

**Motion passes**

## **8. Any Other Business**

Jen – Noise, its upsetting people in Bear Lane. Have it noted that this noise is an issue here. Nat west building alarm is always a problem. Also Nat West alarm is a problem. The best method is to go straight to the source. College were not that helpful with the wine bar, we should do the same thing with Nat West. **Lawyer up Nat West, Eleanor is coming at you.**

Kevin will try the usual college channels and reach out to the Nat West managers.

Charles – we should have tissues in the MCR.

More towels for the MCR suggested.

WK IT Rep – Someone will take this over. Will IS HERE. This never happens. Will is going to be here for a bit of time.

"Why does college take so much time to get the financial information. Can we get more information about this" – this takes a long time because college are not keen to tell us about that. They also have their investments spread pretty widely – high, low risk, etc. It changes a lot, 2 or three investment companies are doing the job. There are multiple levels of this. Also, where do we draw the line.

"Why can't we know. Can this be made available to the students somehow" – This is asking a lot I think. Is it possible to know this?