

**Minutes of the Handover meeting held on 13 February
2005
Christ's College**

The meeting commenced at approximately 7.45 pm

1. Introductions

- ❖ Members of the incoming and outgoing Execs introduced themselves.

2. Apologies

- ❖ Josh Black (Socials Officer)
- Tom Howat (ex-Co-chair)
- Lizz Waller (ex-Reps Co-ordinator)

3. Announcements

- ❖ There have been two tentative enquiries about the post of Campaigns Officer and one about the post of Grad Rep but no-one has yet spoken to Olly.
- ❖ ***Olly to open up these positions to the lists, the positions to be filled by co-option***

4. Questions

- ❖ **Handover:** Almost all incoming Exec have had a handover meeting with equivalent former Exec member. ***Ben (new Reps Co-ordinator) still to meet Lizz; Jordan to talk to Tom Clarke and Ramesh Perera about Assume Nothing***
- ❖ **Emails:** Email addresses and lists to be active for the new Exec within the next few days.
- ❖ **Blurbs, photos for website: *blurbs to be provided soonish to Nick; also photo if not going to use the one taken this evening.***

5. Items of business

- ❖ As Sunday evenings at 7.30 are a good for everyone, Olly confirmed that **meetings would normally remain at this time.** The room at Christ's should be available regularly and is handily-located. Minutes to be circulated asap by Alistair with action points [denoted ***thus***]
- ❖ **Contact details** of the new Exec were circulated
- ❖ Tom Clarke (ex-Co-chair) emphasised the need for **confidentiality**, especially in dealing with Welfare issues, also with the lists, computer records. Exec members may if necessary discuss confidential issues with others also bound by confidentiality but should omit details such as name etc that might reveal identity of person being discussed. CUSU policy is never to give advice, ever ever ever! Exec members should only highlight possible courses of action when asked, and should be non-directional, non-judgemental, and impartial. ***Further training on this to follow in two weeks' time.***
- ❖ **Money:**
 - Andrew Mosedale (ex-Treasurer) noted that there is lots of money in the account; the exact figure tba.
 - The way in which the Campaign is funded was clarified: a budget from CUSU for general Campaign expenses, another budget from CUSU for Life.

- Claims under £50 can be made by individuals; need to keep receipts to claim back expenses and then fill out form. More complicated if need more than £50 (e.g. for poster printing): have to get three quotes and make a purchase order request.
 - There are rough guidelines to how much money each Exec member can spend.
 - The budget year runs July-June; the budget for 2005-6 is being decided very soon.
- ❖ The campaign's **relationship with CUSU** was clarified by Olly and Tom. LBGT is not a society as is the case in most universities but an 'autonomous campaign' of which all students who self-define as 'not straight' are automatically members. Olly sits on CUSU Exec/council. The ability of CUSU to interfere in Campaign decisions was discussed: CUSU should leave the Campaign alone and can be ignored if they do interfere; however, they would be able to veto motions with legal issues, e.g. if it was resolved that an Exec member become a drug dealer (!)
 - ❖ The **press policy** was clarified by Olly, Tom and Suse (ex-Campaigns). Various incidents in the past have pointed to the need for a press policy. A sample press release was circulated. ***New Exec to decide on press strategy (including policy for the lists) asap, preferably next week.***
 - ❖ Emily introduced the issue of bi-phobia and marginalisation of bisexual people within the gay community. Various ways to address this were considered, eg discussion groups, meetings. Olly had organised events for bisexual people in Awareness week: coffee break at Clowns not well attended, but 16 at second event (dinner). The need for a co-opted bi rep to co-ordinate, organise socials, post on BLUE list. However, such events would not necessarily improve matters for bi people in relation to gay people, but might lead to exclusivity/ghettoisation. Maybe could get a celebrity endorsement (eg Angelina Jolie [popular!] or Sandi Toksvig [less popular!]). ***Inconclusive: discussion postponed to next week.***
 - ❖ **CUSU council:** as Olly already has a vote on this, there is a spare LBGT vote available; Tom noted that the person can appoint a proxy from CUSU to vote on motions that appear on the agenda. ***Olly to ask Exec during the week if anyone interested in taking this up for the next couple of weeks.***
 - ❖ **Long-term plans:**
 - **Olly (chair):** improve communication between Exec and students with 2x weekly bulletin to lists; set up list for circulation of minutes to those interested; ensure accountability with 2x open meetings per term; promote Exec working together e.g. Freshers' week.
 - **David (treasurer):** increase CUSU funding; get more money from Unique (although, as Tom pointed out, this income goes direct to CUSU, who also pay for flyers, etc. However, increased income could be a bargaining tool); transparent accounting.
 - **Alistair (communications):** get the minutes out on time; send out listings weekly; ensure listings up-to-date and comprehensive.
 - **Emily (Women's Officer):** set up weekly surgery; regular emails to lists; online questionnaire about what people want, with an incentive for filling it out; 'coming out' leaflet (smaller format than Freedom Book) in all pigeonholes.
 - **Rhiannon (Entz):** advertise Unique, eg in Boyz; correct listings in Attitude (error in their listings have been brought to their attention before but Attitude still haven't corrected); encourage more women to attend; forge better links with wider community, e.g. through ads in the pubs.

- **Nick (Computing):** work to realise IT aims of others (e.g. the online questionnaire); set up a message board; include college links/info on website
- **Ed (welfare):** make contact with colleges to pass on welfare info; create support network of visible and approachable people (women's officer, bi rep etc) for those with issues to talk to.
- **Jordan (Assume Nothing):** put out more than one issue/year; aim for larger audience; has a bisexual poetress lined up to contribute; more interesting material; maybe a new name, as is so long since last issue appeared; it was noted that there is a good amount of money to spend on the publication.
- **Ben (reps co-ordinator):** establish college Reps' position in terms of voting on JCR Exec, etc; organise Reps' training session.
- ❖ **Thoughts on the last year:**
 - **Good things:** Tom's campaigning to get the Blood transfusion people to change their policy; research into pubs' policy towards LGBT customers.
 - **Questions about** what happened to previous regular events at King's, Wolfson Court, the GradPad (latter replaced by Grad drinks at CB2s but the GradPad staff apparently don't know this).
 - **Noted that** shouldn't have too many socials – otherwise people won't attend.
 - Putting things on JCR lists might be a good idea.

6. AOB

- ❖ Debbie (ex-Grad rep) noted that Anna at the Arts Picturehouse is willing to put on a whole weekend of LGBT films during Awareness week next year.
- ❖ Olly thanked last year's Exec for coming along to the meeting and for all their hard work over the last year, which has been much appreciated by everyone. A card and bottle of champagne were presented to Tom Clarke.
- ❖ Photos of the new Exec were taken by David and Nick.

7. Next Exec meeting: next Sunday, 20th February, 7.30 pm. Training on the 27th, also there is to be a handover formal hall soon.

The meeting ended at 9.05 pm.