



HUGHES HALL  
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

MCR Committee  
Wed, 12 January 2021, 5pm  
E-meeting

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**Present:** N Gorringe (President & Equality and LGBT+ Officer); H Zhou (Vice President); A Vasileva (Secretary); K Bartsch (Treasurer); B Low (Academic Affairs Officer); Z Rehman (Social Secretary); B Williams (Social Secretary); R Hosking (Female and Non-binary Welfare Officer); J Rawles (Equality & LGBTQ+ Officer); C van Eijk (Male and Non-binary Welfare Officer); A Johnsen (Equality and BAME Officer); M Tang (IT and Infrastructure Officer); O Kranse (Green and Ethical Affairs Officer); J Navani (Accommodation Officer);

**Absent:** E Mensah (Sports and Societies Officer);

### I. Introduction

#### Declaration of Members' Interest

No declaration was received.

### II. Standing Actions

### III. Items

#### III.A. Introduction of Ms Jodie Rawles – new Equality and LGBTQ+ Officer.

The president extended a warm welcome to Ms J Rawles who is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year PhD student and the new Equality and LGBTQ+ Officer.

#### *Actions:*

- N/A

#### III.B. Discussion on College restrictions regarding COVID-19 - accommodation, rent, provisions around College.

Ms Gorringe reminded the MCR committee that students not living in Cambridge are allowed to not pay rent. Some students who are remaining in college want the rent to be decreased because of fewer facilities and services provided.

Ms Gorringe also shared that there are students still in Cambridge who are hoping to leave and not have to pay rent.

Mr C van Eijk explained that a partly decreased rent was provided last time because of no cleaning services. This should happen again if cleaning services are not provided.

Ms Z Rehman reminded everyone that catering service is only provided at lunch at the moment. No dinner or breakfast and therefore, KFC should be decreased.

Restrictions in access to the library should also be considered.

Ms Rehman also argues that it is reasonable for students to choose to leave Cambridge to return home if they are feeling safer there.

The MCR committee discussed that the risk of exposure to COVID will decrease for the remaining students if those who would like to leave are allowed to.

Ms Gorringe asked if communication from the College on support for students who are abroad has effective and useful.

The MCR members shared mixed opinions on the matter. Some students did not get the needed information, they were removed from mailing list.

Ms R Hosking suggested that providing students with a list of rooms, opening times and resources available in the rooms would be useful information for students to be aware of.

***Actions:***

- Re-opening of Gresham study room to be discussed with college.
- Ms Hosking to find out information about available study rooms and share the information with the student body.

**III.C. Events planned for Lent term – equality, academic, social, green.**

The social secretaries sent out a form to see what the student body would like to do. Mr B Williams said that there were a lot of responses. Many people would like to do “Sip and paint”, “Friendship roulettes”, Quiz nights, Among us game nights and baking competitions.

Tea and cake – low turnout. Trying out different times might result in better attendance.

Emailing seems to be the most effective way to advertise.

Ms Rehman suggested that we could utilise Instagram better and start advertising there.

***Actions:***

- N/A