# NEW COLLEGE MIDDLE COMMON ROOM CONSTITUTION 

Hilary Term 2024

## 1. Introduction

1.1 The Middle Common Room was established by resolution of the Warden and Tutors at their meeting on Wednesday, 6 March 1963.
1.2 This constitution was adopted in 1963 and contains constitutional amendments up to Trinity term 2023.
1.3 This constitution shall be reviewed and approved by the Governing Body of the College at intervals of five years. It was last approved in Trinity term 2023.

## 2. Interpretation

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requirement will be satisfied if the information is effectively distributed to the majority of MCR members by whatever means is ordinarily utilised by the Committee for communications with the MCR in its entirety. As of 2023, this means the official New College email list.
esident and other
members, as defined in section 4.
-President as
specified in section 9.
is entitled to vote at a General Meeting (GM).
2.8 In the event of a dispute as to the interpretation of any part of this Constitution, the ruling of majority of voting members voting at a GM shall be final.
3. Membership
3.1 Full membership
3.1.2 Any student of the College who holds the status and privileges of a Senior Student as granted by the University under the University Regulations for Senior Student Status shall be a Full Member.
3.3.5
4.4 The Committee shall not have the power to alter the Constitution, any changes to the constitution must be passed at a General Meeting, as set out in 10.1, and must be approved by the Dean.
4.5 Full members of the MCR shall elect officers to the posts of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Social Secretary (two positions), House Officer and Welfare Officer (two positions), Bar Rep, and E\&D Officer.
4.5.1 The President shall be responsible for running the Committee and for representing the MCR to the College and to the University. An individual may only serve one year as President. On completion of their term, the outgoing President will remain on committee as a non-executive member and will be responsible for ensuring a smooth transition and handover to the new committee, whilst
relevance to E\&D. They are required to organise the annual college FME dinner in association with the equivalent JCR rep.
4.6 In the event that an office bearer shall be absent from the College for a period of two weeks, the President (or in their absence, the Vice-
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agreeing to assume these extra responsibilities. If no member agrees to assume these extra responsibilities, the President (or in their absence, the Vice-President) shall assume the office bearer's responsibilities.

### 4.7 Non-executive members

4.7.1: The Committee has the power to create and remove additional non-executive positions on the Committee to fulfil specific responsibilities. Such positions may be filled by election by Full Members only. Non-executive members of the Committee are entitled to participate in, but not necessarily to vote, at Committee meetings.
4.7.2: Full members of the MCR shall elect officers to the non-executive positions:

Environmental Rep, Sports Rep, LGBTIQ+ rep, Arts \& Culture Rep, Disabilities Rep, Freshers Rep and Part-Time Students Rep. Should no member agree to fill these positions it is expected that these responsibilities will be filled by the President (or in their absence, the Vice-President).
who are women. They shall spread awareness of, and work to address, issues faced uniquely, or more severely, by students who are women. They shall also buy and stock sanitary supplies and publicise how to access these supplies to the wider MCR, these supplies shall be paid for out of the Sanitary products fund.
4.7.4: The Environmental Rep is responsible for
environmentally friendly. The Environmental rep shall work with students, college staff and the wider university and Oxford community to achieve these goals. They are also responsible for organising the maintenance of the Vegetable beds at Weston.
4.7.5: The Sports Rep is responsible for ensuring(f)-18(, an)1 abl Q1 $92.784260 .09 \mathrm{Tm} 0 \mathrm{~g} 0 \mathrm{G}[4)-10() .11(7) .11(5)-10(:) 17($
4.7.9: The Freshers Rep is responsible for representing the interests of those students in the first year of their degree and running events specifically targeted to ease their transition to Oxir tr5F4 695R 695(i)5(rhe)12.
5. Election of President and Committee
weeks of their appointment or election, in order to
5.5.1 The Committe6a 11 hol5(ed) 12( Ch)-2(u)-2(s)-8ngs for i5(ed)12(at)6(m)17(s f)14(o)-2(r)6 11(ei)-5(t)5(JTJE1 Q612 79

### 5.7 Conduct of candidates during the election process

5.7.1 All candidates shall behave in a fair and reasonable manner throughout the election process.
5.7.2 The Committee and the Returning Officers shall devise a set of electoral rules governing conduct during the electoral process. These shall be sent to all Full Members prior to the opening of nominations.
5.7.3 If any Full Member is unhappy with the conduct of any candidate or Committee member during the electoral process they may bring the issue to the attention of the Committee.
5.7.4 The Committee shall decide on the appropriate course of action, which may be the removal of the candidate from the election.
they may appeal the decision to the Dean whose decision shall be final.
5.7.6 Before taking a course of action, any candidate may request a decision from the Committee as to whether their intended behaviour is fair and reasonable.

## 6. General Meetings

6.1 The President shall convene at least one GM per term at a time determined by the Committee.

### 6.2 An Extraor

at least five voting members of the MCR. In such a case the President (or other Committee member) shall issue notice of the meeting. The EGM shall be held within two weeks of the request.
6.3 Notice of every GM shall be sent to every voting member at least one week before the meeting and, in addition, shall be posted on the MCR noticeboard.
6.4 Twenty voting members shall comprise a quorum. The meeting shall be assumed to have a quorum unless explicitly questioned by a voting member.
6.5 The President or Vice-President shall request motions at least one week prior to any GM. All motions must be proposed and seconded by a voting member at least 48 hours before the GM. Notice of the proposed motions shall be sent to every voting member and posted on the MCR noticeboard at least 24 hours before the meeting.
6.6 Any motions (except an amendment to the Constitution) shall be carried by simple majority of voting members who vote at the GM. In GMs the President shall have a casting vote only. No votes shall be recorded on behalf of a voting member not present, unless they provide a written and signed statement to an Executive Committee member at least 12 hours before the GM.
6.7 Minutes shall be taken at all GMs and retained by the Vice-President. Minutes from the GM shall be sent to all voting members within a week of the meeting via the MCR mailing list and shall be presented at the next GM.
6.8 There shall be a set of Standing Orders to govern the conduct of business at GMs. The Standing Orders may be suspended for part or all of a GM by a twomembers voting at the GM.

## 7. Facilities

7.1 All members of the MCR shall have full use of the Rew Nooner Spoom.
7.2 The Rew Nooner Spoom will be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, during term and vacation. Smoking is prohibited at all times within and in the environs of the Rew Nooner Spoom.
7.3 The Committee may from time to time make such regulations as are necessary to permit and
7.4 Any guests not exceeding a reasonable limit may be entertained in the Rew Nooner Spoom provided that they are accompanied by at least one member of the MCR. The latter requirement
connected with the welfare of the MCR in general. MCR members are responsible for their guests.
7.5 Any person staying in College as a guest of a member shall be granted full use of the facilities

