

Minutes of Grizedale Syndicate meeting 4p.m. 23rd Oct.2015 A05 Grizedale College

Those present: C. Bond, N. Buckley, A. Everitt (Ass Dean) J. Foster (Ass Dean) J. Fraser, D. Garland, (C.A.T); L. Gacesa, R. Gelaney, B. Glass (Chair/Syndicate Sec), A. Harrod Ass Sen Advisor, T. Hargreaves CRO), C. Hayes (Sen. Advisor), S. Holt Dean, B. Kay (JCR), T. Mawdsley (Ass. Dean), S. Mellen CWO, L. Robinson (JCR)

Apologies: P. Montague, T. Ellsworth-Ross, Rev. J.H.E. Wood.

2015.1 Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed as a correct representation.

2015.2 Matter arising.

2014.15 It was noted we still have no signage and it is back on the agenda.

2015.3 Ratification of new College Officers

The following positions were approved.

Davey Garland	College Advisor Team
Toni Ellsworth-Ross	College Advisor Team
Aluna Elliott	Assistant Dean (position renewed annually)
Jonathan Forest	Assistant Dean (position renewed annually)
Tom Mawdsley	Assistant Dean (position renewed annually)

2015.4 Sara Mellen. College Wellbeing Officer

Sara is the new Wellbeing Officer and was welcomed to Grizedale by the College Principal.

2015.5 Reports from College Officers:

Financial report

According to Agresso figures we have so far spent £2613 Download available.
According to my records we have so far spent £4475.99

The big items so far are:	£
Ass Dean badges and Polo shirts	177
Intro Hog Roast	1650
Lapel badges for Grad	540
Freshers' rep food	127
Pizza nights	650
9 Colleges fund	200
Football/netball kit and balls	642
Wine and food for wine tasting	200
Total	4186
Agreed expenditure for JCR	2400
Income so far from the Pool tables	390

B Glass (Administrator)

Principal's report to Syndicate academic year 2015-16

With an overall positive response to the College Review we hope to receive a lot more support in future from the governing bodies of the university and encouragement for our academic members to be more active in taking up positions with the colleges. The colleges put together a planning document for 2015/16 which was approved, this included three posts, College Wellbeing Officers, working under SBS to provide welfare support within colleges and I would like to welcome Sara Mellen into our team.

There have been dramatic changes to the welfare system in the college this year and I would like to thank the Senior Advisor, Carolyn Hayes for all her time and efforts to make the change over positive and seamless. I welcome the 5 members of the new College Advisor Team CAT and wish them every success in their endeavour to maintain a healthy environment in which our students can study.

We once again welcome new staff in the College Bar. Headed by David Orr and Managed by Vicky Shaw the bar food menu has changed to pizzas and wraps and they appear to be very popular. We still struggle to get the outside furniture moved and used and once again the games machines have been vandalised and are out of use. There are ongoing discussions with ISS re the maintenance of these and other Audio Visual equipment and I sincerely hope that these will result in permanent solution to our AV problems in the bar.

We are still without any professional signage in college and the problem of visitors not knowing they have arrived is ongoing, but I intend to pursue this and I am working on a solution which will involve student input.

October 2015 saw the start of our new printing facility in college. Grizedale has the benefit of 2 printer/scanner/photocopiers and every student can access them by using their library card. The college Office will also make use of these machines in future.

Sadly, the colourful planters mentioned in my last report had to be removed as they were not deemed to be of the correct quality and we were ordered to have them removed immediately after Graduation day last year. Green Lancaster gave us a large oak planter which is supposed to be tended by students working with their project but sadly it is overgrown and has turned into a place to extinguish cigarettes and now looks a mess. The hanging baskets purchased from facilities to compensate for the loss of the planters, looked very nice and added some much needed colour to the buildings. The baskets were hung in July this year and it would be better if next year they could arrive earlier in the year so that their benefit could be felt for longer. Facilities did an excellent job of watering and maintaining the baskets for us.

We purchased another pool table this year and two jacks to replace the stolen ones. These jacks have been chained to the bottom of the tables to avoid a repeat performance of the thefts. Hopefully our teams will benefit from this extra facility and start to win a few games.

The College funded the purchase of sports kits for all teams in college from table tennis to bar sports, football and netball. This has already had the effect of more student involvement in the teams and we have enough members to run C and D teams in most sports this year. The darts team won the prestigious university darts team award this year and we are hoping for more success this year.

March 2016 sees the 40th anniversary of the official opening of the college. A weekend of celebrations is planned and tickets for the formal dinner on Saturday 12th March are now on sale on Eventbrite. It is the intention of the college to make the most of renewed contact with many alumni on the weekend of 11th – 13th March.

In the coming year I hope to:

- 1 Prioritise getting official signage for the college.
- 2 A resolution to the AV problems in the bar.

Patrick Montague (Principal)

Grizedale College Senior Advisor's Report to Syndicate 2015-16

This year Grizedale College has changed to a College Advisor Team (CAT) system. This is based on a system used by Pendle College over a number of years which reports impressive student engagement figures. Grizedale advisors were surveyed over the summer and agreed that a shakeup of the system was needed to keep in line with changing student needs.

Two new college advisors have been recruited; Davey Garland and Toni Elsworth-Ross, who will work with Carolyn Hayes and Andy Harrod to form the CAT.

The CAT has a shared email address and secure file store and will respond to student welfare needs in a timely, consistent and professional manner. A spreadsheet is being kept to record the number and types of cases that are responded to, to enable improvements year on year. This is consistent with data being collected by Fylde, Furness and Pendle CATs to share areas of good practice.

CAT activities are:

- Weekly drop in sessions every Thursday 5-6pm in the college meeting room
- Residence drops once per term to see each group of students and raise awareness of CAT and the support it offers
- Welcome meals for all students on Mon and Thurs of week 2 in the common room to give advisors the chance to speak to students and explain what the CAT is for
 - Further meals will be offered as budget allows

Carolyn Hayes (Grizedale College Senior Advisor)

Grizedale College Deanery Report to Syndicate 2015-2016

We have had a much quieter year, reflected in a reduction of half in the total fines levied, from £4380 in 2013/14 to £2190 in 2014/15.

The predominant disciplinary issues this year have been:

1. Smoking (£900)
2. Tampering with fire safety equipment and failure to leave residences when required by alarms (£900)
3. Noise during quiet period (£120)
4. Obstruction. Mainly non-attendance of Deanery Investigatory Meetings and Hearings (£250)
5. Disrepute (£20)

We are hoping to reduce these figures in the coming year. I am particularly concerned about the dangers posed by tampering with smoke sensors. We have sent out an email to all residents to emphasize this issue and remind them of the hefty fine (£300).

All in all, I believe that our efforts have paid off this year and I am particularly happy that we have not had to refer any cases to the University Dean. Also, that we have had no formal appeals. This gives a good indication that though we always follow up and have levied substantial fines we have been seen to be fair. Ultimately, we are acting in the interests of the safety and welfare of all residents. We need to keep acting in that spirit and conveying that message.

Unfortunately, for various reasons, we had no continuing Assistant Deans this year so we have recruited 3 new ADs (Aluna Everitt, Jonathan Foster and Thomas Mawdsley) who seem to be settling in well.

Sue Holt (Grizedale College Dean)

College Residence Officer's report to Syndicate 2015-16

Arrivals

This seemed to go well with little ado. The Porters did an excellent job of assembling the keys and giving them out to students. The main issues were cleaning (or the lack of it) Due to the majority of rooms being serviced by contract cleaners. This has been escalated to the Facilities Manager.

Occupancy and Applications

We still have around 5 rooms empty in Grizedale (this is less than some colleges)

The Accommodation Portal will be opened from 20/11/15 to 10/1/16 for continuing students to apply for 16/17 accommodation. The deadline is later than in previous years due to the 'Don't Rent Yet' campaign. Rates for next year YBC

Townhouses

We should finally be getting some new sofas in Townhouse accommodation over Christmas. County are currently trialling the new style sofas which shouldn't break as soon as you lean back on them.

Allocations

I'm only aware of one student who wishes to move to another college. Anyone who wanted to move in the first few weeks is because they want a better type of room within Grizedale.

Incidents

There seems to be a decrease in the number of fire alarm activations compared to the same period last year. So far there have only been a few communal living issues (smoking, messy flat mates, pranksters ringing doorbells then running away)

I have expressed concern to Facilities about how easy it is to tamper with the window restrictors in blocks 16,17,18 – allowing students to access the roof above the bar through the bedroom windows, but I've been told by the Safety Office that they are not supposed to be tamper-proof. There have been two incidents of students climbing out of the windows and onto the roof in the last six months (both cases were passed to the Deanery)

Ongoing Improvements

I am still nagging UPP/University Maintenance about the following:

- Updating the bike shed to a fob entry system which would be more secure.
- Kitchen Bins to be put in studios
- Additional Noticeboards to be put in townhouses
- New furniture and kitchen blinds in Blocks 16,17,18 (standard accommodation)

Tracy Hargreaves (College Residence Officer)

2015.7 Freshers' Week

All in attendance agreed that it was a good intro week in general with no serious disciplinary issues arising. The Freshers' week team was commended on their dedicated work.

2015.8 Xmas Ball

Will be held at the Dunkenhalgh hotel in Blackburn on November 27th.

2015.9 Abrogation of powers to the College Management Committee

Syndicate agreed unanimously to abrogate its powers to the management team.

2015.10 The date of the next meeting will be week 3 of Michaelmas term 2016