



# Minutes

Tues 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017

**Present:** AM, HC, MH, LC, CW, GM, CB, ES, JS, JB, GH, GP, LG

**Apologies:** Alex Parr (AP), Daniel Sims (DS), Davide Ravaccia (DR), Harry Cross (HC), James Willans (JW), Max Bullock (MB)

**Absent:** FK, JST, MHO, TS, YN, MS

	Agenda item	Notes and actions to be taken	Person responsible
1.	<b>Committee business</b>		
2.	<b>Minutes of the previous meeting</b>	The minutes for the previous meeting held on 1 <sup>st</sup> March 2017 were approved.	
3.	<b>Matters arising</b>		
3.1	Week 1 term 3	<p>RAG committee been briefed on result and have discussed it. Voter turn out = 22%, 58% Rag, 42% threefreshers. Advisory vote, so take into account opinions, finances, voter turn out.</p> <p>Mixed turn out from all years, year 2 poor turnout, but fairly even representation.</p> <p>Shaira: Rag want the opportunity, it's been threefreshers for years.</p> <p>GP: money made that is normally quoted is wrong. MedSoc - £200, RAG week - £500 profit. Incorrect figures stated on the vote. Thinks it is not true that more money would be made by RAG in Week 1</p> <p>Profits made are not to do with the week or the turn out, but because it's RAG and raising money for charity.</p> <p>Kara: fun to do. Doesn't have to be permanent, or for next year- could trial.</p> <p>Treasurers: would have made ~£200 from this week.</p> <p>Kara: Suggested that £200 sponsorship money that could be reimbursed. LG said that the money is needed for other RAG</p>	

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	<p>events. JB said thank you but it is not necessary.</p> <p>JB: spoke to PaedSoc, would like to aid them in gaining the money they may have lost otherwise.</p> <p>On a good social, medsoc could make £200.</p> <p>AM: suggested paedsoc take a good night week 3, medsoc 'lose' £200, and RAG take the first week to make money</p> <p>JB: would be nice for MedSoc to do something as well. Take opportunity to have a MedSoc week/event too.</p> <p>HC: bias points raised, PaedSoc issues not just been given the night – feel betrayed, as promise was made.</p> <p>Kara: doesn't think bias is justified – seems to be picking and choosing with RAG week.</p> <p>AM: societies don't have a right to a social – has to be run and organised by Chloe. Doesn't understand why societies they feel like this?</p> <p>GP: will this create a precedent? MedSoc week – society specific socials - bidding process for the nights.</p> <p>JS: turn out being the issue – suggestion that picking a week in first or second term may have a higher turn out. RAG knew who the committee of MedSoc would be last year at elections – should have been suggested in first term. Thinks it may be too short notice to change what's been done for years – busiest term for second years to change.</p> <p>RAG directly asking for a week that has been timetabled, whereas there are 9 weeks un-timetabled. Feels it is a big change for it to come in quickly</p> <p>GP: by changing these weeks, diminishing the first year rep role. Doesn't seem to be a point if they only organise 1 week and the hoodies? Want to maximise money for MedSoc.</p> <p>Kara – People want something different. Want to make it fresh.</p> <p>HC: what new socials? Cocktails – can we do any more? Organisation – Discussion has been postponed multiple times due to different reasons – bit late in the term now. LG – Said idea was presented earlier on in the year</p> <p>HC - Turn out – As Week 1 for Phase 1 starts on a Wednesday, would turn out be high for older years who are on hospital</p>	
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<p>placement – as they not likely to come out mid week?</p> <p>AM: are the comments particularly representative? Most of comments negative but only 30% made comments and actual majority was for RAG</p> <p>CW: why are we voting if the advisory vote was won by RAG?</p> <p>JB: wanted to find out if people wanted it – if proposal had public support. General public don't know ins and outs of committee business, hence it is advisory. If we vote against the advisory vote, we must justify this. But only 58% of 22% of voters. Advisory vote because it needs to be taken in to context with everything.</p> <p>JS: vote important, but thinks it is skewed. Very difficult to draft a post from the threefreshers point – difficult to challenge those raising money for charity, and so backed out of posting a post several times because feared that it would change others' opinions of him. Ever so slightly imbalanced towards RAG – votes would come in immediately after posts from RAG – medsoc haven't been able to campaign as effectively.</p> <p>SQ – Stated to JS that he knows who the RAG committee and could have talked to them about his concerns are and he could have constructed an argument without bias</p> <p>JB: medsoc has been criticised for changes in conference funding this year – could do with the money for societies funding – this money loss. RAG is a core PART of medsoc – they are the charity arm of the committee.</p> <p>RAG: don't want to have RAG week purely for raising money for charity – want it because they think they could do a good job. RAG feel the survey was biased – JS querying why the survey wasn't changed – he could have changed it very easily.</p> <p>LG: if this happens again, both Presidents should be at the meeting where the vote proposal is written, and he feels his passion was removed from the posts.</p> <p>JB: Agrees with previous point from LG and says attempts were made to find a suitable time for both which unfortunately didn't happen.</p> <p>JB: tried to make a balanced and neutral argument for both sides, and this caused some of the emotion aspect to be removed. Suggested amendments to RAG side of the proposal came – too late to change.</p> <p>CB: Would like to see DT/KC grow and develop and organise</p>
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	<p>threfreshers, and they've had a lot of original ideas that he'd like to see them organise in threfreshers. Feels strongly that it is tradition – 3 nights of socials and have fun.</p> <p>CW: grads in first year would like fewer nights out and more 'non drinking' socials. GP: can cater for non-drinkers on nights out – e.g. pub golf</p> <p>CW – at least 1 night needs to cater for non-drinkers CB - does every term e.g. ice skating.</p> <p>ES: RAG group has 420 members, only 1 post on RAG the entire year.</p> <p>CB: what are the things 'mixed up' – if threfreshers is 3 nights out, what is different in RAG week LG: foam party, RAG rave in Volks, sponsored walk, RAG raid, silent disco. RAG has currently raised £4200.</p> <p>Need to engage the first years more, and older years. JS: Stated that Cabaret was not advertised enough and asked how much money was raised and what the target was? LG: Cabaret raised the same as last year and stated that the target is £6000 and RAG has currently raised £4200.</p> <p>JS: There is a comms rep on the committee, hasn't heard anything regarding use of the twitter, Instagram etc. RAG need to target the older years better.</p> <p>[Clarified after the meeting that RAG Comms role is to communicate with charity and external parties. The RAG President is the link between the committee and MedSoc]</p> <p>LG feels it is unfair to criticise the committee – they are learning and trying, but feels their organisation has been fine this term. And feels that organisation has improved since last term.</p> <p>GP: if the change isn't going to be 2 big nights Freshers – good turnout. Refreshers – change in turnout of first years reflected overall. Can your committee do a better job to encourage turnout? And does the Rag raid need to be in the first week? LG – No it does not Previous plan to have a RAG Raid somewhere else? LG – Costs were prohibitive GP - If there are more people in Week 1 – this means more money – RAG could still make more in the third week. If prices</p>	
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		<p>are increased for RAG week.                  £10 wristband refreshers last year – less people, £7 in threefreshers increased turn out. If the wristband is increased, people become less inclined to go.</p> <p>AM – Expenditure for RAG is lower = lower, due to free entry to clubs for charity.</p> <p>CB: thought there was going to be a medsoc week regardless of when RAG week is.                  JB: Confirmed there will be a MedSoc replacement either week or event.</p> <p>Include an abstain button in the vote so that committee members who don't feel informed enough don't have to vote.                  Big change, everyone should vote.</p>	
4.	Any other business		
5.	Date of next meeting	TBC, week 1 term 3	

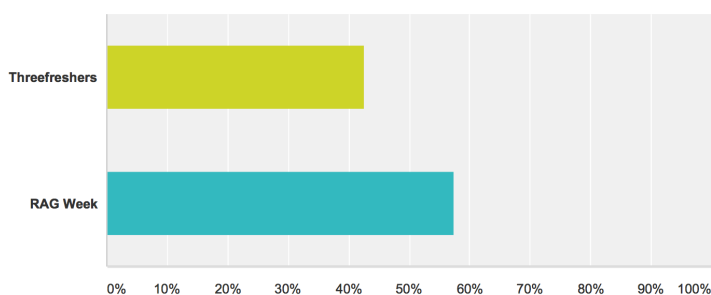
Results of the Advisory vote:

Threefreshers / RAG Week Vote

SurveyMonkey

**Q1 Would you prefer week 1 of term 3 to be Threefreshers or RAG Week?**

Answered: 171 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
Threefreshers	42.69%	73
RAG Week	57.31%	98
<b>Total</b>		<b>171</b>

Results of the Committee vote:

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Skipped: 0 Answered: 19

Threfreshers	<b>63%</b>	12
RAG Week	<b>26%</b>	5
Abstain	<b>11%</b>	2

[VIEW RESPONDENTS](#)

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These minutes were approved by:

James Barber – BSMS MedSoc President 16/17 and Lewis Gregory – BSMS RAG President 16/17 on 10/3/17

Brighton & Sussex Medical School Medical Society

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