# HT15 Week 4 JCR Meeting Agenda 7:30pm - 8th February 2015

Chair - Loughlan O’Doherty  
Secretary - Jamie Wells  
Returning Officer - Nikhil Venkatesh

*Apologies - Beth, Becky, Sarah, Iona*

*Loughlan explains Beth’s absence*

*Poet Laureate reads poem to the JCR - A Sonnet to a Tortoise Brave Enough To Be Himself in a World of Adversity*

Questions to Officers:

*Cameron: Tom how did you vote on Marine Le Pen OUSU vote?*

*Tom: I didn’t attend OUSU this week. Although Loughlan attended and he voted in favour, as per the JCRs wishes*

**Monetary Motions**

## 1. Garlic Dip

This JCR notes:

1. That at every JCR meeting a large quantity of Domino's pizza is ordered for those attending to enjoy.

2. That each large pizza comes with only one pot of garlic dip, which is a pitiful amount when considering the number of people this has to be shared between.

3. That there is never enough garlic dip to go around.

4. That the Domino's garlic dip is possibly the nicest thing in existence. It is also quite cheap, at 35p per pot.

This JCR believes:

1. That increasing the amount of garlic dip would mean that everyone's pizza experience can be improved.

2. That the increased availability of garlic dip could encourage more people to attend JCR meetings, who may otherwise not attend due to the fear of garlic dip-less pizza.

This JCR resolves:

1. To mandate the Treasurer to order at least one extra garlic dip per pizza ordered.

2. That this could be run on a temporary basis such that if we end up with surplus garlic dip, we can reduce the extra amount ordered so as not to waste money.

**Proposed: Sammy Breen**

**Seconded: Megan Erwin**

Short Factual Questions:

*Tom Lyons: Can we make sure we get a multiple of 3 because it’s 3 for a pound?*

*Kate: Sammy, I’ve already ordered some more this week.*

*Amy: Nikhil - can we scrap this and just ask Kate?*

*Sammy: Will keep it in*

*Tobias: Is there a less pungent dip?*

*Kate: Variety of dips, but this is tastiest?*

*Jack: Spilt some last time. Could we get serviettes?*

Move to Debate:

*Sandy: We could mandate serviettes for general use.*

*Stef: JCR is a mess - will people leave napkins everywhere?*

*Amy: Amendment to order more dip at her discretion, not one per person.*

*Sammy: Friendly (but already discretionary)- actually taken as unfriendly*

*Amy: Withdrawn*

*Tom: We are arguing over 50p*

*Adrian: But that’s just £2*

*Nikhil: What budget?*

*Sammy: Just out of the meetings budget as long as it is the same amount of pizza*

Move to Vote:

No opposition

**MOTION PASSES**

## Other Motions

## 2. Changing the Rights of Suspended Studies Students

This JCR notes:

**1.** That **Section II (6)** of the College Rules: “Use of College Facilities by Junior Members not in Residence” states:

*“Junior members who obtain the College’s permission to go temporarily out of residence, will normally be expected not to continue living in Oxford during that period. If they obtain the College’s agreement that they may live in Oxford, they will only be entitled to use those College facilities for which they have negotiated special permission and on such terms as the College agrees. Those living outside Oxford will need to apply for decanal permission for any visits to the College.”*

*2.* That under normal circumstances, this rule denies access to students who have had their studies suspended to the College library and other College facilities;

3. That the rule also denies students who have had their studies suspended the right that any other visitor of the College would have in terms of visitation rights;

4. That Oxford University recently changed its policy to allow students who have had their studies suspended the right to use faculty libraries and other university facilities (e.g. their Nexus email account).

This JCR Believes:

1. That a student who has their studies suspended should be given the opportunity to return on the best footing possible;

2. That the default of access to College facilities is preferable to the default denial of access to College facilities;

3. That students who have had their studies suspended should under normal circumstances be allowed the same visiting rights as any other member of the public, and therefore not require decanal permission to visit the College;

4. That the JCR should lobby college to change the status of students who have had their studies suspended and push for convergence with the University’s policy.

This JCR resolves:

**1.** To mandate the JCR committee to lobby the College to change the rules regarding suspended studies students and to ask them to bring them in line with the University’s rules;

2. To use this motion as evidence of the will of the JCR in the Committee’s discussions with the College.

**Proposed: Edward Green**

**Seconded: Amy Jones**

Short Factual Questions

*Kate: What fewer rights do they have than visitors currently?*

*Ed: Don’t have to ask the dean to come*

*Amy: In the past students who have had their studies suspended or have been sent down have been escorted of the premises by junior deans which is really unpleasant for them.*

*Kate: Can people not just live in Oxford?*

*Ed: Do have to negotiate with the dean. They deem living in Oxford to not be helpful.*

*Cameron: What are university policies?*

*Ed: Keep Bod Card, and access to Nexus and university buildings.*

*Sandy: Also exceptions where people are denied access, so privilege can be retracted.*

Move to Debate:

*Adrian: All good and well, but what if people have been sent down for unsavoury reasons, and you don’t want them back.*

*Ed: College will deal with it on an individual basis, but we are switching so that you are not automatically out. Situation where guy stole from his friend and suspended for two years till his friend had left.*

Move to Vote

Overwhelming Majority

**MOTION PASSES**

## 3. Plummer lovin’

This JCR Notes:

1. That there has been discussion over what to do with the space in the Plummer;

2. That the changing facilities in the Plummer are one of the few gendered facilities in college;

3. That the Domestic Bursar has asked for the JCR to agree on what it would like done with the Plummer before any changes are made.

This JCR Believes:

1. That the Plummer should be made gender-neutral;

2. That the Plummer should also have a small gym put in it.

This JCR Resolves:

1. To communicate the wishes of the JCR to the Domestic Bursar via welfare lunch at the end of 4th week.

**Proposed: Edward Green**

**Seconded: Amy Jones**

Short Factual Questions

*Cameron: What is idea about membership for another gym?*

*Ed: If gym in Plummer fails then other options for better gym membership.*

*Stef: This isn’t deciding to move gym?*

*Ed: No, that would come later.*

*Tom: Isn’t it really warm?*

*Ed: Yes, but can be dealt with*

*Finn: Would there be discussion over what would be in gym?*

*Ed: Yes, this is very first step. Would need more input from rest of college, but this is just showing are agreement.*

*Tobias: Is deal with Iffley coming to an end?*

*Ed: Probs not, but may be better gyms. Do not fret yet.*

*Stef: Would the changing rooms definitely be gender neutral?*

*Sandy: Changing rooms would be cubicles and all loos in changing areas would be the same, if there is upset over that then this is the motion to voice it in.*

*Ed: You can strike that in this motion if you want.*

*Huw: Who uses it?*

*Ed: Lots of people, staff.*

*Jamie: Can get combined shower/changing cubicles.*

*Kate: Do we lose Iffley membership?*

*Ed: Maybe depends on size of gym and how good is it?*

*Kate: Are staff being consulted?*

*Ed: Yeah, down the line.*

*Tom: When?*

*Ed: Kind of far away.*

*Stef: Where?*

*Jamie: Male changing room.*

Move to Debate:

*Adrian: Don’t want to lose Iffley Road, lots of people use it, so if we get a new one then don’t want to lose it.*

*Jack: Music practice room?*

*Sandy: Don’t know how to resolve this, but I believe these issues are very different and conflated, so we need to communicate this to college maybe by splitting motion. Procedural motion (Article 6. Paragraph 31, subsection 5). Separate believes 1 and 2 and keep the rest of the motions the same.*

Separated - Move to Debate on Motion where ‘This JCR Believes’ now reads as follows: ‘1. That the Plummer should be made gender-neutral’ only.

*Mary: People have come to me and expressed concern over the gender neutral situation.*

*Luke: Very important to trans people, think that that is more important than teams unwinding.*

*Jem: I would feel more comfortable anyway in cubicle.*

*Tom: Is there any way that we can do this in a poll in case people feel uncomfortable speaking.*

*Luke: Lots of problems about online polls.*

*Amy: Understand what Mary says, it is very ingrained socially. But worth balancing that against the number of people who use these facilities, all toilets are gender neutral so might seem scary at first, but normalizing it is important.*

*Kate: Can see why people are uncomfortable.*

*Huw: Can’t we have men, women and a third option.*

*Sandy: that is quite bothering for people using the third option.*

*Jem: Could have cubicles and benches as well? If teams go in they will go in together.*

*Ed: Would have to dig out another room for that to work.*

*Cameron: If our only opposition is that teams want to change together then its not much opposition. No one goes there together.*

*Mary: some people would like men’s space and women’s space.*

*Stef: Rather than pushing fact men and women together, emphasise it’s individual cubicles and people will feel uncomfortable.*

*Jack: Ask everyone else.*

*Jem: Point is we go to Welfare Lunch on Friday and ask for gender neutral facilities.*

*Tobias: What is welfare lunch?*

*Jem: Big meeting of welfare people from all common rooms.*

*Ed: Lists members who go.*

*Adrian: Everyone says it’s underused. Why not try using it first? Cubicles would work. I’ve often gone down and people go down and have a chat. Don’t need to gut the whole thing, solution to a problem which will affect very few people.*

*Sandy: Plummer is being gutted. Question they have come to us with is what do we want?*

*Jem: This is our chance to say what we want.*

*Tom: When would people other than sports team use?*

*Sam: Lots of people*

*Jamie: Formal.*

*Tobais: Why is it being gutted?*

*Mary: Because it is grim.*

*Jem: Better to have a changing room with cubicles in it.*

*Amy: To clarify - is gender neutral all cubicles? What is the plan?*

*Sandy: Don’t know yet. Would be possible to discuss later.*

*Jamie: Cubicles may be better anyway so people can’t just walk in on.*

*Kate: College moves slowly.*

*Tobias: Should it really be discussed at welfare lunch?*

*Ed: College will largely dictate the process. We will feed back to JCR.*

*Tobias: So you’d go in there with a mandate to do it or not?*

*Ed: Friday will say gender neutral, but needs to do lots more work beforehand.*

*Tom: Isn’t there a problem that people think they are voting on one thing and get another?*

Move to Vote

Overwhelming Majority

**MOTION PASSES**

Procedural motion to debate flag motion next.

No Opposition

**MOVE TO MOTION 5**

## 4. Halfway Hall Priorities

This JCR Notes:

1. That priority for halfway hall goes to 2nd years on 3/4 year courses, 3rd years on a 4 year course, and 3rd year medics.

2. That usually 3rd year medics go to halfway hall in their 2nd year.

3. That medics are technically halfway through their undergraduate degree during Hilary of 2nd term and that their final 3 years, when they count as graduates, are then spent away from Corpus up at the hospitals. Some students may also leave Oxford after 3 years, to complete their course elsewhere.

4. There is confusion and worry amongst the 2nd year medics who aren't sure if they'll get to go to halfway hall with the rest of their year.

This JCR Believes:

1. For the sake of clarity and to stop the confusion, 2nd year medics should be given priority along with other 2nd years for halfway hall.

2. All current 3rd year medics attended halfway hall during their 2nd year and so would not be affected by such a change.

This JCR Resolves:

1. To change the priority of halfway hall from 3rd year medics to 2nd year medics.

2. That for this year, should any current 3rd medics not have attended halfway hall last year then they should also be given priority.

**Proposed: Sammy Breen**

**Seconded: Mary Trend**

Short Factual Questions:

*Cameron: Scientists currently what happens?*

*Stef: Have priority either second or third year*

*Stef: Under my discretion, but would like to give four year courses priority in one year and second priority next year. Can we scrap motion so it’s not confusing and time consuming now.*

*Sammy: Want it written down.*

*Stef: My discretion, so I can just do this now and put it in standing orders for next years DO.*

**MOTION WITHDRAWN**

**Quorum was lost at this point. Debating the second part of motion 3 never occured.**

## Emergency Motions

## 5. Pride Flags

This JCR Notes:

1. That on Sunday morning, the Pride Flags in the JCR were found in the fridge.

2. That other colleges are flying pride flags around their quads this month to celebrate LGBTQ History Month.

This JCR Believes:

1. That taking down pride flags is an unacceptable way of telling ‘us to get back in the closet’.

This JCR Resolves:

1. To mandate the Equal Opportunities Officer to spend up to £75 on new Pride Flags for the JCR.

**Proposed Jem Jones**

**Seconded: Luke Mintz**

Short Factual Questions

*Cameron: Are we flying pride flag from flag pole this month?*

*Jem: Has to be decided a year in advance - going for more next year but definitely at the end of the month for at least one day.*

*Tom: Will the flying of the flags be just for LGTBQ history month or all year round?*

*Jem: People can keep them up in their rooms for as long as they like.*

*Amy: Its really inspired by Brasenose where students have taken a similar initiative.*

*Stef: Shouldn’t we check those in quad rooms are OK with us passing this motion before spending money?*

*Amy: It’ll be nice for this month, and if we get good quality flags can be used in future years - it would be nice to have flags of our own.*

*Kate: How do they fly them from their rooms?*

*Amy: Their choice, could put them inside or outside the window.*

*Finn: Could we get more round the city as well?*

*Amy: Could be distributed to students who want them.*

*Loughlan: Some colleges say you can’t have political symbols/literature in your windows if you live in college property, what’s Corpus’ thinking on this?*

*Jem: Haven’t had a problem yet.*

*Tom: What type of flags we are getting?*

*Amy: Mixture of different ones, covering different gender and sexuality movements, to represent as many people as possible.*

*Tom: If we get more flags then doesn’t it mean those who are still not represented are more ostracised?*

*Jem: These are the best defined and recognised flags - problem is many other identities often don’t have flags.*

*Luke: Also, the rainbow flag is all encompassing.*

*Sandy: We’ll get varied numbers of each.*

*Amy: Some flags are not nice looking or controversial so we can use Jem’s discretion.*

*Jem: Feel free to suggest them. Probably won’t use all the money, but I’m keeping my options open.*

Move to Debate

*Kate: Do you need £75?*

*Amy: Probably only need about £50 but costs vary so might be a little more - I could do with the leeway.*

*Adrian: In light of recent events of flags going missing and the impact that has on the morale of the JCR I don’t think more flags is really going to be that beneficial. Having more around JCR to be torn down or destroyed is demoralising. Is this a solution?*

*Sammy: To counter Adrian - are you saying that silence is better in case some people are offensive? It is important to have them as symbols of our identity.*

*Adrian: Not issue with that - more that this isn’t solution to the problem. Just seems like we’re spending money for them to be torn down.*

*Jem: Basically, we want the flags anyway because they aren't flying the flag till the end of them month, this is the impetus for it. We know who tore them down, and we will make sure people will know and buy more flags in response.*

*Cameron: Adrian’s logic is OK, but conclusion isn’t right. Jem should keep flags and give them to people not keep them in the JCR office so they can’t be defaced or torn down.*

*Tom: Any plan to stop it happening again, so we don’t have to keep buying them? What is the plan?*

*Jem: We could take them to the Deans.*

*Luke: Equal Opps team will take action.*

*Jack: Could we run an awareness workshop?*

*Amy: I shared Adrian’s outlook until I got angry earlier. We need to send a message that it’s not OK. We don’t want to spend loads of money. We need to show it’s upsetting and we don’t want members of the JCR behaving like that in our space.*

*Sammy: Considering the amount of money we spend e.g. bluetooth speakers, I don't think spending money is a reasonable objection.*

*Stef: Talking about sanctioning - would public embarrassment not be better?*

*Luke: They are obviously uncomfortable with the flags - putting them up all around college is a form of punishment. I like the idea of a charity amendment though.*

*Amy: This is a better way of doing it than charities vote.*

*Stef: Think we should wait for charity poll.*

*Kate: We should do it with the charities budget.*

*Luke: Obviously uncomfortable with LGBTQ people in the first place so I think it does send out a strong message.*

*Tom: I agree taking down the flags is offensive, but I wouldn’t say it’s homophobic. We should do something to educate whoever took them down.*

*Jemimah: Could make top three charities LGBTQ charities? Or for charities week or something?*

*Luke: Could we make it so one is LGBTQ?*

*Jemimah: Yeah, I know of lots of deserving LBGTQ charities.*

*Kate: Bursar says that the charities person chooses what happens with the money.*

*Adrian: Could give all of the £3000 budget, rather than a smaller amount in an amendment to this motion. As a result of this more money is going to charity.*

*Cameron: Id like to propose an amendment.*

Amendment to add a second point to this ‘JCR Resolves’. It reads as follows: ‘2. To reserve £1,000 of this years Charities budget for LGBTQ charities - to be allotted and divided by the Charities Officer in conjunction with the Equal Opps Committee.’

Taken as Friendly

*Tom: Since punishing them is going to be hard, I’d also like to propose an amendment*

Amendment to add a third point to ‘This JCR Resolves’. It reads as follows: ‘3.To condemn the individual(s) who removed the Pride Flags from the JCR’.

Taken as Friendly

*Finn: Some people we think might have been involved were post-grads - can we ban them from JCR?*

*Amy: Well we don’t know who it was exactly.*

Move to Vote

No Opposition

**MOTION PASSES**