

JCR Meeting Minutes – Sunday 8th week HT09

Chair: Preeti Dhillon (JCR President)

Secretary: Nikki Hutchison (JCR VP)

MEETING STARTS: 7.45PM

1. Constitutional Provision for Online Voting

This JCR notes:

1. That OUSU, and many other colleges successfully operate online voting schemes in their elections
2. That online voting would allow the introduction of voting by proxy for, for example, students on their year abroad at the time of elections.

This JCR believes:

1. That the use of technology to further democracy is a good thing.

This JCR resolves:

1. To make the following modifications to the JCR Constitution [*n.b. to see the previous constitutional part and the proposed amendments, see appendix 1*]:
 - a) Under Article 32 to add the following:
 - i) Choice of voting system
Voting may be by paper ballot or online voting, at the discretion of the RO
 - ii) Paper Ballot
After point ii) xi), add:
 - iii) Online voting
 - i) The order of names of the candidates to appear on the ballot papers shall be determined by the drawing of lots in the presence of the Dean.
 - ii) Polling shall take place between 8am and 8pm.
 - iii) Anyone may view the voters' register, on submission of a request to the RO, provided
 - a) He/she is a member of the JCR
 - b) It is viewed in the presence of the RO
 - iv) Elections shall be conducted in accordance with the online voting procedures used by OUSU
 - v) Any unauthorised interference with the online voting system shall be considered electoral malpractice and reported to the dean
 - b) To add the following to Art 33, after point ix):
 - x) The same formula shall be applied to the counting of votes cast through the online voting system.

Proposed: Katie Johnston (RO)

Seconded: Thomas Barker (Treasurer)

SFQs

Rhiannon Ward - What are we keeping the part about a paper Ballot?

Katie Johnston - Just in case, for example, the internet crashes: the election can still continue.

POD

No Opposition

MOTION PASSES

2. Loan to 'Punchcut'

This JCR notes:

1. Charity and charitableness are good;
2. Things written and directed by Corpus English Language and Literature graduates are at least equally good;
3. 'Punchcut' by Niall Gildea, dir. Polina Kalinina, (left last year but known to many!) is running at the Etcetera Theatre in Camden from 24th to 29th March, 2009, with all profits going to the Actors' Benevolent Fund, whose history of fine thespian rehabilitation work can be found at <http://www.actorsbenevolentfund.co.uk>;
4. Both aforesaid individuals, in addition to the play's producer, Corpus Literae Humaniores graduate Frank Brinkley, can boast of a history of theatrical excellence (or at least adequacy) while they were at Corpus; the success of their efforts, combined and individual, in 'The Eight: Reindeer Monologues', 'The Crucible', 'Dead Mother Cabaret' and 'We Got Chickens!', amongst others, should only need to be mentioned cursorily in order to set hearts a-flutter.

This JCR believes:

1. That it would be lovely if Corpus supported elderly actors in their incontinent dotage;
2. That it would be lovely if Corpus supported alumni, who are slightly less withered, but similarly mortal.

This JCR resolves:

1. To give a loan of £150 to 'Punchcut'; not pro-rata, not a gift. A loan which will be repaid.
2. To go to Camden, where everyone is painfully cool, and see the thing.

Proposed: Sophie Rees;

Seconded: Tom Corcoran

SFQs

- Adam Hadley - Why not a pro-rata loan?
- Sophie Rees - So the profits can go to charity.
- Tom Barker - when will the loan be repaid?
- SR - Just after the production.
- AH - What if they can't pay it back?
- SR - It'll come out of their own money.

POD

No opposition

MOTION PASSES**3. Current State of Affairs in the Livingstone Room****This JCR Notes:**

1. That the television reception in the Livingstone Room is very poor, with images frequently marred by such phenomena as ghosting and electrical noise;
2. That there are never any batteries in the remote controls;
3. That the domestic offer is currently in charge of JCR televisions.

This JCR Believes:

1. That we deserve high quality television provision, id est television images which are not marred by such phenomena as ghosting and electrical noise;
2. That we should have a technically competent person in charge of JCR television equipment.

This JCR Resolves:

1. To add to the duties to the standing Orders of the Domestic Officer: "vii. To ensure the correct operation of both JCR televisions and to ensure that problems are fixed promptly".

Proposed: Merlin Cooper (former computing monkey to the Pelican)
Seconded: Joseph Fallon (former money ape to the Pelican)

SFQs

Merlin Cooper- Points out that 'on call' was supposed to be in inverted commas, to indicate this wasn't deadly serious. The problem is that the TV is never fixed, and it isn't currently in anyone's standing orders to be in charge of it; the computing officer seems like the best person.

Ned Gramich (Domestic Officer)- I did phone the maintenance people up about the television, and asked Katie Doig [Cinema Curator] to let me know if anything further went wrong. I didn't hear anything, so I assumed it was okay.

Joe Fallon - It should be in someone's standing order to be in charge of the TV.

NG - I'll happily do it, I just wasn't told about the problem.

POD

Alex Gee - Could we make the fact that it doesn't mean 'on call 24/7' explicit?

Dave Nickerson - PROPOSES AMMENDMENT: change to 'to ensure that problems are fixed promptly.'

MC - Taken as friendly.

KJ - I'm against this motion being passed; JCR meetings aren't a forum for complaints.

JF - Let's put it on the Domestic Officer's standing orders.

DN - But don't the TVs belong to college, not the JCR?

JF - Doesn't matter who owns them.

Katie Doig - Do we have to change the standing orders? Can't you just ask Ned; she's happy to do it.

KJ - But in future we might not have such a conscientious Domestic officer. We need to look to the future.

Alex Gee (Computing Officer) - If this motion is passed, I'll resign. I didn't take on the job to take care of the TVs, but maintain the website and help people out with their computer problems, which I enjoy.

[At this point, MTV is proposed and seconded, and some confusion arises as to whether the meeting should actually move to vote. It is also clarified at this point that to change the standing orders of a JCR Officer, the motion need only be passed at one meeting, but a 2/3 majority is needed. Speeches are made for and against MTV, the main contention being between people who were thoroughly bored with the motion and people who wanted to change the motion so that it was the Domestic Officer's, not Computing Officer's, standing orders being changed. MTV is voted on and fails.]

Naomi Ofori - PROPOSED AMMENDMENT: Change it to 'domestic Officers standing orders'; change resolves 2 and scrap resolves 1.

MC - Taken as Friendly.

MTV

FOR: 26

AGAINST: 1

ABSTENTIONS: 1

MOTION PASSES

3. Celery...

This JCR believes that:

1. Celery is used in almost all salads at hall, as well as in the burgers.
2. Celery tastes disgusting, and doesn't belong in burgers at all.

This JCR resolves:

1. To ask Mike the Manciple to hopefully remove or at the very least lessen the amount of celery in Corpus hot food.

Proposed: Naomi Ofori

Seconded: Adam Salt

[The Secretary would like to note - as this doesn't transcribe well into written minutes - that though some JCR members were deadly serious about their celery needs, the majority took part in this lively debate with a health dose of tongue in cheek.]

[As Ned Gramich couldn't stay for the entire course of the meeting, Naomi Ofori took over the proposing of the motion.]

SFQs

Francis Carr - Will this increase the price of salads?

Rhys Parfitt - Why don't we just have celery in a separate bowl?

NG - Wants to make clear to JCR members that you can just talk to/e-mail Mike the Manciple about food issues.

POD

Katie Bayliss - If you separate it, you don't have to eat it if you don't want to.

NG - But Celery is currently in a lot of cooked foods too, like burgers.

RW - We need to make this specific.

RP - So how about we have a separate bowl?

FC - But I don't want to have to mix in my celery!

RW - Take celery out of one of the salads, leave it in one of them, have none in hot food, and also have a separate bowl.

Jane Sancinito - Maybe some days don't have celery at all, some days do?

MC - As long as this was advertised well in advance.

KB - Withdraw the motion, and take a survey of the celery needs of the JCR.

RW - Would this affect the cost of the food?

NG - Mike the Manciple has already agreed to this, and didn't raise the issue, so I doubt it.

Iona Easthope - PROPOSED AMENDMENT: change to just 'less celery in hot food'.

NO - Taken as friendly.

JF - Shouldn't the MCR be consulted about this? It's their food too.

NO - Good idea. PROCEDURAL MOTION: withdraws motion, so that the MCR and JCR as a whole can be consulted on the issue of celery.

MOTION WITHDRAWN.

MEETING FINISHES: 8.30pm

32. Polling

a) Choice of voting system

Voting may be by paper ballot or online voting, at the discretion of the RO

b) Paper Ballot

- i. The order of names of the candidates to appear on the ballot papers shall be determined by the drawing of lots in the presence of the Dean.
- ii. Polling shall take place between 8am and 8pm.
- iii. Ballot boxes must not be left unattended at any time. Any damage to the ballot box shall be reported the Returning Officer immediately.
- iv. Scrutineers shall sign the list at the ballot box prior to issuing any ballot papers, and shall write down upon the list the number of the first ballot paper which they issue.
- v. Scrutineers may request identification from a voter before issuing them with a ballot paper.
- vi. A voter must sign the voters' register before taking their ballot paper.
- vii. Voting by proxy is not permitted.
- viii. The room in which the ballot box stands, shall be defined as "the polling area", within which there shall be no materials, other than those authorised by the Returning Officer, exhibiting the name of any candidate or any issue of a political nature.
- ix. No person(s) within the polling area may attempt to influence voters.
- x. Anyone may examine the voters' register, provided
 1. s/he is a member of the JCR,
 2. the voters' register remains within the polling area and the scrutineer's sight at all times,
 3. The register is returned to the scrutineer if a voter is waiting to sign it.
- xi. 11. To be valid, a ballot paper must bear the signatures of both the Returning Officer and the Scrutineer, and the individual number of the ballot paper. Scrutineers shall not sign ballot papers in advance of their being required.

c) Online voting

- i. The order of names of the candidates to appear on the ballot papers shall be determined by the drawing of lots in the presence of the Dean.
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33. Procedure for counting in all elections of JCR officers and representatives

- i. The Returning officer shall take the total number of votes cast, less those votes which are invalid or abstentions, and shall divide their number by the number of vacancies to be filled plus one. The figure thus obtained plus one, rounded down to the nearest whole number is the quota.
- ii. If any candidates have polled this figure or greater then such a candidate(s) is/are elected to the post(s).
- iii. If there are still positions for election after a candidate has obtained the quota, then the papers of the candidate(s) elected are redistributed according to the next preference, the total number of votes being

distributed being equal to the surplus of the elected candidates and being divided in the ratio of the next preferences of all the elected candidates' votes.

- iv. If on redistribution a candidate attains the quota then s/he is deemed elected and his/her papers may be redistributed according to next preference, in the same manner as in (iii).
- v. If at any time no candidate attains or exceeds the quota then the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated and his/her papers shall be redistributed at full value according to next preference.
- vi. It must be noted that the quota stays the same throughout the count, even if re-distributed papers of elected or eliminated candidates are non-transferable.
- vii. If, at any stage, the number of vacant seats is equal to the number of candidates who have been neither elected or eliminated, all the remaining candidates shall be deemed elected, even if they have not reached the quota.
- viii. In the event of a tie between candidates, the candidate with the highest number of first choices shall be deemed elected.
- ix. At the conclusion of the count, the Returning Officer shall make an official declaration of the result, and shall display the result in the JCR.
- x. The same formula shall be applied to the counting of votes cast through the online voting system.