

JCR Meeting Minutes – Sunday 6th week MT09

Chair: Preeti Dhillon (JCR President)

Secretary: Nikki Hutchison (JCR VP)

MEETING STARTS: 7.45PM

Summary of Actions:

Resolves:

1. To change the Standing Orders of the JCR President, Vice President, Domestic Officer, Returning Officer, Libraries & Academic Affairs, Accommodation, Male and Female Welfare, and ENTZ Committee, as attached in Appendix 1.
2. To change the JCR Constitution so it and the SCR guidelines on balls converge properly. Also to make explicit that the JCR underwrites the Ball by £2000. (2st reading).
3. Elect a committed and well informed RAG officer at the forthcoming elections.
4. To add to the standing orders of the JCR Treasurer to organise a survey in 2nd/3rd week of Michaelmas term each year, use these results to recalibrate which and how many newspapers and magazines the JCR buys, and then to publish both the results of the survey and their decision about what newspaper and magazines to buy.
5. To mandate the JCR Treasurer to recalibrate the newspaper and magazines bought for the JCR, based on the current survey results, this term.

Money:

1. Divide this term's charities budget equally between the following: Compassion, Amber, Oxford University Amnesty International, VIVA, Right to Play.
2. To donate £10 to go towards a prize for the winning minority groups Icon, as nominated and voted for by JCR members.

Preliminary Business

- We're thinking of buying a leaving present for Sir Tim – perhaps a cricket bat?
- We'll be having a Diversity Week in 7th week – for more details talk to Lisa Blundell, Equal Opportunities Officer
- Progress on the Ball: Alix H said all is going well; launch was a great success and they sold 100 tickets – 1/3 of the way there!

(ED BROWN TAKES THE CHAIR)

1. Mass updating of standing orders!

This JCR notes:

1. That the Standing Orders are out of date for many officers

This JCR believes:

1. That the Standing Orders should be up to date and comprehensive so the JCR can hold officers to account on their duties, and potential applicants to those positions need to know what they entail

This JCR resolves:

1. To change the Standing Orders of the JCR President, Vice President, Domestic Officer, Returning Officer, Libraries & Academic Affairs, Accommodation, Male and Female Welfare, and ENTZ Committee, as attached in Appendix 1.

Proposed: Preeti Dhillon (JCR President)

Seconded: Craig Abbott (JCR RO)

SFQs

Johan Meeran asks how the officers are held to account? i.e. how we make sure they do their jobs? Preeti D answers that the motion is to change the standing orders, so that people will know what the officers are supposed to do, and then they can talk to the President or another committee member if they think an officer isn't doing their job. *[Secretary notes: If you're interested about what to do if a committee member isn't doing their job properly in extreme circumstances – like the President declaring the JCR a dictatorship – see the constitution under 'General, 2: JCR Committee and Officers (<http://www.corpusjcr.org/index.php?page=Constitution> until the website is updated).]*

James Pontifex asks why the Entz are no longer in charge of the Bar and pool table etc. Naomi Ofori (Entz President) answers that the Bar staff take care of the bar itself, and as to the pool table etc, she has *met* with Blagoj et al about them before, but they always sort it out anyway.

Iona Easthope (Library and Academic Affairs officer) amends her standing order change to add:

v) To maintain an adequate system of feedback between tutors and students.

(She'd forgotten to include this.)

ACCEPTED AS FRIENDLY.

POD

MTV

For: overwhelming

MOTION PASSES

(ED BROWN STILL HAS THE CHAIR.)

2. Changing the JCR Constitution regarding ball procedure (2nd reading)

This JCR notes:

1. That the JCR Constitution and the SCR guidelines on balls do not converge
2. That this makes the proposal and approval stage of having a ball difficult

This JCR resolves:

To make the following amendments to the Constitution to make the next ball proposal (Trinity 2011) a much easier process by cohering to Governing Body standards.

1. To change Section 3.iii from 'Individuals wishing to apply to the positions of Ball Chair, Ball Secretary, and Ball Treasurer, will be invited to apply to these positions by the *end of 1st week of Trinity Term* at least three terms in advance of the proposed Ball'
TO 'Individuals wishing to apply to the positions of Ball Chair, Ball Secretary and Ball Treasurer, will be invited to apply to these positions by the *end of 4th week in Hilary Term*, the year before the proposed Ball'
2. To change Section 3.v from 'It will be the responsibility of the successful Ball Chair, Secretary and Treasurer to table the initial formal request to have a ball to Governing Body. This request will be tabled in time for discussion at the College meeting in *6th* week of Trinity Term one year ahead of the planned ball. The composition of the request will involve regular consultation with the Dean and Domestic Bursar.'
TO 'It will be the responsibility of the successful Ball Chair, Secretary and Treasurer to table the initial formal request to have a ball to Governing Body. This request will be tabled in time for discussion at the College meeting in *2nd* week of Trinity Term one year ahead of the planned ball. The composition of the request will involve regular consultation with the Dean and Domestic Bursar.'
3. To change Section 3.vii from 'The Ball Chair, Secretary and Treasurer will ensure that at least one of these three is present at all ordinary JCR Meetings between their appointment to the Ball Committee and the night of the Ball itself. This person will be responsible for giving a verbal report on the progress of the ball *at the same time as the elected JCR Committee officers give their verbal reports*, and will answer any questions from JCR members concerning the progress of the ball thereafter'
TO 'The Ball Chair, Secretary and Treasurer will ensure that at least one of these three is present at all ordinary JCR Meetings between their appointment to the Ball Committee and the night of the Ball itself. This person will be responsible for giving a verbal report on the progress of the ball *at the beginning of the meeting*, and will answer any questions from JCR members concerning the progress of the ball thereafter.'
4. To add that the JCR will underwrite the Ball for £2000.

Proposed: Preeti Dhillon

Seconded: Alix Harmer

SFQs

POD

MTV

For: overwhelming

3. Charity Money Distribution

This JCR notes that:

1. the RAG officer sent out an e-mail asking for charities to be nominated to receive money from this term's budget.
2. the RAG officer only got 3 replies.

This JCR believes that:

1. the RAG officer should be trusted to nominate good causes should JCR members show a high degree of apathy.
2. the abject failure of the RAG officer to organise any fund raising events this term has been unacceptable.

This JCR resolves to:

1. Divide this term's charities budget equally between the following: Compassion, Amber, Oxford University Amnesty International, VIVA, Right to Play.
2. elect a committed and well informed RAG officer at the forthcoming elections.

Proposed: Jeremy Lloyd

Seconded: James Pontifex

Jeremy explained what each of the charities does. In brief: **Amber** work with young unemployed people, getting them into work/back to school/trained; **Compassion** are a charity that recruit sponsors for third world children (our donation would be for a reserve fund to cover child sponsoring when sponsors drop out); **VIVA** are a charity networking organization, that also throw Christmas parties for third world children; **OUI** are a fundraising body, all donation to whom go directly to raising funds for Amnesty International; **Right to Play** work in refugee camps, (for example) rehabilitating child soldiers through sport.

[Jeremy also noted that Right to Play have recently been banned from advertising at the Vancouver Olympic events by the Olympic committee (for some stupid reason) – he urges the JCR to join the campaign to protest against this!]

SFQs

Johan M asks how JCR members know what charities Jeremy chooses? Jeremy explains how he chooses them: JCR members nominate them to him (by e-mail/in person); if the number of nominations is below 6, then he chooses charities he knows about and respects to make it up to 6. If nominations number more than 6, he organises a JCR vote. In this case it was 5, merely to his discretion. He says someone can nominate a 6th in this meeting, and amend the motion to add another charity in, if they wish? [At this point Ed B pronounces that Ricky Gama likes a charity. Ricky looks at him blankly.] Johan asks if Jeremy can send out an e-mail explaining which charities he chose; Jeremy says that's fine.

Iona E asks: what about the motion we passed last meeting [*Secretary notes: about the JCR choosing two charities to regularly give to*]? Jeremy replies he will start consulting the JCR in order to find 2 such charities – that the JCR feel they would like to regularly support and get involved in – from next week. He would really appreciate it if JCR member put some thought into this; he doesn't want it to be left to him to decide!

POD

MTV

For: overwhelming

4. Icons Board

This JCR notes:

- November is diversity month.
- Corpus is having a Diversity Week to celebrate this (in 7th week!)
- We are going to have an ICONS BOARD. People can nominate someone who has inspired them from a minority group to go on the board. Corpus will then vote on the most inspirational icon.

This JCR believes:

- It would be nice for the person who nominated the icon that wins the vote to win a little something!

This JCR resolves:

- To donate £10 to go towards a prize

Proposed: Lisa Blundell

Seconded: Craig Abbott

Lisa explains that people will nominate someone they see as inspirational by e-mail, with a few lines as to why, and she will put this under a photo of them and pin it on the JCR notice board, to eventually be voted on.

James Gillespie asks for a more specific definition of 'from a minority group'. Lisa says she has left it deliberately vague, so not as to exclude people – she send out an explanatory e-mail soon.

James Pontifex asks what the prize will be? Lisa asks for suggestions. Various people suggest: a fondue set; a chocolate fountain; a framed picture of their (winning) icon.

POD

MTV

For: overwhelming

5. Newspapers and Magazines – let's change them every year!

This JCR Notes:

1. The Vice President, as Mandated in the 2nd week meeting of this term, did a newspaper survey
2. A copy of the results is attached as Appendix 2

This JCR Believes:

1. That every year, the JCR cohort changes, and that the newspapers and magazines the JCR buys should reflect what the JCR read
2. That how much we spend on newspapers should remain relatively (subject to inflation and all that jazz) constant

This JCR Resolves:

6. To add to the standing orders of the JCR Treasurer to organise a survey in 2nd/3rd week of Michaelmas term each year (to give 1st years enough time to settle in and discover there are indeed newspapers!) and use these results to recalibrate which and how many newspapers and magazines the JCR buys; then to publish both the results of the survey and their decision about what newspaper and magazines to buy.
7. To mandate the JCR Treasurer to recalibrate the newspaper and magazines bought for the JCR, based on the current survey results, this term.

Proposed: Nikki Hutchison (JCR Veep)

Seconded: Tom Barker (JCR Treasurer)

SFQs

Laura Lee-Rogers asks whether the newspaper recalibration will be decided this term? Nikki H answers yes, it will.

Johan M asks how will JCR members know what the treasurer decides? Tom B asks for suggestions. People suggest by e-mail to the JCR, and he agrees.

POD

James Gillespie PROPOSES AN AMENDMENT: that the JCR treasurer bring the results to the JCR as a motion to be voted on. Nikki H says this would dispel the point of having a survey – the survey makes it so all the JCR (can) have a say; putting it as a motion just bring it back to whoever is at the meeting controlling what newspapers we buy.

AMMENDMENT TAKEN AS HOSTILE. [*Secretary notes: Ooh, it's like a spy drama.*]

SPEECH FOR: James G – there needs to be a mechanism to make sure the necessarily subjective interpretation of the survey results by the JCR Treasurer is fair; Tom B is very trustworthy, but future treasurers might not be so.

SPEECH AGAINST: Ed B – argues interpreting the survey results is not that subjective; we need to be able to trust out JCR Officers.

Katie Bayliss suggests that instead amending the motion to read (PROPOSES AMMENDMENT:) The treasurer publishes both the results of the survey and their decision about what newspapers and magazines to buy; this way JCR members can check themselves.

James G withdraws his amendment in favour of Katie's.

ACCEPTED AS FRIENDLY.

MTV

For: Overwhelming

Meeting finishes at roughly 8.10pm – cool beans!