

JCR meeting: 6th week, TT '11

Chair: Jack Evans (President)

Secretary: Sophie Cass (Vice President)

JCR members present (excluding Chair and Secretary): 25

Sunday 5th June, 2011

Meeting opens: 19.36

Preliminary business

Present:

President, Jack Evans
Vice President, Sophie Cass
Treasurer, Alex Franklin
Access and Admissions officer, Mek Mesfin
Accommodation officer, Alix Harmer
Careers officer, Ed Lundy
Domestic officer, Donal O'Hara
International Students' Officer, Jan Willem Scholten
Male welfare officer, Mike Hardy
Female welfare officer, Jules Zani

Minutes from JCR meeting in 4th week, Trinity term 2011, signed off without opposition

Officers' reports

President, Jack Evans

- Felix Neate wasn't at OUSU meeting, George Simms came instead:
 - Decision taken at meeting to use gender-neutral language in bops
 - This decision took two hours

- Internationals might not get storage over vac – we're not happy, are going to try and find somewhere.

- We have a new Ball Committee;

- Donal O'Hara is President; Hannah Buxton is Treasurer; Alex Coupe and Laura Lee-Rdogers are joint Secretaries
- David Willets – No-Con next week in Congregation, we have some fill in forms for everyone to add testimony.

Academic Affairs officer, Megan McCullagh

- Attended Academic Committee

Access and Admissions officer, Mek Mesfin

What I've done so far this term:

1. Worked with Jack to get the Student Ambassador scheme passed through governing body
2. Helped Jeni Clack with Tours of college/access events
3. Attended University wide access meetings
4. Passed a new 'college family' system; will include new Stanford students to foster greater involvement

What I plan to do for the rest of the term:

1. Work with Sophie and Jack to get the Alternative Prospectus done
2. Order Subject Ambassador T-Shirts and committee hoodies
3. Continue to implement the new college family system

Aims for next term:

1. Complete the final stages of the Ambassador scheme (training with Jeni/trips to schools)
2. Open the Ambassador scheme to all JCR members (opposed to just 'Subject Ambassadors')

Accommodation officer, Alix Harmer

- Discussed role with potential election candidates.
- Finalised Liddell flat choices.

Arts officer, Jacob Diggle

Nothing to report

Clubs and Societies officer, Joe Mohan

- We have now finally sorted out tennis courts for the JCR members to use, courtesy of James Pontifex. If you wish to play, ring and book a court at Iffley sports centre.

Domestic officer, Donal O'Hara

Nothing to report

Environment and Ethics officer, Imogen Jones

- Discussed the environmental sustainability of the ball with ball co-president Dr Whittow
- Discussed the reports of scouts putting waste paper in with general rubbish with chief scout

Entz president, Millie Ismail

Nothing to report

Equal Opportunities officer, Olivia Chinwokwu

- Helped with and read at Spectrum Formal
- Led the Equal Opps Fresher's Week Presentation Discussion
- Organised and held the Equal Opps Film Night on Wednesday
- JCR Tea - was bantz.

OUSU/NUS officer, Felix Neate

Nothing to report

RAG officer, Emma Fouracre Reid

- Organised spectrum charity formal hall with Maisie
- Sorting out long and short term charity nominations and payments
- Congratulations to all re: the tortoise fair, corpus is doing very well in the charity league!
- As always let me know of any money you raise for charity!

Welfare officer, Jules Zani and Mike Hardy

- In the past two weeks we have continued to put on Men's and Women's tea every Sunday, keep the condom level topped up and try to keep everyone happy and welfared.
- We have incorporated suggestions into the tea, such as blueberries, popcorn and squash. However, we unfortunately announce that Tesco have stopped selling carrot sticks so these probably won't be attending gender specific tea for the foreseeable future.

Questions to officers

Sam Robbert – does the President think it's okay to insert his own stories into Peli Post?

Jack – no, that was a joke. Will uncensor it.

Summary of actions

- To elect the JCR President on Thursday of Fifth Week in Michaelmas Term
- To move the Michaelmas Elections to Thursday of Seventh Week, in line with the current Trinity Elections.
- To update the JCR Constitution and Standing Orders accordingly.
- To subscribe to *Private Eye* starting from MT 2011
- To fund the Peer Supporter tees ordered via Oxford Counselling Service. This will cost the JCR a total of £83.50 for 9 printed tees.
- Buy one of each for a combined total of £340 (small figure compared to Rowing/Football over the past year)
- To accept the JCR Rent Proposal 2011.
- To add to the Rent Proposal a statement from JCR saying that Hardship fund is not realistically an alternative; and the JCR has debated and come to the conclusion that we don't approve; and that the JCR doesn't back the part of the questionnaire that concerns the Hardship Fund.
- To add a fullstop to the first resolve.
- To strike mention of cricket nets from discussion of sportsground, as already under negotiation
- To mandate the President to make the statements and suggestions in the Proposal more presumptive

Motion 1: JCR Presidential Elections

This JCR Notes:

- The position of JCR President is often uncontested (although not this year).
- The position of JCR President is pretty important.
- A reason given for not running is that potential candidates are worried you might not make it onto committee at all if you lose.
- Many others JCRs have their Presidential Election first, and their Committee Elections afterwards.
- Hustings took a long time this year

This JCR Believes:

- Everyone should run for JCR President who wants to.

This JCR Resolves:

- To elect the JCR President on Thursday of Fifth Week in Michaelmas Term
- To move the Michaelmas Elections to Thursday of Seventh Week, in line with the current Trinity Elections.
- To update the JCR Constitution and Standing Orders accordingly.

Proposed: Jack Evans, JCR President

Seconded: Alex Franklin, JCR Treasurer Mike Hardy

Chair ceded to Donal O'Hara

Short Factual Questions

Colette Weston – why that way round, rather than committee positions first and then President after

Jack Evnas – handover more important for JCR president

Mike Hardy – to allow someone rejected for Pres to still be on Committee

Felipe Imedio – possible already to win for more than one position?

Jack – but no one does it

Mike – this will also fix hustings, they won't take so long this time, will be more palatable

Hannah Buxton – would it be worth moving Vice Pres as well, then? That's a massive job, same issues apply?

Gareth Langley – VP in Trinity

George Simms – heard of anyone who ran for Pres, lost, then ran for another and got it? And make VP the second vote of Pres?

Mike – very, very different job

Points for debate

None

MOVE TO VOTE

For: overwhelming

Motion passes

Motion 2: 'Private Eye' subscription

This JCR Notes:

- That the JCR does not currently subscribe to *Private Eye*
- That without *Private Eye*, companies like Trafigura could get away with dumping toxic waste in the Ivory Coast

- That a year's subscription to *Private Eye* is £28
- The SCR subscribe to *Private Eye*

This JCR Believes:

- That Ugandan Discussions are a good way of getting to the top
- Piers Moron is one of the most accurate typographical errors ever known
- That questioning the decisions of authority and rooting out sleaze is to the benefit of the nation
- That subscribing to *Private Eye* would supplement the current selection of newspapers and magazines
- That columns like HP sauce, Colemanballs and Psuedonames should be part of people's cultural diet

This JCR Resolves:

- To subscribe to *Private Eye* starting from MT 2011

Proposed: Gareth Langley (Cyn Ical-Mann)

Seconded: Nick Dickinson (Pte. I. Reader)

Short factual questions:

Sam Kelly - £28 per year?

Gareth – yup.

George – has anyone and generally looked at what we subscribe to?

Gareth – review at start of 2009/2010, 15 people asked, didn't get it

Felipe – what is it?

Gareth – satirical magazine edited by Ian Hislop, published every fortnight.

Points for debate:

Gareth – we used to subscribe to *Private Eye* and then stopped because people kept removing it from JCR and reading it for themselves. So we would need people to be respectful.

Greg Yates– are we going to set any kind of limit on how many different magazines we are going to include?

Nick Dickinson – limit is democratic, if people don't want it, don't vote for it.

Mek Mesfin – do we have a budget.

Donal O'Hara – in Pontifex era there were plans to greatly expand newspaper and magazine budget but eventually got scrapped as would cost too much.

Mike – important to remember that not tied in; we pay for a year, and can then review later. Can avoid bloodsport debates taking place. Mandate him to do a yearly review?

Proposal: to add to the resolves, 'to mandate the Treasurer to do a yearly review of newspapers and magazines subscriptions'

Proposed – Mike Hardy

Seconded – Greg Yates

Accepted as friendly

MOVE TO VOTE

No opposition to the motion

Motion passes

Motion 3: Peer Supporter t-shirts

This JCR Notes:

- That Corpus has a group of trained Peer Supporters who make good listening ears for Freshers dealing with the move to Uni.
- That feedback from other college Peer Support groups suggests that having the Peer Supporters in labelled t-shirts during Freshers' Week makes it easier for new students to remember who they are, and makes them more likely to approach a Peer Supporter even once Freshers' Week is over (they remember "weren't you someone in a blue t-shirt?" etc).

This JCR Believes:

- That the Peer Supporters should be easy to find and approach during Freshers week, and easy to identify.

This JCR Resolves:

- To fund the Peer Supporter tees ordered via Oxford Counselling Service. This will cost the JCR a total of £83.50 for 9 printed tees.

Proposed: Hannah Buxton

Seconded: Helen Wood

Short factual questions:

Gareth – are you going to wear them all day every day for all of freshers?

Hannah – last time we had a rota so there was a peer supporter in JCR the whole time, so the idea is to have a t shirt when you're 'on duty' so know who you are.

Jack – how do I wear a committee hoody and a Peer Supporter t shirt?

Sam – could you do badges and save like £70?

Hannah - ...no. Counselling service put in order, asked JCR to fund it, otherwise Peer Supporters will fund it.

Mike – there is money in the budget for this, Franklin says.

Eddie – will this be a yearly purchase, or t shirts that wear each year?

Hannah – t shirts will have names on, so will need new t shirts for new peer supporters if they are found to work.

Mek – more money being spent next week for subject ambassaors

Megan – possible to make own t shirt?

Hannah – yes, but counselling service already ordered them, it's just whether JCR pay or each Peer supporter pays.

Jules – so if we don't pay, you guys pay?

Hannah – order form had two days notice, so we ordered before knowing if JCR would pay

Points for debate

None

MOVE TO VOTE

No opposition

Motion passes

Motion 4: Cricket bats

This JCR notes:

- CCCCC suffers from low turnout/performance
- We have a lot of new jumpers, now we need bats

This JCR believes:

- Jester and Mongoose are two new cutting-edge bats

This JCR resolves:

- Buy one of each for a combined total of £340 (small figure compared to Rowing/Football over the past year)

Proposed: Donal O'Hara

Seconded: Eddie Lundy

Short factual questions

Gareth – why have you proposed and seconded without approval of cricket captain or Vice Captain?

Donal – I don't need the approval of anyone; James told me he had emailed you but yet to receive a response

Gareth – because we were about to say it's a stupid idea

Jack – let's not be passive aggressive.

George – what's this got to do with Pontifex?

Hannah – there's history....

Greg – if buy more expensive cricket bat, what's the increase in game play? Is there a cost/benefit?

Donal – I imagine there is. James became intrigued after reading an article about them, which differ from traditional bats. He felt that the bats the club has aren't very good, maybe trying something new would be cool.

Dellar – is this actually a joke? Such waste of time and boring

Donal – it's a real motion. Think £340 is an upper limit, don't think would be an issue with cutting it down to purchase just one.

Felipe – Want to spend £340 on a cricket bat?

Donal – two

Felipe – Why are you two proposing and seconding, you've never played cricket in your life!

Donal – I've played once...

Felipe – what is your interest in Corpus cricket?

Donal – bringing this motion on behalf of James

Jonny Earl – what are the cricket provisions at the moment?

Gareth – club currently has two bats in good condition, one other and two smaller not so bad. Can we move to debate?

Shannon – how much did the other bats cost?

Gareth – mine is £150, a perfectly functional one would be £90-£100

Points of debate:

Gareth – these cricket bats are not good cricket bats, are gimmicky and pointless, *[Secretary notes: Gareth gives knowledgeable explanation and example of the cricket bat during a match, but due to Secretary's ineptitude at sport she is unable to understand and record it properly. Apologies.]* They don't improve performance, don't improve anything, doesn't matter about article Pontifex read. £340 is a lot for two bats. Why are we asking JCR for money right now when we are currently in discussions with Univ grounds that we require £700 from JCR, the email from Ponti came at 12 o'clock today. This is a waste of JCR money

Greg – relative to their costs, boat club tried to limit their costs to what they needed; don't see the return here, I trust Gareth when he talks about cricket bats.

Donal – think the prices aren't as steep as motion would suggest

Gareth – they are, they're hyper inflated prices because they are gimmicky.

JW – move to vote, seconded by Colette

No opposition to move to vote

Opposition to motion:

Gareth:

Waste of money

State of flux with club, Univ approached with offer of merge

More pressing needs – gloves and pads

This is gimmicky, stupid, and horrendous waste of money

Proposition of motion:

Donal:

I'm not really in proposition of the motion.

[JCR ask it to be noted in the minutes that Donal is only doing this as a favour to a friend, which is a nice thing to do.]

Opposition to motion: overwhelming

Motion fails

Motion 5: Rent proposal

This JCR resolves:

- To accept the JCR Rent Proposal 2011.
- **To add to the Rent Proposal a statement from JCR saying that Hardship fund is not realistically an alternative; and the JCR has debated and come to the conclusion that we don't approve; and that the JCR doesn't back the part of the questionnaire that concerns the Hardship Fund.**
- **To add a fullstop to the first resolve.**
- **To strike mention of cricket nets from discussion of sportsground, as already under negotiation**
- **To mandate the President to make the statements and suggestions in the Proposal more presumptive**

Proposed: ~~Jack Evans (JCR President)~~ ~~Mike Hardy~~ Jack Evans

- **Seconded: ~~Alix Harmer (Accommodation Officer)~~ Nick Dickinson**

Cedes chair to Donal

Short factual questions

Gareth – felt that had overriding feel of JCR believes that we should stay at the median, couldn't that be read like that by SCR and send us up proverbial creek without paddle?

Jack – last year we agreed to stay at the median until accommodation improved.

Gareth – does it say 'always'?

Jack – think so

Gareth – important difference.

Greg – whose idea was it in the questionnaire to devote that much space to hardship fund, which is only a little bit related to rent issue?

Jack – it was the model sent by OUSU

Greg – did you approve the decision?

Jack – yes.

Jonny – is there any provision to begin rent proposals before we choose accommodation, to give us the option of going private?

Jack – wish we could, but every other JCR in uni does their proposal in Trinity term, it's just how it goes. Ballot being moved to Michaelmas.

Sam Robberts – can International storage be included?

Jack – been included last minute, yes.

Gareth – if talking about rent and accommodation, why is the sportsground and college bar involved?

Jack – in previous meeting, we talked about this.

Points of debate

Gareth – feel that if talking about rent then should focus on accommodation stuff like finalists using JCR as point one, rather than having sportsground as our first grievance. We should be talking about standard of accommodation.

Jack – in terms of stuff in my inbox, sportsground is the biggest grievance

Greg – last year when Seb was Pres and we had rent crisis and I talked to Val Cunningham. He said immediately that if you don't like it, and can't afford it, is you go on the hardship fund. SCR think that that any rent proposal is justified because you can get on hardship fund. But SCR also say that if on hardship fund also means you can't have blues money, and can't get travel grants etc.

Amendment – to add to the resolves, 'to add to the Rent Proposal a statement from JCR saying that Hardship fund is not realistically an alternative; and the JCR has debated and come to the conclusion that we don't approve; and that the JCR doesn't back the part of the questionnaire that concerns the Hardship Fund.'

**Proposed: Greg Yates Mike Hardy
Seconded by Nick Dickinson**

Not taken as friendly

Debate on the motion:

Mek – I didn't know about this fund, didn't know it restricts your access

Dellar – I can't play Blues sports if on Hardship fund, because they get transparency to your finances

Colette Weston – nothing you do with money is your own any more.

Jack – since February this year, they have only prelim right to that, only right to see financial details you want to see them

Greg – Draconian review of finances, this is what I've gathered from tutors.

Jack – they only have access to your finances once when you apply, not the whole time.

Mike – also fair to assume that even only get a look at the beginning, you're still having to provide a budget, and if you want them to give you the money presumably in practice you're going to have to be giving up a lot.

Greg leaves; Mike takes over the proposal of the amendment

Jonny – if only look at finances one, how is that a problem for your liberty.

Dellar – not just about looking at your finances, also about the fact I'd feel guilty about spending money. Living like that is not particularly healthy or fun, or fair.

Jack – point is people don't know about the fund, don't know how many people are on it, as far as I'm aware no one has gone on it since I've been Pres

Joe – surely point is that because a Blues player is going to have to spend from the beginning more money, they should have to factor in

Colette – hasn't OOB been slashed/cut considerably?

Jack – no, it's actually being increased now.

Vote on amendment

For: overwhelming

Amendment added to motion

Mike Hardy and Nick Dickinson now proposing and seconding the motion

(Return to debate on motion)

Amendment proposed: to add a fullstop to the first resolve.

Proposed: Jack Evans

Second – Nick Dickinson

Taken as hostile

Debate on amendment

None

Vote on amendment:

For: overwhelming

Amendment becomes part of motion

Motion now proposed and seconded by Jack Evans and Nick Dickinson

(Return to debate on motion)

Amendment proposed: to strike mention of cricket nets from discussion of sportsground, as already under negotiation

Proposed: Gareth Langley

Seconded: Mike Hardy

Taken as friendly; amendment added to motion

Mike - in conclusion we talk about improvements, how hard are we pushing the things we want? Is there no scope for having we accept on condition

Jack – original paper was too passive-aggressive, we don't want that.

Mike – fine line to tread, but literally nothing pushing them to accept any of these proposals.

Jack – so replace sentences with things like 'such and such will be improved'

Amendment proposed: to mandate the President to make the statements and suggestions in the Proposal more presumptive

Proposed: Mike Hardy
Seconded: Gareth Langley

Taken as friendly; amendment becomes part of motion

(Return to debate on motion)

Dellar – can we have something about blues grant coming back as one of our conditions?

Jack – email me a paragraph.

Amendment proposed: to mandate the President to make mention of Blues money within the Proposal

Proposed: Rachel Dellar
Seconded: Gareth Langley

Taken as friendly; amendment becomes part of motion

(Return to debate on motion)

Mek – bottom of page 4? Do we have any information than 26% of JCR what our standard of accommodation looks like.

Jack – OUSU do a quality survey, and we are actually quite high in that. Inflated due to Liddell as well

Gareth – asked Seb if OUSU have a definitive comparison or survey and he said not really. So perhaps something to discuss later

Jack – done in terms of, 'do they have an ensuite' etc

Gareth – that's not really the point, not an indication of quality.

Donal – this is a separate issue

Mek – can't ask OUSU to check everything, but what exactly do OUSU do

Jack – explains checklist

Donal – think we’ve covered a lot of ground here, suggest Jack makes an amendment that future discussions about the manner in which accommodation is rated and the Hardship

Jack – OUSU point noted, doesn’t need amendment

Move to vote

Jack summarises: mandating paper, paragraph 6 being removed and replaced; stuff being changed re: cricket and sports ground; page 9 changes; and the bit about Blues

For: overwhelming

Motion passes

Meeting over: 20.41
