**Agenda for JCR Meeting, 7.30 p.m., 31st November 2013**

**Chair: Patricia Stephenson**

**Secretary: Harry Begg**

**Returning Officer: Olivia Thompson**

**Committee Members present:**

Patricia Stephenson – President

Harry Begg – Vice-President

Gege Parthasarathy - Treasurer

Ian Headley – Arts Officer

Thomas Heaps – Clubs & Socs Officer

Amy Jones – Academic Affairs

James Wells – Welfare (Male)

Victoria Halsall – Accommodation Officer

Erika Pheby – International Students Officer

Blessing Inyang – Access & Admissions Officer

Abigail Burman – Equal Opps President

Grace Holland – Careers Officer

Hannah Murphy – Welfare (Female)

Nam Phuong Dinh – Charities Officer

Toby Abbott – Entz Pres

Toby Wijvekate - Domestic Officer

Alexander Rankine - OUSU Officer

(all present)

**Ratifications from previous meetings (Constitutional)**

**1. No Money = No Tea**

**This JCR notes:**

1) That currently the Constitution is not clear about the rules regarding the JCR Levy and membership, stating that the Levy is both compulsory for members and that people can opt-out.

2) That the JCR Levy is essential for the finances of the JCR

**This JCR believes:**

1) In clarity.

2) That those who opt-out of paying the JCR Levy should not continue to enjoy the benefits this money provides.

**This JCR resolves:**

1) To edit Article 3, Paragraph 6 of the JCR Constitution such that it reads: “All JCR Members shall automatically pay the JCR Levy but they will have the option to opt-out by contacting the JCR Treasurer. Any JCR Member who opts out of the JCR Levy shall not be able to attend JCR Teas, vote on monetary motions at JCR meetings, stand for JCR positions, any dinners that are subsidised by the JCR and events subsidised by the Entz Budget. Upon informing the JCR Treasurer of their decision to opt-out, people will be sent an email by the JCR Treasurer informing them of which rights they have foregone, and subsequent reminder emails may be sent out at the Treasurer’s discretion, but the Treasurer will at no point publicly address the issue. The JCR Treasurer is obliged to keep the list of those who have opted out confidential from all other members of the JCR.”

2) To edit Article 8, Paragraph 11 of the JCR Constitution such that it reads: "There shall be an automatic levy on all JCR members. Members may opt-out of this levy subject to the conditions laid out under Article 3."

Proposed: Hannah Murphy

Seconded: Gege P

Debate

Tom Heaps: Amend “all other members of the JCR…” by adding “apart from other members of the executive and the Returning Officer” so that elections can run concurrent with these new rules.

Amendment taken as friendly

No opposition, motion passes.

**Motions as submitted**

**2. Prescomm meal money**

**This JCR Notes:**

1) That the JCR President does a lot of work

2) Prescomm is both helpful for pres and good fun

**This JCR Believes:**

That we should thank our pres for their good work

**This JCR Resolves:**

To pay for the meal only for the JCR pres to attend prescomm free of charge up to the cost of £10 per fortnight.

Proposed: Harry Begg

Seconded: Jamie Wells

Short Factual Questions

Tom: How often is prescomm?

Chair: We communicate by a mail list and fortnightly meetings.

Gege: How much is formal hall? Less than £10, surely?

Chair: Some are £13.

Gege: How would we negotiate refunds? Receipts?

Chair: Receipts can be provided by other colleges.

Debate

Tom: Not necessary; they don’t have to go to the dinners. Amendment: only half of the dinners, so up to £10 for two meals a term.

Amendment taken as friendly.

No opposition, motion passes.

**3. Thanking the Academic Registrar**

**This JCR Notes:**

That Rachel Pearson is great.

That she solves our problems on a regular basis.

That she has taken on the extra responsibilities of Lorna Swadling this term, and so is under a lot of strain.

**This JCR Believes:**

That, in the Christmas/Oxmas spirit, we should show our appreciation.

**This JCR Resolves:**

To mandate the JCR Vice-President to purchase flowers up to the value of £30, and to present them to Rachel on behalf of the JCR.

Proposed: Sam Newhouse

Seconded: Blessing Inyang

Debate

Dom: In doing this it could look like we’re saying that other college staff don’t also do a great job. Don’t we give money for the staff Christmas meal as a thank you?

Sam: Rachel is currently doing two jobs – Lorna Swadling’s as well. But I’ll take the amendment and we can give £250 to the Christmas meal.

No opposition, motion passes.

**4. Happy Oxmas**

**This JCR Notes**:

1) That Tobias arranged for the purchase of a Christmas tree in the quad.

2) That said Christmas tree looks great.

3) That last year the Christmas tree bought cost nearly £300 (half JCR/half MCR funded).

4) That the MCR have again agreed to fund half the cost of the Christmas tree.

**This JCR Believes:**

1) That festivity brings a smile to our faces.

**This JCR Resolves:**

1) To refund the cost of the Christmas tree to the value of £135, half of which will then be returned from the MCR.

2) To mandate Harry Begg to write a Christmas card to Maintenance to wish them a very merry Christmas and to thank them for putting the tree up.

Proposed: Gege P

Seconded: Erika Pheby

Short Factual Questions

Jim: Can we move the tree?

Chair: Awkward for maintanence men.

No opposition, motion passes

**Emergency Motions**

**5. Dog Motion**

**This JCR Notes:**

1. Dogs have well-documented therapeutic effects.
2. The Oxfordshire dog sanctuary needs dog walkers.
3. There is a lot of interest in dog walking.

**This JCR Believes:**

1. THe JCR should support community based welfare initiatives.
2. There is only one bus per hour to get to the sanctuary.
3. The JCR has money to support welfare events and events that positively impact upon the well-being of students.

**This JCR Resolves:**

1. To allow up to £500 per term to support transport to the sanctuary twice a week.

Proposed: Jim Everett (MCR Welfare)

Seconded: Jamie Wells

Short Factual Questions

Tom Heaps: How far is it?

Jim: Never been there; not sure.

Abigail: Over what period is £500 beinf spent?

Chair: Per term.

Russell: How many trips are we talking about?

Chair: Two per week.

Jim: If we get a bus: I can’t find out fares at the moment but it’s around £4-£5. Mini-bus hire is £28 one-way. Plan to negotiate a deal with mini bus company so they will give a cheaper deal regularly. If it works out cheaper to get the bus then we will do that. But bus is only once an hour. If we have to wait an hour either end then this will take longer.

Abigail: The MCR could contribute?

Jim: MCR pays levies. Also we pay for other things. But yes MCR will be contributing.

Sam: How many people?

Jim: 30 people have e-mailed, but some haven’t e-mailed who have expressed interest in person. The first part of this motion is to see general support from college members.

Debate

Tom: Not a bad idea and it’s good to spend money on something other than food but £500 is a significant amount. Based on 30 people – so four eight-person taxis?

Jim: Yes, I’m saying £500 with that being the maximum.

Hannah: Great initiative; untried too. But if it’s raining, how many people would go? Amendment for a trial term for funds to allow for dog walking once a week up to £250 max based on eight people going on each occasion.

Amendment taken as friendly.

Gege: Take a proportion from welfare budget?

Jamie: Want to talk to Ian about budget – maybe more money next term.

Gege: Welfare budget is £550 based on precedent so it’s a question of whether aportion of that should be taken. Amendment so a proportion of money is taken welfare.

Queries over amendment submitted prior to decision as to whether to take it as hostile or friendly.

Jamie: Could we change this so anything left over in our budget we would contribute towards the walking instead?

Jim: I can’t use my MCR welfare budget.

Jamie: I think this amendment would be difficult because we don’t know how much we would have left from the welfare budget.

Amendment withdrawn

Sam Newhouse: Amendment so up to £250 from the welfare budget to the welfare officer’s discretion and an amount from the MCR.

Jim: Comparable amount from the MCR is fine. But I might not be able to get the same amount.

Sam N: OK - amount at the welfare’s discretion only.

Gege: We should add that on the budget they will negotiate a proportion of the welfare budget to go towards dog walking.

Tom: Why don’t we just change the budget for welfare?

Gege: This is just a trial, remember.

Amendment taken as friendly

Zuze Bien: Using students’ cars, maybe?

Jim: Lower price; if possible we would do this.

Abigail: Can you present the final solution to the JCR?

Jim: Sure. But will this benefit the motion? I will certainly report back to the JCR though.

Move to vote, no opposition, motion passes.

**6. Football Tour**

**This JCR Notes:**

1. That the Men’s Football Team is doing particularly well this season in the JCR League.

2. That the CCCFC Facebook page has been a great success (124 likes, including a member of the SCR).

3. That there has never been a football tour.

4. That 13 members of the football squad are going on a 5-day tour to Belgium this Christmas.

**This JCR Believes:**

1. That travel is great and broadens one’s horizons.

2. In supporting JCR members’ pursuits of extracurricular activities.

3. In spreading the good name of CCC, Oxford the world.

**This JCR Resolves:**

1. To donate £550 to the touring football team, before departure,

1. This will cover
2. Four pennants for opponents and one for us
3. Gift for hosts
4. Dinner for final night’s opposition
5. £12.69 travel cover per person

2. To mandate the football captain to write a post-tour report for the student newspapers.

Proposed: Ilia Rasovic

Seconded: Sam Newhouse

Short Factual Questions

RO: You can’t mandate football captain.

Jamie: Mandate Clubs & Socs instead.

Abigail: Why these things are needed? Can we have a breakdown of costs?

Ilija: Pennants (flags) – this is a once in a long time event. Good enough team to take us to Belgium. Dinner – this is a good will gesture.

Pennants: £75 = £13 each

Gift: £50

Dinner: £260

Travel: £12.69

Abigail: Have you tried funding from other sources?

Ilija: Yes. Sponsors – there are no companies that are willing to sponsor us at short notice. This is a small event. Personal Development Fund – this doesn’t work because you have to apply before 4th week and it concerns individuals only. College likewise unwilling to give money for items that cannot be reused again.

Vicki: Why so much? Here is an example (from internet) of pennants costing less money.

Ilija: Not as good quality – satin or polyester? The ones we are getting are official tournament ones. Five or more gives us a discount so that is already a cost saving.

Blessing: Travel. Coaches? What else?

Ilija: We are fronting the costs ourselves – the travel when we get there and Belgium and back. £12.69 is one fare and a bit of the booking fee.

Blessing: Who are your hosts?

Ilija: George Garston’s parents so give them something appropriate.

Jim: What are you going to do to highlight the fact that Corpus would be paying?

Ilija: Final itinerary will be out this week. I’ve asked that one piece of stash be bought by every member of the team. We are playing University of Leuven in our capacity as an Oxford College. Also we’re playing against 6th formers at George’s old school. They might give us food if we go and talk to the kids there. Spoken to Jeni Clack as an Access issue, too: George was the first person to come to our school so it works well on that level. Chris Davies will be photographer. We’ll do a video. College newspaper article. Something for the Pelican Record.

Debate

Jamie: Amend to Clubs & Socs Officer who is mandated to submit the report.

Amendment taken as friendly.

Gege: Retrospective money motion – we don’t support that. It’s a huge sum. Choir grant is not the same – choir grant was a subsidy for accommodation costs. Not comparable. Personal Development Fund 4th week – your trip was organised before that? Why not other routes tried? Too much money given it’s over a fifth of our grant from college for the term.

Ilija: Not organised before fourth week. Not possible through Personal Development Fund: it’s not personal development it’s as part of a team.

Chair: Individuals could have tried, though.

Ilija: £500 each - not comparable. We have put most of the money up to this. That says quite a lot. This is an opportunity for the JCR to represent itself abroad.

Gege: Choir did the same sort of thing – they paid their own travel costs, accommodation costs. Costs for the trip are not much over £60?

Ilija: £12.69 each way. 25 euros on travel whilst we’re there. People have to get to London.

Gege: There’s still a big difference in expenditure.

Noah: The JCR has £11,000 in account. Large surplus of money.

Tom: We should not consider here that it’s a retrospective money motion e.g. we had the Christmas tree motion passed. I agree penants are worthwhile: this is fine. The gift for the hosts – you are getting free accommodation – you should be thanking on your own.

Amendment to remove funding for the gift to the hosts: funding now at £500.

Amendment taken as friendly.

Sam N: How much does the JCR want to spend on being represented and as a future precedent? Different societies getting help. We should be clear that we’re talking about JCR interests and not personal ones.

Abigail: Uncomfortable that we’re paying for college representation. That’s a fuzzy issue. £500 is excessive.

Toby A: Struggling team otherwise – so this is a good project to invest in. Also we have a lot of money spend.

Ian: Propose amendment to £240. £12.69 is £170. Actually we have £8,000 in the account, not £11,000. We have money to spend on punts to come. We don’t know how much money we have at the moment. This is 8th week and this shouldn’t be coming in now. It’s caused commotion in the JCR committee in the way it’s been done and it’s been quite poorly handled on your part.

Amendment proposed to reduce to £240 – enough for travel and pay for pennants, get polyester. This only affects 13 people. We have 200-300 people in the JCR.

Amendment taken as hostile.

Debate on amendment

Ilija: This is what emergency motions are for. George and I have put a lot of time for this. I don’t care if it causes commotion. Pennants and travel only – we’ve already got rid of the gift. The suggestion that giving some Clubs & Socs some money (e.g. choir) and not giving football money is unfair. Picking and choosing for JCR if you reduce this much. Also we got in touch with Access about this – a lot of groundwork was laid.

Chair: Choir got in touch with Access and Personal Development Fund.

Jim: How do we not know how much money we have?

Gege: Cheques haven’t been cashed.

Russell: Is it likely we’d have substantially less?

Gege: between £8 and £11k but towards the lower sum.

Alex R: Choir tour precedent and how the motion has been raised – these are the two issues. The latter is relevant: not best principles of democracy. Clubs & Socs for small groups of people – not good. We should just stop giving money for them generally.

Ilija: Your accusation regarding democracy…?

Alex: There is an issue with certain clubs & socs packing meetings.

Abigail: The issue of it going through committee in a negative manner is relevant. Respect the procedures in place. Concerted effort was given from choir. There would have been more time to raise these funds for the football tour; it’s clear. This has been an uncivil discussion from the start and I object to it.

Dom McG: College reducing grant because we haven’t spent enough money. What’s the worst that can happen for this tour?

Chair: Grant reduced because of embezzlement not under-spending.

Russell: Is it that people object to paying for a meal? How about increasing the travel grant?

Move to vote on amendment

Speech in favour – Ian

Look at priorities. Not much money in itself but this motion has come in an unusual way and the larger sum will create a precedent. £250 – this is more sustainable.

Speech against:

Sorry it’s come as a surprise (Ilija). Sorry it hasn’t been more organised. This is a unique opportunity. CCCFC won’t have a good team for a while.

Vote

In favour: 24

Against: 19

N.B. Ian Headley is now the proposer of the motion.

Jim: How was this motion proposed?

Ilija: 50 minutes after the motion submitted.

RO: Such a rule must be reserved.

Erika: Don’t remember the choir motion. Feel like this motion is setting a precedent. Not a committee opinion that has been put forward; it’s a JCR decision to make.

Jamie W: No problem with way it’s submitted. It is appropriate to fund clubs & socs and £240 is a good precedent.

Abigail: We’re funding things that make sense. I repeat: this debate has been acrimonious.

Alex R: This being a new precedent – not happy that we would be giving so much.

Russell: The people proposing this motion from the football team feel threatened. Committee members e-mailing beforehand: that’s why we feel blamed and that’s why it’s been acrimonious.

Gege: My e-mail was impartial. I knew you were bringing the football team – Kez did a similar thing last year by e-mailing.

Sandy: Abigail’s right in £240 covering bare essentials but a gesture of goodwill does reflect well on Corpus.

Amendment - £350 in total to include a contribution towards a dinner.

Amendment taken as friendly.

Overwhelming support, motion passes.