

Chair: Shiv Bhardwaj
Secretary: Hannah Cheah
Returning Officer: Francesca Parkes

1. Report from the JCR President

Self-service for scanning books raised at library committee – been considered for a while and looks like it’s moving in the right direction. This week there’s Welfare lunch and a meeting for Classicists regarding Fraenkel room on Tuesday, JCC on Friday.

2. Reports / Questions to Officers

Chris: Next bop has to end at 11:30 as we weren’t clearing the quad quick enough or being quiet

Shiv: Dean said Junior Deans weren’t being treated appropriately

Zoe: At OxSU meeting talked about issues with PREVENT, OxSU

Officers will be looking into it. Discussion about UCU strike resulted in emergency meeting being called for.

3. Reading from the Poet Laureate

Miriam wasn’t able to attend but sent a haiku in her absence

Poems cannot spring
From a mind infected by
February cold

4. Ratifications from Previous Meetings

5. Constitutional Amendments

6. Motions of No Confidence

7. Charities Motions

Supporting Nightline

This JCR notes:

- 1) Life at university, though usually a positive experience, can be difficult for some people, and students commonly face difficulties including moving away from home, family and friends, the stress of their chosen course, financial problems, mental or physical illness, assault or bereavement
- 2) Oxford Nightline is a confidential listening service run by students for students – the service provides trained anonymous student listeners available to talk and give information from 8pm-8am every night during term
- 3) Nightline has been supporting students for the last 45 years and this has only been possible thanks to the continued generosity of colleges, JCRs and MCRs in their donations which allows Nightline to meet costs including keeping the phones running, training new volunteers and publicising our service
- 4) Since launching a new online instant messaging service in 2016, the number of calls and visits received by Oxford Nightline per term has more than doubled and the organisation is looking to expand its rigorous training programme to meet this surge in demand

This JCR believes:

- 1) The service provided by Oxford Nightline is a valuable component of the university welfare system in addition to college welfare, by providing support for people who feel uncomfortable/hesitant going to college welfare officers late at night or would prefer to speak to someone anonymously outside of their college/department
- 2) A donation to Oxford Nightline would greatly benefit members of this JCR by enabling this valuable service to continue supporting students

This JCR resolves:

- 1) To mandate the Charities Officer to donate £30 to Oxford Nightline to support this valuable service.
- 2) To add to the Charities Officer's standing orders "9. To put forward a motion at the first JCR meeting of Michaelmas term proposing a donation of £30 to Oxford Nightline"

Proposed by: Lizzie Shelmerdine

Seconded by: Abi Newton

Minutes for this motion were lost, but the motion was passed unanimously as verified by the President, Treasurer, and Returning Officer.

8. Monetary Motions

Halfway Hall(elujah)

This JCR notes:

- 1) Friday of 4th week is halfway hall (wooo) and the traditional awards.

This JCR believes:

- 1) Awards are better if prizes are given that are 'good bant'
- 2) Since there will already be a welcome drinks, some prizes would make Halfway Hall a 'classy event' before the inevitable piss up in the BC.

This JCR resolves:

- 1) To mandate the treasurer to give up to £50 to the 2nd years organising halfway hall and add to the standing orders of the treasurer "To give up to £50 to the halfway hall committee annually"

Proposed by: Ryan Mamun

Seconded by: Zoe Kuyken

SFQ

Will: What prizes?

Lil: Yet to discuss, but amusing silly things

Tyron: Would you need all 50 pounds

Lil: Probably not

Rhiannon: What is Halfway Hall?

Lil: People who are halfway through their degree get a special formal

Debate

Thomas: No other year has received anything, it's just a formal and second years arrange the awards themselves as an extra fun thing, no other year has been provided with money in this way

Ryan: No one in previous years has asked for money, but we have decided to and I think it's nice that we do it and then future years can do it too

Lil: If people want to debate the amount that's fine

Shahryar: If this is just for prizes for second years shouldn't it be fundraised within second year rather than the entire JCR paying for it?

Lil: I appreciate current third and fourth years will be missing out but we hope it will start a tradition

Will: If we are going to make it a yearly thing shouldn't it be written into someone's standing orders or something

Tom: It's a year of about 80 students, yet some prizes are catered towards certain individuals who might be pushing for prizes for themselves

Lil: The halfway hall committee has endeavoured to make it as fair as possible

Ryan: Proposes amendment that resolves 1) is changed to "To mandate the treasurer to give up to £50 to the 2nd years organising halfway hall and add to the standing orders of the treasurer 'To give up to 50 pounds to the halfway hall committee annually'"

15 in favour, 6 against, 12 abstentions, motion passes

Mario Kart

This JCR notes:

- 1) The JCR currently has a TV room with 1 working video games console
- 2) The TV room only has a few multiplayer games
- 3) The TV room goes largely unused during the day
- 4) A Nintendo Wii can be purchased from CeX for £28
- 5) A Wii remote can be purchased from CeX for £15
- 6) Mario kart can be purchased from CeX for £18
- 7) There is a small delivery fee on each item, bringing the bundle total to £82
- 8) There also exist bundles with more controllers on eBay, but these will vary in price depending on when the console is bought (typically around £80)

This JCR believes:

- 1) Mario kart is a fun multiplayer game

- 2) Playing multiplayer games is a great way to make new friends, such as in Freshers week
- 3) That the current consoles and games in the TV room aren't sufficient for everyone's tastes
- 4) Moo moo meadows is the best Mario kart racetrack
- 5) Adding a new games console to the TV room may bring it in to greater use as a social space

This JCR resolves:

- 1) To mandate the Entz Pres to buy Mario Kart, Wii Sports, Super Smash Bros. Brawl, a Nintendo Wii and four Wii remotes (most likely used condition) for up to £130

Proposed by: Will Greaves

Seconded by: Ryan Mamun

SFQ

Tyron: What games consoles and games do we currently have

Jack: Xbox and broken PS3, Fifa 13 and CoD

Lil: Can we fix the PS3?

Chris: Yeah

Gota: Is the table tennis table still in the TV room?

Lil: It's in the Welfare room

Debate

Emily: Wouldn't it be better to get 4 Wii remotes rather than 2

Will: At least 2 but if 4 is within budget that would be great

Ryan: Can't you play with 8 on the switch, wouldn't that be better?

Will: It's a lot cheaper to get a Wii

Pete: Proposes amendment to change resolves to "to buy Mario Kart, Wii Sports and Super Smash Bros. Brawl... for up to £130". Seconded by Jack, taken as friendly by Will

Tyron: Aren't we being a bit trigger happy with money? Up to 130 quid could buy a lot of games we could get for our current consoles, Mario Kart isn't that great

Will: 1. Mario Kart is great 2. We just chucked 50 quid on tat for the 2nd years

Jack: The PS3 is fucked and you can't really get any good games for an Xbox 360

Ryan: Proposes amendment to change resolves to 4 Wii remotes.

Seconded by Zoe, taken as friendly by Will

Lil: The kind of games you can get on an Xbox and the kind of games you can get on a Wii are different and having a Wii would open up the TV Room to different people

25 in favour, 4 against, 5 abstentions, motion passes

Cushion comforts

This JCR notes:

- 1) There are cushions in the library
- 2) Cushions are comfortable

This JCR believes:

- 1) There should be more cushions in the library

This JCR resolves:

- 1) To mandate the Academic Affairs & Suspended Students Officer to investigate buying more cushions for up to £20.

Proposed by: Julia Li

Seconded by: Ben Lakeland

SFQ

Gota: Where will the cushions go

Julia: It depends where people want them, this motion is just to confirm that people really do want them, I can make a poll or something

Seb: Can we get blankets?

Julia: The Librarians said the library should be warm enough, but you are welcome to bring in your own blankets

Tyron: How many cushions do you intend on buying?

Julia: You can get quite a few

Debate

None

23 in favour, 11 abstentions, motion passes

A key issue

This JCR notes:

- 1) The cost of replacing a lost set of keys is £70
- 2) This is significantly more than the cost to the college of replacing the keys
- 3) Other colleges don't have such a high punitive surcharge for lost keys

This JCR believes:

- 1) That members should not be unnecessarily punished for lost keys
- 2) Reducing the cost of replacement will not make students more likely to lose their keys

This JCR resolves:

- 1) To mandate the President to liaise with other JCR Presidents to gather information on how much replacement keys cost in other colleges
- 2) To mandate the Accommodation Officer to liaise with the relevant authorities in college about reducing the cost of key replacements based on this information

Proposed by: Ben Lakeland

Seconded by: Thomas Munro

SFQ

Tyron: How much does it cost college?

Ben: 35 at Wadham

Ella: Is it really 70 pounds for a set

Hannah: Thereabouts

Debate

None

34 in favour, 1 abstention, motion passes

Strike pension cuts off the agenda

This JCR notes:

- 1) The University and College Union (UCU) is currently planning to strike over Universities UK's (UUK's) plans to scrap guaranteed pension benefits from the sector's main retirement fund.

- 2) This strike will take place throughout the second half of the term, on
6th Week - Thursday 22 and Friday 23 February (two days)
7th Week - Monday 26, Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 February (three days)
8th Week - Monday 5, Tuesday 6, Wednesday 7 and Thursday 8 March (four days)
9th Week - Monday 12, Tuesday 13, Wednesday 14, Thursday 15 and Friday 16 March (five days)
- 3) The UUK's plans would reduce retirement benefits paid by around £200,000 over the course of the average staff's retirement (around £9,000 a year). This is a cut of up to 40%. UCU general secretary Sally Hunt has said the plans would leave academics "facing years of stress about whether their pension investments are returning enough income to live on"
- 4) Members of the UCU were balloted and in Oxford 85.6% of members who voted backed strike action
- 5) 60 other universities will be striking at the same time
- 6) That only around 1000 of Oxford's staff members belong to the UCU, so this strike may not affect many students in the university
- 7) The Oxford SU is calling an emergency council meeting on Wednesday to discuss the issue and vote on support for it

This JCR believes:

- 1) All academic staff have a right to job security. Fair pensions are a key part of this security
- 2) UCU members should go on strike to protect their pensions
- 3) Lecturers' working conditions are students' learning conditions. The well-being and job security of students' teachers and lecturers is not just a staff issue, it is also a student one

This JCR resolves:

- 1) To support striking staff members not only at the University of Oxford, but also across the city and country throughout the weeks they are striking
- 2) To encourage students to not use facilities or libraries in subject departments on the strike days when possible
- 3) To encourage students to enquire with their tutors and lecturers as to if they are a member of the UCU, and if so, to not show up to

anything they would be organising or ask them to compensate for the teaching they have lost due to the strike

- 4) To support any student rallies that happen in support of the strike
- 5) To mandate the President and the Oxford SU rep to vote in favour of the strike at the emergency Oxford SU council meeting

Proposed by: Emily Simpson

Seconded by: Ella Benson Easton

SFQ

Seb: What's bad about going to libraries and stuff?

Tara: If you go across the picket line, you are implicitly saying you don't support the strike

Tyron: What percentage of staff are in the UCU?

Helen: 1000 out of 13000

Debate

Abi: What form is the encouraging students to support going to take? I have to use libraries anyway

Lil: More saying just where possible don't use it

Zoe: I think it's just expressing support as a JCR

20 in favour, 2 against, 11 abstentions, motion passes

10. Emergency Motions

11. Any other Business