

JCR Meeting - Sunday 6th Wk TT20

Chair: Matt Carlton

Secretary: Augy Allain-Labon

Returning Officer: Rhiannon Percy

1. Report from the President

- Attended gov body
 - Plans for reopening uni - persuading government and uni to do so
- Talked to MCR pres - more collaboration in future
 - JCR x MCR dinner/Zoom
- Will be rep for Senior Tutor's committee
- Freshcom
- PDF form
- Looked at gambling regs for tortoise fair - looking good
- E&E reps uni-wide facebook page
- SU voting rights transferred from Ed
- Boat club are raising for charity - do get involved

2. Officer Reports from Committee Meeting

- Augy - attended JCC, freshcom, Town Hall, Corpus Association Award, generally doing what I'm told...
- Eugenie - Clubs and socs expenses stuff, sending out my first email, made the form for the clubs and socs award, planning for potential JCR photo, Freshers committee meeting
 - decide the winner with Exec Committee
 - send out email asking for photos for JCR photo Monday
 - discussion with Dean about PDF tomorrow

- Emma - set up Sneha on Corpus Bake Off page, came up w theme for end of term Corpus Bake Off
 - next Bake Off as term ends, so people can feel still connected to college
 - combine Tortoise Fair with charities week
- Beth - Yoga on Thursday, art-collab print design for freshers' stuff, art page getting started
 - Thom - we have some good ideas for Welfare Week
 - Matt - encouraging college fams to Zoom?
 - Beth - we'll post a reminder, but we can't mandate it; a college families' day
 - maybe on Saturday of 6th, brunch type thing
 - scribble.io / pictionary tournament?
- Sorcha - Have been newly elected! Otherwise, nothing to report
- Matty - I coordinated the start of the subject-ambassador Instagram programme and created the college parents form
- Florence - Did a survey about levies, used it to write the levy motion for this meeting, went to freshcom
- Sampada - Attended freshcom
 - Thinking of an event to replace Internationals Formal - an Ethnic day? A day where people share something from their culture
 - Matt - college are paying to send back internationals' stuff
- Thom - Attended Freshcom, discussed expenses of welfare week with the welfare team.
- Ryan - Updating election history on website, and adding new bios and photos for incoming committee members. Also looking into updating other regions of the website (and stressing about remote finals).
 - Missing bios/photos from some people
- Alex - Nothing to report
- Rhianon - Ran the by-election for SU Officer, Poet Laureate and BME Rep

- Gaby - Nothing to report
- Sneha - Bake Off, JustGiving page (donate as if paying entry fee), trying to arrange a video of race
 - Seb will edit it, gambling before the video's released (hopefully 8th Week)
 - How will the race work? Hard to get it a fair distance, funny, a commentator, not very official, use editing to make it seem like a randomly-chosen tortoise wins
- Phil - freshers T-shirts designs coming along, trying to make them different from last year
 - Post for the welfare week call for corpus-related arts, to make into a collage for the JCR frames
 - Been working on ball graphics
 - Matt - can we do stash?
 - Phil - I was making the orders when Covid hit - the problem is distribution
 - We need this for the finalists
 - Do it Michaelmas next year, with a special consideration for the finalists
 - A special Corpus against Covid T-shirt as a fundraiser?
 - the design is something collaborative
- Zaman - talking with Judith about getting Porters and Junior Deans mental health training, talking to the ball committee with Ellie for making sure ball is affordable etc.
- Caleb - I will soon put together a Zoom poetry night

3. Questions to Officers

4. Reading from the Poet Laureate

A study of coastal birds

I search for meaning in their ennui

As their bills dig through the mound of seaweed.

This ain't regular seaweed like you find on the beach;

This stuff is three feet deep!

It is the very definition of stink

And it's large enough to lose a toddler in.

I watch the ducks wade through it like treacle,

Whilst the seagulls look on with eyes like eagles.

The ducks rummage through looking for the stuff to exist,

Whilst the seagulls fly by and take the good stuff from the surface.

As an analogy for class, this image is pretty crass,

But as a study of coastal birds, I think it kicks ass.

By Caleb Barron

5. Ratifications from Previous Meetings

6. Constitutional Amendments

Advertising empty Equal Ops positions

This JCR notes:

- Recently the RO encountered difficulties when a member of the JCR requested to run for Trans Rep in the recent by-elections.
- The position, though empty, was not put up for election. This was in accordance with §21.V: "The responsibilities of an unfilled role on the Equal Opportunities Committee shall be subsumed by the most appropriate representative on the Committee and/or the Equal Opportunities President"
- The constitution stipulates (§27.I) that "The Returning Officer shall advertise for nominations not less than ten days before the election takes place." The JCR member therefore requested that the position be put up for election too late.

- This led to the RO being constitutionally unable to offer the position of Trans Rep for election in the by-election, despite someone wanting to run for it.
- The position of Black and Minority Ethnicities (BME) Representative was put up for election, though the same rules apply to BME as to Trans Rep.

This JCR believes:

- It is good to have representatives for as many Equal Ops positions as possible.
- Offering the positions as up for election in by-elections is more likely to encourage people to run for them.
- If a JCR member wishes to run for any Equal Ops position, that should be encouraged.

This JCR resolves to:

1. Amend the constitution, adding a clause to §26 that: “In the event of a by-election, any currently unfilled positions on the Equal Opportunities Committee should be put up for election by default in the by-election, provided that this is in accordance with §21.II.”

2. Make a further amendment to §21.V, appending the following: “...until the role is elected in a full election or by-election.”

Proposed: Ed Hart

Seconded: Florence

SFQs:

Debate:

Voting:

unanimous in favour

Motion Passes

7. Motions of No Confidence

8. Charities Motions

9. Monetary Motions

Levies

This JCR notes:

- We can change the levies at the Trinity Term week 6 meeting each year.
- The survey done (more detailed results shown below) noted the majority of people:
 - feel that the levies are an appropriate cost verging on too expensive
 - feel that we should decrease the levies with the extra money from college (though this was very split and this has been considered)
 - feel that the charities levy is an appropriate cost
 - feel that we should introduce a cap on the levies and that this should be £30
- Comments on the survey noted that people often feel uncomfortable expressing their feelings about levies when conversations and surveys are held publicly. People noted that we can opt out of levies but there was also worry that opting out can feel shameful. It was noted that lots of colleges have no JCR levy which was part of the reason for the extra money from college.

This JCR believes:

- Listening to the results of the survey, we should be aware that the current cost of levies is appropriate verging on expensive when we consider additions to levies. We should decrease the levies using the extra money from college but also allow for extra money for events in the JCR. £5 levies taking into account the extra money from college will give us an extra £166 a term. We should maintain the cost of the charities levy. We should introduce a cap on the levies of £30 a term. This can be amended at each TT wk 6 meeting but will control additions to levies in motions throughout the year. We should note that public conversations about levies may not give representative answers as people may feel uncomfortable, and to give another way for people to express their opinion. We should think about different ways that opting out could work.

This JCR resolves:

- To decrease the JCR levy to £5. To maintain the cost of the charities levy at £10. To introduce a cap on the combined levies (excluding the punt levy) of £30 per term.
- To try wherever possible to allow surveys about levies to be anonymous. To allow anonymous submission of comments for motions which concern levies. To use a secret ballot for levy motions.
- To mandate the treasurer to think about other ways people could opt out and organise this.

SFQs/Debate:

- Alex: Is this constitutional, to bind the JCR to future anonymous voting
 - Florence: Have to have a 2/3 majority - it's not too different to what we do anyway
 - Hannah: We would need a constitutional amendment
- Amendment, Ryan: remove part of motion that reads 'To use a secret ballot for levy'
 - taken as friendly
- We will sort this out next week

Voting:

14 Yes

1 No

4 Abstentions

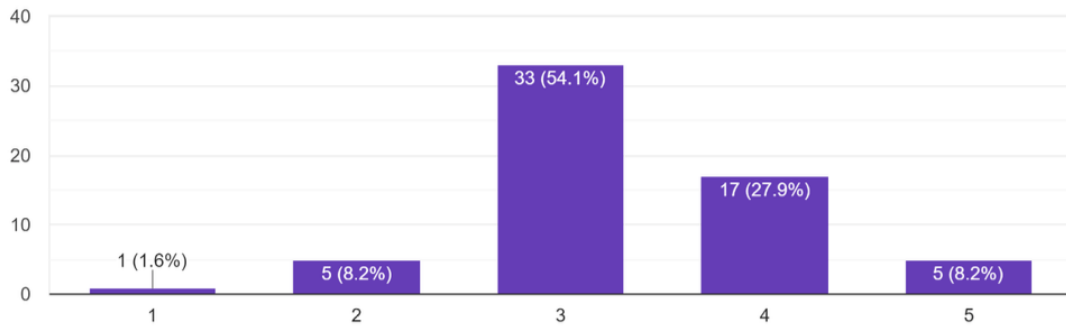
Motion Passes

Appendix: Survey results

Survey

What do you think of the cost of the levies?

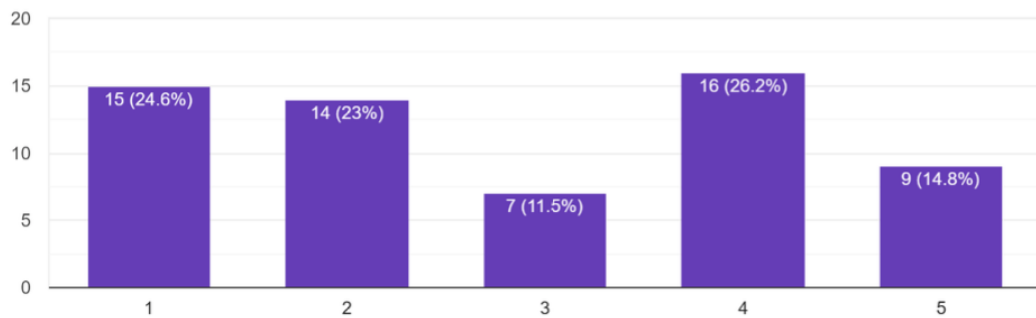
61 responses



1 was too little and 5 was too much

With some extra money from college (thanks to Rhi and Ben), would you rather we decrease the JCR levy (£10 atm) or spend/do more in the JCR?

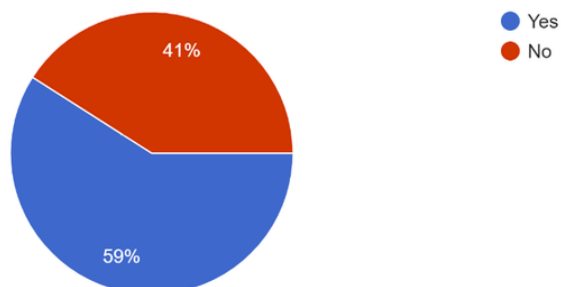
61 responses



1 was decrease the levy and 5 was do more

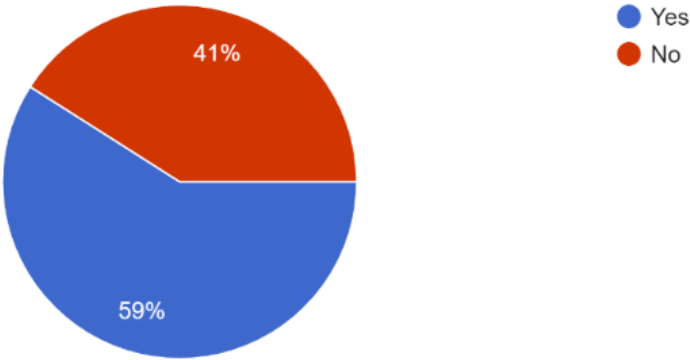
Do you think the charities levy is an appropriate cost at £10?

61 responses



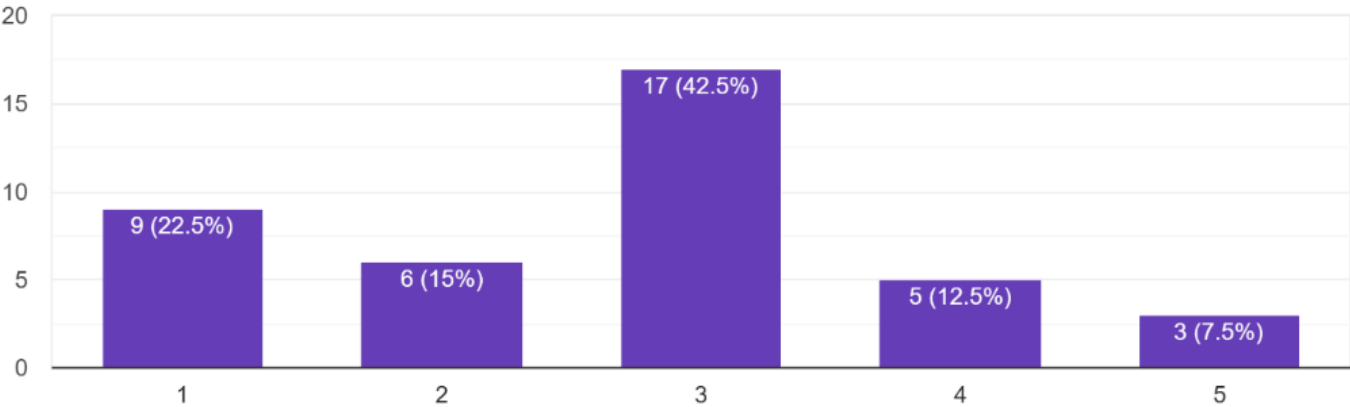
Would you like a cap on the cost of the levies?

61 responses



If yes, roughly what would you like the limit to be?

40 responses



1 was £10 and 5 was £50

10. Motions as submitted

Pizza please!

- This JCR notes:

1. COVID-19 is resulting in an increase in admissions into critical care units.
2. Staff are under increased stress from a cancellation of leave, fewer days off, colleagues passing away from COVID-19, and a greater number of patients dying.
3. AICU (adult intensive care unit) staff are under increasing pressure, with the number of admissions rising again after falling for a bit. AICU is the main COVID ICU for the Oxford Universities Hospitals (OUH) Trust. Staff in ITU are most at risk from aerosol generating procedures, which carry greater potential risk. AICU staff are having to wear multiple layers of PPE, limited to several hours at a time because of the harsh nature of wearing the PPE for so long.
4. Pizza makes many things better.

- This JCR believes:

1. It would be nice to do something for our staff up at the JR who are really facing SARS-CoV2 on a daily basis, and having to avoid their own families and facing stigma.

- This JCR resolves to:

1. Utilize the money budgeted for JCR meeting pizza to instead buy pizza for the staff in AICU every Sunday night until the end of TT20.
2. Mandate the JCR President to discuss with the MCR and College about contributing a similar small amount of money to show solidarity with the clinical students and Fellows of the College currently working across the Trust.

- Proposed: AGR

- Seconded: Ryan Salter

SFQs:

Points of debate:

- Florence: JCR meeting budget is currently £0

- Alex: What's the average budget been? £60-70 a week

- Florence: Grassam can you make sure of the logistics and I'll reimburse you? I don't know when to order it, where, etc.
- Amendment: Utilise £180 that would otherwise have been spent on Pizza. Also that we don't get it from Dominoes please. Also that it should be ordered to arrive for 7pm every Sunday of term. Also to mandate the JCR president to talk to the MCR president about getting some funds for them too.
 - Seconded: Zaman

Vote:

89% yes

1 person No

1 person Abstain

Motion passes

Retiring Committee Dinner

- This JCR notes:
 - Being on the jcr committee is really hard and incredibly thankless
 - Literally, for many roles you don't realise how hard until you do it
 - A reward for being on committee is committee dinner
 - A committee dinner is not possible this term (there is usually one each HT and MT but due to me being ill at the end of MT mine was in HT so Ed was going to have his in TT)
 - Some of the retiring members of JCR committee have served for most of their time at Oxford- notably Emily Simpson, Ed Hart and Alex GR
 - College paid for the last committee dinner but it was also budgeted for (We have the money)
- This JCR believes-
 - Their hard work should not go unrewarded
 - They have done a stellar job navigating the difficult the hall incident, accommodation problems, constitutional difficulties, a complete overhaul of clubs and socs, bikes, keeping us

in biscuits during their mods, attending SU meetings (an achievement in itself...), a whole range of inclusivity events and so so much more (you all deserve a shout out but then this would be a super long motion)

- Committee dinner is an important celebration of these achievements and brings the committee together

- This JCR resolves-

- To mandate the current president to poll the retiring TT and MT elected committee on how they would like to be rewarded- the value of the reward should not exceed their portion of that usually granted through committee dinner

Some possible ideas are;

- 1) to ask college for a dinner at some later non corona date
- 2) to Portion out the money usually afforded for committee dinner (see MT2019 budget) between them and zoom and take away
- 3) for the new JCR committee and President to buy them each a small gift
- Etc

Proposed: Rhiannon Ogden-Jones

Seconded: Sneha Bansal, Sorchu

SFQ's

Debate

Vote:

18 Yes

1 Abstain

Motion passes

11. Emergency Motions

Support for Anti-Racism protests

This JCR notes that:

- The systemic racism within institutions with the responsibility to serve and protect is outrageous and unacceptable
- In light of the murder of George Floyd and countless victims in the US, global protests are taking place to combat the global issue of racism and its far-reaching impact on the black community
- The cash bail system is one that disproportionately affects the most marginalised in society, and causes life-long disruptions to school, work, and family.
- The Minnesota Freedom Fund, having received large amounts of donations, have suggested donations to other organisations in the Minneapolis area like the Black Visions Collective and Reclaim the Block
 - Reclaim the Block, recommended by the Minnesota Freedom Fund who have been inundated with donations already, whose work involves increasing the investment of alternatives that promote healthier, safer, more diverse communities. <https://www.facebook.com/reclaimtheblock/>
- There is a need for global activism to promote healthier, safer structures for diverse communities
- The black community in the US, the protesters in Minneapolis need more than our thoughts and prayers right now

This JCR believes that:

- As an inclusive community it is our duty to educate ourselves on the struggles minorities face, providing aid when and where possible in solidarity with their communities

This JCR resolves:

- To pledge our support to the cause, and to initiate a fundraiser for Raise the Block in a manner to be decided at the meeting.

Proposed: Effie

Seconded: Jess

SFQ's:

Debate:

- Florence: we need to decide what to do
- Effie: a bake-off for black lives
- Amendment (Ryan): mandate the president to liaise with the Charities officer.
- Seconded by Zaman
- Sneha: we can incorporate this into Tortoise fair money

Voting:

18 Yes

1 Abstain

Motion passes

ME/CFS Awareness

This JCR notes

- The 31st May is the last day of ME/CFS awareness month (today)
- ME/ CFS are chronic illnesses that are incredibly stigmatised and was referred to in the 80's as yuppies flu
- It is also believed to be one of the conditions that constituted female hysteria in the victorian period
- Many patients with ME/ CFS are subjected to inhumane treatment, without the respect or dignity they deserve
- There is no effective cure or treatment
- 89% of patients receive advice that is actually detrimental to the condition (figure from patients advised under NICE guidelines)
- WHO recognises and defines ME as neurological
- ME occurs on a spectrum, causing extreme fatigue, dizziness, tinnitus, muscle and joint pain, brain fog, light sensitivity and more

This JCR believes

- Not many people are aware of ME and CFS
- The JCR should support and strive to educate itself about such disabilities

This JCR resolves

- to add "this JCR will endeavour to support and promote from college the supporting of all those with ME/ CFS" to the Policy Document
- To mandate the the Disabilities Rep to hold a screening of Unrest on Netflix/Prime for the JCR, so they can learn a bit more about these conditions

Proposed: Rhiannon Ogden-Jones

Seconded: Florence Goodrich, Zaman

SFQs:

Debate:

Voting:

16 Yes

1 Abstain

Motion Passes

12. Any other Business

Two straw polls from Zaman

"I just want to see how many people would potentially be interested in attending a full day of Mental Health First Aid training, and how many would consider going to a similar training about

Responding to Disclosure of Sexual Violence (eg, what to do if someone tells you they've been assaulted/harrassed/etc)."

- Mental Health First Aid
 - Zaman: FYI, the Mental health one is about responding to someone in crisis
 - 12 yes, + Augy = 13
 - 2 Maybe
 - 3 Abstain
- Responding to Disclosure of Sexual Violence
 - 10 yes + Augy = 11
 - 6 maybe
 - 1 abstain

PDF:

- No comments
- Matt and Eugenie have a meeting with the Dean about this coming up