

## JCR Meeting - 28th November 2020 MT20 WK 8

Chair: Matt Carlton

Secretary: Augy Allain-Labon

Returning Officer: Rhiannon Percy

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### 1. Report from the President

Thank you everyone for all your work this term - we've done quite well. Attended Academic committee with college - talk about planning for next term. They're taking a deep breath, getting ready for next term. Helped Emma with xmas trees, which turned out to be quite a big job. Organised pub quiz. My last meeting - Sampada will be chairing next term, she'll be brilliant.

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### 2. Officer Reports

Ava: Led second FemSoc meeting, attended women's vom (lol, typo for Women's Com). Women's events to be held at Corpus. I'll plan in the abstract for now.

Zaman: Nothing to report. Will have a meeting tomorrow with Florence, Rhi and Ellie to try and figure out ball tickets subsidy. Not sure how much will be achieved in that meeting, or will we need to go to college about it. If so I'll take things forward with college before end of term. Likelihood of ball happening is rising as we get more good news about vaccines.

Eugenie: Nothing to report

Sneha: Nothing to report

Grace: Nothing to report

Sorcha: Nothing to report

Sampada: (Congratulations from Matt). Been discussing international acco over vac with Andy, doing handover with Laura soon. Most people have chosen to stay in their rooms rather than go to Magpie. Andy is also giving people the choice to move to an empty room that's not Magpie. It would be necessary for the internationals to have access to proper kitchens, so I'll get on that.

Thom: Nothing to report

Catherine: Nothing to report

Beth: Have been in touch with OMHN about some mental health resources over the coming vac

Gaby: Sent out mental health survey for freshers - some saddening results, but we've had a really productive meeting about what to do. We'll be pairing committee members with fresher households to have chats/social events regularly. We're asking freshers to come to us with

Corpus Christi College JCR

Sunday, 29 November 2020

concerns, but they don't know us, so we need to go to them. Peer supporters will get involved. Hopefully they'll feel more comfortable talking to us in future.

Rhi: Ran the MT20 election - could've been worse, husts could've been longer. Began planning for the MT20 by-election (sending out email on Monday). People who stood for Treasurer can stand again. If the election is un-contested, we might do it over 9th week (actually that's not constitutional). Otherwise, we might need to have husts on Wednesday, possibly by 9th week. It doesn't have to be on Thursday bc it's a by-election.

Emma: Acc sorted the Xmas trees - we never got an invoice though. Maybe it's still coming. If we have to pay, we'll ask the MCR to split it. I'll write down what we did this year for Paulina to follow next year. Also making sure the fairy lights get put away. Did the quiz. Still working on Xmas formals rip - so much logistical admin. It's not just about households, it's more complicated. John Jackson's been really helpful, and hopefully it's sorted now, and will go smoothly. Andy and Jimmy and co are very keen on it. Big tables will be in marquee, so you're not on a mini table. It might be even more fun in there than in hall. Handover to Paulina.

Augy: Attended VP-com, finally finished sorting out the matriculation photos. Attended meeting about mental health survey.

Ben: I expect to win the 2020 election when all legal votes are counted. Looking forward to 4 MORE YEARS of your FAVOURITE careers officer. I know you are all excited by what we've achieved in the field of careers over the past year but the best is yet to come. Sincerely, careers lord Wilson.

Ryan: Sorted stuff on jcr website, and recorded, uploaded and shared video of husts. New committee members, please fill in the form that I will send out.

Tyrell: Had a meeting with the president and MCR BME rep to discuss future college initiatives

Matty: Last week we did some school visits online, interviews Q&A session; went well. Lots of meetings with Katherine trying to make interviews as normal as possible. Been talking to Sampada and Meg about that. I just need to make a timetable for subject ambassadors, then we're good to go. One session a day will be a de-brief/cooldown for interviewees. Then a couple of quizzes each week (Matty and Meg over Teams Live) - use questions from the pub quizzes. Interviewees this year won't be allowed to know who else is interviewing. We have to use Teams Live. Katherine says they don't have permissions, which is strange but she's been working on it for ages, and would do something else if she could. The difference between what happens now and normally is that normally you are able (if you want to) to simply go to your interview from your room and not tell anyone your name. We can't force them into revealing their names if they don't want to.

Florence: Nothing to report. We can pay if there are other battles you want to fight with college.

Adam: Thanks to Megan's postcard design, we'll soon sort that out! Biggest turnout ever on the charities ballot. Wolff is very keen on doing the charities concert, so I've handed over to him. Use the card reader on that. There's a transaction fee - 1.6%. Florence to pidge it.

Corpus Christi College JCR

Sunday, 29 November 2020

Elliot: Started planning for room ballot. Thinking of doing it virtually, in blocks of around 30 in a call. You have a half-hour slot to join. Matt: Let's make sure that you find out from Andy what the plans are for changes to rooms - e.g. the library extensions. Ryan: Let me know if you want help with the website with pictures of rooms. Elliot: I went round ages ago but they're not great and out of date. Augy: I attended Vice Pres-Com and there was useful stuff about accommodation. Shared stuff cross-college to make balloting easier for everyone.

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### 3. Questions to Officers



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4. Reading from the Poet Laureate**TRIM**

In this festive season  
not only is it decent - it is only proper  
to keep things ship-shape,  
even if nothing is sailing  
and shops  
are not crowded by usual flocks. Either way,  
grotesque excess: price-tags cut  
rampantly and high-street hyper-commercialised  
ignite censure in us all.

It is time for trimming:  
take up culinary and decorative ritual;  
let fall nature's wrappings, extraneous clippings.  
Watch  
as the easily-recognisable repertoire,  
classic as chestnuts,  
transforms from fully-fledged to honed,  
refined,  
ready to shine. Then  
come embellishments and whistles -  
Whatever takes our fancy -  
and gaudy baubles.  
Welcoming in the advent while  
first frost of December settles, we press pause.  
Contemplate weeks past which appear vague, haze of replay.  
Look up at the brilliant star or messenger figurine  
perched ahead, just out of reach but in our gaze,  
or up at the cup o' kindness ever nearer.  
Through a lens we hear the carols just like nativity  
VCRs of Christmases past,  
smile faintly with rue or at least a little wry.  
And drift forward, paring-knife still in hand,  
to cosier, closer Yuletides together,  
the kind with all the trimmings.

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5. Ratifications from Previous Meetings

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6. Constitutional Amendments

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7. Motions of No Confidence

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8. Charities Motions

**Charity Postcards**

This JCR notes:

- We have just been in a period of staying at home for a month and have not been able to see each other as much
- We have many wonderful artists in the JCR who have designed postcards for us
- A competition has been run to design postcards, which will then be sold to make donations for charity

This JCR believes:

- Giving money is one of the wonderful ways that we can positively impact the lives of others
- Fundraising is a great way to celebrate giving money
- Postcards are a brilliant way to show care for friends by sending a personalised message

This JCR resolves:

- To make a donation of £30 to cover the costs of printing the postcards designed by the JCR, so that all the money from the sales of the postcards goes directly to charity
- (This donation is to be paid to the charities officer who has already purchased the postcards)

Proposed: Adam Winnifrith

Seconded: Nicole Man

Vote:

22 Yes

3 No

### **Motion passes**

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#### **9. Monetary Motions**

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#### **10. Motions as submitted**

##### **Penance for Penny-Pinchers**

This JCR notes:

- that the college has been stained by the outbreak of political violence in the treasurer's election of MT 2020.
- that the deep wounds caused, if left unhealed, could infect the entire JCR

This JCR believes:

- that purification is necessary for all those responsible

This JCR resolves:

- that each candidate for Treasurer (including the victorious RON) to the MT20 hustings, having bought great shame upon the college, should walk down Merton Street barefoot in penitence, self-flagellating, wearing the rough skin of a camel, followed by a ritual cleansing conducted by whomever the JCR votes to the sacred office of 'Candidate Cleanser', alongside the Returning Officer, consisting of submersion in the River Cherwell followed by the forcing of a can of holy lager down their throat (administered by the chug chancellor), as the Chaplain chants 'te absolvo' in a trance-like state, followed by a dancing away of the final residue of sin to the tune of 'Don't Look Back in Anger' by Oasis, 1996

Proposed: Alfie Watkins

Seconded: Adam Talib

SFQs:

Corpus Christi College JCR

Sunday, 29 November 2020

Matty: can we mandate a JCR member to do something if they're not a committee member?

Ryan: It's fine to mandate the RO to go and drag them out.

Mipham: I'm happy to submit to binding

Elliot: Do we have enough money in the budget to source 3 camel skins?

Matt: They will have to source them themselves. They

Mipham: This will replace beef with camel.

Owen: With what instrument will the self-flagellation be enacted?

Matt: I would suggest a book à-la-Monty Python - it could even be an accounting ledger.

Alfie: Whatever they want.

Mipham: RON is treated as a candidate, so will Ben Wilson be present?

Matt: He's in Durham (Ryan: for an eye-test lol). The man has too much self-respect. There's always the cardboard cut-out of Margaret Thatcher.

Elliot: Have we asked Judith if she's up for that?

Matt: She would just change the subject. Constanze might be down.

Zaman: The idea of our Harassment Advisor taking part in this would be quite funny.

Mipham: When/how will the Candidate Cleanser be chosen?

Alfie: I volunteer

Matt: Maybe a member of the choir, so they can wear a cassock.

#### Debate:

Nicole: we could switch the wording to make it such that all the actions are done by members of committee - e.g. the Chug Chancellor doing the forcing.

Mipham: I support this motion. I remember during the hustings much talk about redemption etc. This motion could go a long way to improving inter-year relations. Self-flagellation could be interpreted as simply walking down Merton Street barefoot.

Elliot: What happens if, as a JCR, we pass a motion that goes against the constitution? Does it immediately fail?

Rhi: It won't be binding because it's not constitutional.

Zaman: We're only breaking the law in a very limited manner.



Corpus Christi College JCR

Sunday, 29 November 2020

Matt: I'd just like to say that this lockdown has been a really weird time for everyone. A lot of the weirdness that came out of this has come out of that, not so much years not getting on with each other. This'll be forgotten very quickly.

Vote:

19 Yes

10 No

1 Abstain

**Motion passes**

## Thank-you presents

This JCR notes:

- Jimmy, Andy and John have put in big shifts this term
- They've done loads to make things feel more normal for us: opening hall, providing banging food etc.
- They're currently working really hard to make Christmas formals as magical as possible!

This JCR believes:

- We ought to get them each a pressie to say thanks

This JCR resolves:

- To mandate the DO to buy a present for Jimmy, Andy and John up to the total value of £100.

Proposed: Emma Donohue |

Commented [1]:

Seconded: Florence Goodrich

### SFQs:

Elliot: Do we have ideas for what the presents will be?

### Debate:

Ryan (amendment): To donate an additional £100 to provide a group present for the buttery staff, to be entrusted to the Domestic Bursar to distribute. To include Rachel Clifford among the original £100.

## Taken as friendly

### Amended motion:

## Thank-you presents

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Corpus Christi College JCR

Sunday, 29 November 2020

This JCR believes:

- We ought to get them each a pressie to say thanks

This JCR resolves:

- To mandate the DO to buy a present for Jimmy, Andy, Rachel and John up to the total value of £100.
- To donate an additional £100 to provide a group present(s) for the buttery staff, to be entrusted to the Domestic Bursar to distribute.

Vote:

24 Yes

1 Abstain

**Motion passes**

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11. Emergency Motions

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12. Any other Business

Ryan: Thank you Matt for this term.