

St John's College Junior Common Room

The Republic of St Giles

Agenda for the 4th meeting of Hilary Term 2019

Sunday 3rd March 2019, Larkin Room, 8.30pm

Alfie Deere-Hall (JCR Vice-President) noted before meeting start this may be the first JCR meeting with 3 Presidents in the Room. Meeting opened at 20.41. Harry thanked everyone for voting and contributing to a high JCR turnout for the Presidential Election.

[i/ Minutes from the Previous Meeting](#)

Available on the website.

[ii/ Matters Arising from the Minutes](#)

None heard.

Two members not from John's were given speaking but not voting rights.

[iii/ Reports from Officers, Reps, and Committees](#)

- a.** Class Liberation Officer: Natalia Sudol

Not present

- b.** Domestic Officers: Greg Howgego and Nicole Gray

Not present

- c.** Environment and Ethics Officer: Ankit Ranjan

Not present

- d.** Welfare Officers: Tom Johnson and Amelia Holt

Tom noted an eventful Welfare fortnight. Two TW Teas, a Welfare Lunch which went well, and a successful BEAT talk took place.

- e.** Ethnic Minorities Officer: Karen Muperere

Not present

- f.** Alumni and Development Reps: Lizzie Coyle and Sophie Whitehead

Sophie noted no contact had been received from the Alumni and Development Office.

- g.** Bike Rep: Sebastian Towers

Not present

- h.** Charities Reps: Freya Allery

Ben noted his thanks to Lachlann for his time in the position, who resigned shortly before the meeting.

Freya not present.

- i.** Computer Reps: Zuza Patryas

Not present

- j.** Sports Reps: Georgia Ling and Leanne Smith

Not present

- k.** Staff Liaison Reps: Safier Lewis, Bella Parker-Byatt and Noam Rosenbaum

Not present

iv/ Termly Rep Ratifications

Name	Rep Role	Re-ratified?
Sebastian Towers	Bike	Yes
Georgia Ling	Sports	Yes
Leanne Smith	Sports	Yes
Ollie Parkes	Art	Yes
Mungo Drake	Art	Yes
Lizzie Coyle	AlumDev	Yes
Sophie Whitehead	AlumDev	Yes
Freya Allery	Charities	Yes
Zuza Patrya	IT	Yes
Adem Berbic	DVD+TV	Yes
Den de Barrøs	SU	<i>Resigned</i>
Sam Gunatilleke	SU	Yes
Astrid Ingemann Breitenstein	Social Media	Yes
Issy Stephens	Social Media	Yes
Safier Lewis	Staff Liaison	Yes
Bella Parker-Byatt	Staff Liaison	Yes
Noam Rosenbaum	Staff Liaison	Yes

v/ Ratifications

- Returning Officer Assistant - 1 vacancy

Sam Gunatilleke gives a short hust for another time this term. Noted he recently lost his first election, and would appreciate winning this one. S

(0 against, 1 abstention)

Sam elected as Returning Officer Assistant

- Elections for Equality and Diversity Officer - *Chris Hughes, Returning Officer*
No one stands.

- Elections for Disabilities Officer - *Chris Hughes, Returning Officer*

Lachlann gives a short hust. Lachlann has experienced the University Disability Service in his time at the College. Confirms he identifies as having a Disability.

Chris Hughes reminded the room that as a Liberation role, only those who identify should vote.

Tom Ritter noted that it would be worth creating a Suspended Students Rep. This will be put through the JCR in TT Meeting 1.

(4 votes for, 0 against, 18 abstentions)
Lachlann elected as Disabilities Officer

- Bike Rep – 1 vacancy (to serve alongside Sebastian Towers)

Hazel Weng noted the importance of bikes for Oxford life. Hazel noted the value of the Bike Scheme students, and would like to make sure we keep the bikes free for members, and maintain relationships with Mobike and Ofo. She would also like to include bikes for smaller riders, would like to re-engage the Bike Selling Scheme and buy more helmets.

(0 against, 1 abstention)
Hazel ratified as Bike Rep

- DVD Rep - 1 vacancy (to serve alongside Adem Berbic)

No one stands

- Charities Rep - 1 vacancy (to serve alongside Freya Allery)

No one stands

- IT Rep – 1 vacancy (to serve alongside Zuza Patrya)

Adem asked if a Rep can run for two roles. Ben and Harry noted they would look into this for next term.

- PRAT Rep - 2 vacancies

Ben thanked Nia and Gemma for their service as PRAT Reps since Michaelmas 2018, and informed the room that this position would be unfilled for next term. Alfie extolled the virtues of PRAT rep as a position.

Felix Stocker gave a short hust. He noted he didn't know what PRAT stood for (at which point Tom Ritter reminded him it stands for 'Personal Responsible for Alcohol and Treats', changed from PRAT(oys) previously), but wanted to fill the role. (0 against, 0 abstentions)

(0 against, 1 abstention)
Felix ratified as PRAT Rep

Jahnvi Kalayil proposed that it could be possible to take excess PRAT provisions and distribute food to the homeless, rather than to student rooms. Ben noted that there could be a legal issue with this (college have raised concerns about giving away their own food in the past), but would look into a potential

solution. Sophie suggested that this could also apply at the end of term for food that would go to waste from student cupboards. Ben noted this wouldn't fall under the PRAT role description, but could perhaps be pursued by the E&E Officer (Ankit Ranjan).

Ethan Joseph noted that Gatehouse work with Keble.

- SJCTV Reps - 2 vacancies

Lev Crofts gave a short hust, noting he takes parts in a lot of student films, and that the cameras sounded 'nice'. **It should be noted that while Kevin Beeson, previous SJCTV Rep had resigned, Gabriella Farah was on her year abroad, and so temporarily removed as a rep follow re-ratifications.**

(0 against, 1 abstention)

Lev ratified as SJCTV Rep

- Oxford SU Reps - 1 vacancy (to serve alongside Sam)

No one stands

- OUSU 3rd Vote- 1 vacancy (to serve alongside Sam)

No one stands

a/ The "Be My Bop Angel" Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Harry Sugden (2019 JCR President)

Seconded: Bridget Stuart (Entertainment Officer)

This JCR notes that:

- First Responder training has been discontinued by the Oxford SU following advice received regarding its unsuitability (students dealing with first disclosures), and after becoming aware that the training had been used by colleges at Bops as supervision.
- The new 'Bystander Intervention' training is, as stipulated by the SU, not a replacement for First Responder training in order to provide Bop supervision.
- Communication between College Welfare Staff has now resolved the unsuitable requirement at Bops, with a new requirement for supervision in the form of what we have named 'Bop Angels'.
- The role of the 'Bop Angel' is to inform the porters of any incident that arises at Bop and to assist where necessary.
- Without a full rota of 'Bop Angels', a Bop cannot go ahead.

This JCR believes that:

- Any references to First Responder training in the Constitution should be removed.
- (Almost?) nobody wants Bop to be cancelled due to a lack of willing 'Bop Angels'.
- The Entertainment Officers should primarily focus efforts on filling the rota with the help of the wider JCR, in return for an incentive (i.e. free Bop Juice).
- There should be some sort of fall-back to ensure that if the rota is not filled, Bop can still go ahead. This will be recorded such that a fair rotation between JCR General Committee members is achieved.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- j. Remove clause vi. from Standing Order Table Two, Section 1.r. referring to the requirement for the Women's Officer to undertake First Responder Training

"Must undertake First Responder training within one term of taking office, if not already qualified as such."

- k. Add (as clause viii.) to Standing Order Table Two, Section 1.k. the following:

"Organise appropriate supervision for the duration of Bops (in the form of 'Bop Angels'), with the assistance of JCR General Committee members where slots remain unfilled."

Harry noted that the new Entz Officers (Bridget Stuart and Gigi Williams) would like a full rota of Bop Angels, as was secured at the Bop the previous Saturday (02/03/19).

(Motion passed - 0 against, 1 abstention)

b/ The "Let's Make a Website" Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Benedict Gardner, JCR Secretary

Seconded: Hannah Pook

This JCR notes that:

- a. St John's JCR currently has a rusty, outdated website
- b. In 2018 Rents and Charges Committee negotiated £1000 for the website to be rebuilt

This JCR believes that:

- c. Having a working website is important for the convenience of JCR members, and our image to potential students applying
- d. This money has been ring fenced and should therefore be spent in the lifetime of this Committee

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- e. Insert in Standing Table 8 (as 2e) the following:

c/ The JCR Website Sub-Committee

i. The JCR Website shall be formed and disbanded at the discretion of the Secretary, and the Secretary shall serve as Chair.

ii. Where the position of Secretary is vacant, and the Sub-Committee is formed, the President shall serve as Chair.

iii. The Chair may appoint to the Sub-Committee any JCR member in any role that they see fit to create.

iv. Any person, other than the Chair, shall be removed from the Sub-Committee after notification, from the Chair, of removal from the Sub-Committee.

Harry noted that the Committee has already been formed, so an abstention would effectively be a vote in favour to disband the Committee. Benedict (Chair of Website Committee) outlined the Committee, which can be found in the Appendices. The timeline will be to have a template by the end of Hilary Term 2019, and the website finished by the end of Trinity Term 2019.

(Motion passed - 0 against, 1 abstention)

vi/ Items for Discussion

- Constitutional Appendices - Benedict Gardner, JCR Secretary

The Constitutional Appendices were updated by the Secretary.

- [Standing Policy Item](#) (Appendix 1) to be Removed - Benedict Gardner, JCR Secretary

The Standing Policy Item "This JCR Need More Female Leaders" has been removed. Ben noted this could be picked up, as the JCR does not no longer agree with the spirit of the Standing Policy Motion. Jahnavi noted the MCR have been in touch about a potential joint JCR/MCR scheme.

- Beehive and TW5 to swap - Alfie Deere-Hall, JCR Vice-President

Alfie noted that Jo Roadknight is on the side of the JCR, and supports this project pursued by the 2018 Administration. Beehive is likely to swap with TW5, meaning all Freshers would live in TW, which Alfie thought was more fair. This will make gradings more fair, as Freshers will have very similar room gradings, with no one given A- rooms in Beehive upon arrival. The Beehive would be kept as individual rooms, rather than being a ballot.

Alfie also noted a 'sticking point' with college, namely that the Beehive is the only place for students other than Kendrew who are disabled and require a full-time carer, which the Domestic Office have concerns with due to the potential isolation of the student. Alfie argued that this would be the case for either a 1st year or 2nd year, and therefore does not make significant difference to the student experience across the degree.

Christine Jiang (CJ - JCR President, 2018) noted that she and Joe Sisson (JCR Secretary, 2018) fought for this last year, without Jo. CJ noted that you can't get Vacation Residence for Beehive as easily, which may affect Finalists with the room changes. Alfie noted this is also the case for Kendrew. CJ noted this should be made clear to Finalists upon balloting.

Leo raised the possibility to keep one staircase for Freshers in the event as disabled student holds an offer. Alfie supported this suggestion, and will take it further.

- Changes in Room Licensing - Alfie Deere-Hall, JCR Vice-President

Alfie noted that Jo has proposed extending the Room Licensing by a week (Sunday 0th - 9th from Thursday 0th - Saturday 8th was Alfie's proposed dates, though this is not final), which would increase the rent for everyone by up to £140 (grade dependent) but would make Vacation Residence greatly easier, as the time either side of term starting is the most popular for Vac Res requests, and would help students be flexible on return. Alfie noted this will be an Item for Rents and Charges.

- Room Regrading to 6-point system (see MCR in Appendix 2 [here](#)) - Alfie Deere-Hall, JCR Vice-President

Alfie noted that the College are planning a programme of regrading, which will happen regardless of JCR opposition. Alfie noted that we should 'lead the charge', and as such he will be forming a Room

Regrading Committee. The Committee will get free food and accomodation in 10th Week of Trinity 2019, and regrade all rooms with MCR, JCR and SCR representatives to agree upon a new room grading system. Alfie noted the arbitrary nature of the Room Gradings currently, with no set list of criteria. The rooms will move from a 9-point to a 6-point system, with basic guidelines taken from the MCR guidelines adapted to our needs.

Chris Hughes (Returning Officer) noted his overall favour for the MCR system, but wanted to clarify that it would be possible to make modifications to make it JCR-specific. Alfie noted this will be possible in when regrading, with the Committee agreeing on the right criteria before starting.

CJ asked if this would align JCR with MCR grades. Alfie noted this would align all the grades between JCR, MCR and College, thus making it easier for all involved.

Tom Ritter noted that there are different objective criteria between MCR and JCR. Alfie noted that the MCR share TW and would therefore like to see moderations of their own to the unified system. Alfie reiterated that despite these differences, the new system would be simpler for all involved.

Gemma Robson asked whether noise will be considered. It currently is not, and Alfie though it was unlikely whether something temporary could be factored in by College.

Felix Stocker asked whether a retroactive regrading would be undertaken for current members. Alfie noted this would need a Constitutional Motion, and couldn't guarantee either way. Alfie noted that it remains a question whether noise will factor into regrading. Alfie noted this will affect all students, current, abroad and suspended going into the Finalist Ballot.

Elsie Vowles asked whether a choice could be offered to Freshers, but Alfie noted college have a 'red line' on the issue. Elsie noted that Worcester splits rooms into two halves on price bands, but Alfie was not sure whether College would accept this. Chris noted the difference in rent for Freshers is low in John's compared to other Colleges. Alfie noted the cheap rents of John's, and so shouldn't 'push our luck'.

- [Changes to the Higby-Will Trust](#) (Appendix 3) - Benedict Gardner, JCR Secretary
Ben introduced changes to the Higby-Wills Trust, expanding the funding remit to Graduates and non-visual impairments. Lachlann Hinley (JCR Disabilities Officer) noted that the aims are logical and that widening the mandate of the trust is a 'noble aim' and one the JCR should support.

A straw poll was undertaken to find the JCR's opinion on the matter. **Please note that guidance was given for members to follow established practice of only voting on the issue if it pertains specifically to them. Therefore, the high abstention rate stems from JCR members who do not identify as Disabled abstaining from voting.**

(Straw Poll results - 4 for, 0 against, 35 abstaining)

- Use of the TV Room - Tom Ritter
Tom Ritter noted the TV Room is being used for external events (such as drama rehearsals) and is preventing College members from using the space. Tom wanted to discuss how we should proceed with the space.

Adem Berbic (TV and DVD Rep) noted that the Booking Spreadsheet shows many people are booking out the TV Room for drama rehearsals. Tom noted the frustrations of many JCR members when an important event is taking place, and noted the function and purpose of the Room should be formally addressed. He noted the principal function of the room is to watch TV, which currently can't always be carried out. He note a potential solution could be to find a separate JCR rehearsal space.

Amelia Holt (FMG Welfare Officer) noted that the DVD room and the Graves room are easy to book for drama. Cas Burton (JCR Treasurer) noted that it is necessary to get decanal permission for the DVD room. Cas noted that he is often called out by Porters on the DVD, and raised a warning to members that decanal permission is needed if more than 4 external members are present, or there is alcohol. He noted that not allowing booking for the TV Room is an option, but the alternative option of having the TV room on the Room Booking system would require decanal permission.

Chris Hughes noted that the College Policy on Room Booking does not include the TV Room. He suggested that a 'schedule' for programmes could be used. Tom Ritter agreed, with a 'majority rule' system used in the past a possible solution. Tom also raised large block bookings as an issue. Tom Ritter and Adem Berbic to look into a solution.

vii/ Agenda Items

a/ The "What Makes the President So Special?" Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Chris Hughes, JCR Returning Officer

Seconded: Benedict Gardner, JCR Secretary

This JCR notes that:

- a. The general election of the JCR committee is currently split into two parts, the election of the President and Vice President in 4th week of Michaelmas, and the election of the rest of the committee in 7th week of Michaelmas
- b. This removes the need for one huge election and also allows by-elections to be run for President and Vice President in Michaelmas if necessary
- c. The only Senior Officer of the JCR is the President

This JCR believes that:

- d. It is vital to the running of the JCR that it has a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer (sometimes referred to collectively as an executive committee) at the start of the year, so it would be useful to be able to run by-elections for those positions before the new year
- e. The executive positions are often highly contested elections (due to their room ballot privileges), so unsuccessful candidates may want to run for other committee positions
- f. The first election in Michaelmas Term has a lower voter turnout and significantly lower hustings turnout than the second
- g. It would be useful to be able to balance the two elections

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- h. Change Standing Order Table Three A, Section 4 to read:
The nominations period for the election of Officers shall normally run according to the following timetable:

- a. *The nominations period for the election of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary shall open at 12 noon on the Sunday of 3rd Week of Michaelmas Term.*
- b. *The nominations period for the election of all other Officers (except the Returning Officer) shall open at 12 noon on the Sunday of 6th Week of Michaelmas Term.*

- i. Change Standing Order Table Three B, Section 1(a) to read:
 - a. *No candidate is elected as President, Vice President, Treasurer or Secretary in the Michaelmas election - a by-election shall be held alongside the Michaelmas election of other Officers.*

Chris noted that currently the JCR runs two elections in Michaelmas - Presidential (President and VP) and General. He suggested, in order to increase turnout, that we split elections into Executive (to include Secretary and Treasurer alongside President and Vice-President) and General for other Officers.

Lachlann Hinley noted that differential turnout could be due to turnout (which CJ, JCR President 2018 agreed with), and asked whether this would allow for Executive roles to be reopened for by-elections alongside General Committee. Chris replied that this was the plan.

Sam Gunatilleke asked whether there would be a constitutional change to denote the Executive as a separate branch of the JCR Committee. Chris noted that a cursory search showed no mention of 'the Executive'. Ben and Harry to look into updating this.

Cas noted moving the Treasurer election forward is useful for ensuring the bank handover would work smoothly, given more time with the previous treasurer.

CJ noted that this is usually set up with a Presidential and then General election so an unsuccessful Presidential candidate can run for Secretary instead, though with John's historically low competition for President, this would not be an issue. Chris noted now an unsuccessful Secretary or Treasurer can run for General Committee Positions as well.

(Motion Passed, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

b/ The "Follow the Sound of Mi-Voice" Financial Motion

Proposer: Chris Hughes, Returning Officer

Seconded: Cas Burton, JCR Treasurer

This JCR notes that:

- a. Until this time last year, Oxford SU (formerly OUSU) provided a Mi-Voice subscription to all the JCRs and MCRs for the purposes of running elections
- b. Oxford SU stopped providing this service and replaced it with their own election platform
- c. One of the features of the new election platform is that it cannot provide results directly to the returning officer, who must instead email Oxford SU to request the results be manually pulled from the backend
- d. The returning officer has used BallotBin for the last few sets of JCR elections as a free alternative
- e. The JCR currently pays for a subscription to SurveyMonkey
- f. Mi-Voice can also be used as a survey platform
- g. A Mi-Voice subscription is £246/year after VAT
- h. The JCR's SurveyMonkey subscription is £336/year after VAT

This JCR believes that:

- i. An election platform that doesn't provide results is not fit for purpose
- j. Having Oxford SU potentially have the power to manipulate results of JCR elections is potentially a problem
- k. BallotBin is (while functional) hard to use, time consuming and inflexible.
- l. Mi-Voice was a perfectly adequate platform for elections when the JCR used it
- m. Mi-Voice may also be able to replace SurveyMonkey as a survey platform

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- n. Allocate £246 from the Financial Motions Budget to buy a year's subscription to Mi-Voice
- o. Request that the next Treasurer evaluate the usefulness of both Mi-Voice and SurveyMonkey when writing next year's budget

Chris Hughes (JCR Returning Officer) noted the current Oxford SU election system is flawed, and doesn't give automatic results. He has been using BallotBin which is 'OK', though only works with his personal email, rather than College email address. He requested funds to buy a Mi-Voice subscription. Cas noted there is around £3,600 in the Financial Motions Budget if this motion (and all others in the meeting) were to be passed (all motions were passed in the meeting), noting no budgetary concerns with passing.

Lachlann asked whether there would be other channels used by other colleges, looking to find another solution before committing to a paid solution. Chris noted the system is relatively cheap, and can be used as a survey platform, which could then replace the more expensive the more expensive SurveyMonkey. Chris was dubious about the value of talking to other colleges. Noted that there are no plans to change the SU system.

CJ informed the Committee about other systems in different colleges, including some that use free systems, some that use the Oxford SU system (which works on non-weekends when the results can be pulled manually by the Oxford SU), and some Colleges who have bought Mi-Voice. She noted this would only be 0.5% of the budget and generally be a good idea.

Lachlann asked whether this would come from RO budget, to which Chris replied that it would not on this occasion but it might factor into the future budget if the Treasurer agreed, so as not to reduce the Returning Officer budget, and protect wine provision for hustings.

(Motion passed, 0 against, 2 abstentions)

c/ The "Make the Vac Great Again!" Financial Motion

Proposer: Cas Burton, JCR Treasurer

Seconded: Greg Howgego, JCR Domestic Officer

This JCR notes that:

- a. The vac is an awful and depressing time for many people
- b. Money is the answer to all problems
- c. Many people stay in Oxford over the Easter Vac for revision, and the long vac for projects

This JCR believes that:

- d. With the correct application of money we can alleviate this suffering

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- e. Give £300 from the Financial Motions Budget to fund events in the vacations organised by the peer supporters and Welfare Officers

Cas Burton (JCR Treasurer) noted that he removed the clause to give Greg £15,000. The plan would be to give Peer Supporters money to help out over the long, sometimes lonely vacation.

Amelia (JCR WMG Welfare Officer) noted she supported the idea, but asked who would organise these events. Cas noted this was a first-step measure to secure funds, with people wanting to run events being sanctioned by Welfare Officers (Welfare Officers not required to stay the whole vacation).

Tom Ritter noted this was a 'quality' idea. Noted the student body have Elizabeth Macfarlane as a Welfare Dean, and noted she could be a point of contact over the vacation. Cas noted that Elizabeth won't sanction the events, as this is not her role. Harry suggested that Amelia and Tom can approve events in the future.

CJ noted collaboration with the MCR members would also be useful.

(Motion passed, 0 against, 0 abstentions)

d/ The "Project Dastaan" Financial Motion

Proposer: Christine Jiang

Seconded: Indie Walker

This JCR notes that:

- a. Project Dastaan is a virtual reality venture that seeks to reconnect individuals displaced during the 1947 Partition of India and Pakistan to their ancestral villages.
- b. It is an Oxford-based project, founded by Oxford students and overseen by an executive of Oxford students.
- c. It partners with dedicated student filmmakers in India and Pakistan to find the ancestral village of Partition victims; an important part of the project is to provide these budding student filmmakers with access to VR technology and educate them in its use.
- d. It then uses the footage of the village to create a VR experience for the Partition witness, and records their reaction.

This JCR believes that:

- e. Project Dastaan preserves an extremely significant part of South Asian history – Partition – in a digital world.
- f. The Project is personally meaningful for Partition witnesses who are not able to go back to their ancestral villages because India and Pakistan do not operate a tourist scheme for the nationals of the respective countries.
- g. The Project underscores something often overlooked by policymakers: that memory and shared experiences knit together people from India and Pakistan.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- h. Give £500 to Project Dastaan from the Financial Motions Budget.

Sparsh Ahuja (guest of Christine Jiang, who was given speaking rights by the JCR at the beginning of the meeting) gave a hust on the Motion, which takes South Asian people back to a pre-Partition VR experience, which requires a filming expedition needing funding.

Chris asked for the total budget of the project. The total budget will be between £10,000 - £15,000 according to Sparsh.

Sam Gunatilleke asked about the current tensions in the region. Sparsh noted that this meant the project was more important than ever, with the tensions rooted in the Partition era, but noted that filming has had to be pushed back 3 months as a result.

(Motion Passed, 0 against, 1 abstention)

e/ The “Ruskin Degree Show” Financial Motion

Proposer: Greta Sharp

Seconded: Toni Busuttil

This JCR notes that:

- a. The Ruskin Degree Show is part of the final examination for Oxford Fine Art Students. It is an exhibition of all finalist’s best work.
- b. The Ruskin Students are in charge of all aspects for organising this; the architecture of the space, the design of brochures and advertisements, organising catering and various methods of fundraising
- c. The Ruskin students are still in need of funds to cover catalogue printing, security staff salaries during the opening week, and digital equipment rental for students exhibiting audio-visual work
- d. The Ruskin students have already organised fundraising events, such as the club nights and several drawing sales
- e. A majority of funds comes from sponsorship from colleges
- f. We have currently raised £3K so far. Our target budget to raise is £10K. We have generally relied on receiving £5K from colleges in previous years
- g. This year, the graduating Fine Art student at St John’s College is Greta Sharp

This JCR believes that:

- h. The organisation of the Degree Show is both a challenging and rewarding endeavour; students juggle the requirements of the course with preparing and fundraising for this public event
- i. The success of previous years Degree Shows has not been possible without the generous financial support from colleges

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- j. Donate £200 to the Ruskin Degree Show from the Kendrew Arts Fund

Greta Sharp noted that the Ruskin Degree Show is a compulsory part of Fine Art Students degree, but needs £10,000 a year, not provided by the University, to be put on. This is a crucial part of the degree. Greta noted much funding for the Show has come from JCRs in the past.

(Motion Passed, 0 against, 1 abstention)

f/ The “Launch More Rockets” Financial Motion

Proposer: Matthew Hopkins

Seconded: Damien Watson

This JCR notes that:

- a. Oxford University Rocketry Society (OURS) is well on its way to perform outstandingly well in the National Rocketry Competition (NRC), having nearly finalised design plans and already carried out a successful test launch.
- b. Performing well in the NRC would give OURS the reputation needed to attract departmental and corporate sponsors, giving it a sustainable source of funding.
- c. In the future OURS intends to develop a “rockoon”, a launch system made up of a rocket that is carried high into the atmosphere by a balloon before igniting. This is an emerging technology that OURS would like to work at the forefront of, and with this in mind OURS are designing a high altitude balloon for launch next term to test the balloon component of this.
- d. Rocket and balloon parts are expensive.

This JCR believes that:

- e. Performing well in the NRC would establish OURS as a major player among university rocket building teams and set it up for the long term.
- f. OURS is the only society in Oxford entering competitions like the NRC, and performing well will give the university and St John’s a good representation in one of the few areas the university does not already excel in.
- g. OURS gives the St John’s students involved the opportunity to work in a team, applying their academic knowledge to solve actual engineering problems, giving them experience that will help them in their careers in STEM after university.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- h. Give £500 to the Oxford Rocketry Society from the Financial Motions Budget.

Matthew Hopkins noted that the Oxford Rocketry Society are building rockets and planning to enter the National Rocketry Competition, with the ORS being the first and only of its kind engaging in Rocketry.

Chris Hughes asked if a John’s logo can be put on the rocket. Matthew noted that a John’s logo was put on the last launch promotional video, and will be done so again.

(Motion passed, 0 against, 4 abstentions)

g/ The “The Ruling Class” Financial Motion

Proposer: Izzy Kent
 Seconded: Lev Crofts

This JCR notes that:

- a. Theatre in Oxford is an expensive but highly beneficial and wide reaching student activity. The production “The Ruling Class” is being performed in third week of trinity and the crew includes four different members of the St John’s JCR including the Director and Producer.

This JCR believes that:

- b. It is a worthwhile investment to support the artistic endeavours of members of the JCR and to help them follow extra-curricular pursuits in Oxford. The JCR could easily spare £300 to help

fund the student production 'The Ruling Class' which will be performed at the Burton Taylor Studio in 3rd week of Trinity Term.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- c. Give £250 from the Kendrew Arts Fund and £50 from the Financial Motions Budget to help fund the production.

Lev noted that he is starting a production company, putting on the show 'Ruling Class'. Any money made will be put back into drama, thus benefiting the John's students involved. Harry noted this will empty the Kendrew Arts Fund. Ben clarified with Cas whether the Financial Motions Budget will still be allowed for drama productions, which Cas confirmed is the case.

(Motion passed, 0 against, 2 abstentions)

viii/ Any other business

Chris noted that we have used the Kendrew Arts Fund in its entirety within a term, suggesting we ask for more. Cas noted he is planning to ask for more in Rents and Charges coming up in Trinity.

Cas noted the gender neutral toilet signs are finally up around College.

Harry closed the meeting at 21.52.

Benedict Gardner
JCR Secretary
01/03/2019