



St John's College Junior Common Room

Minutes - 2nd Meeting, Hilary Term 2021
Sunday 31 January 2021, Zoom, 7.30pm

The meeting opened at 7:37pm, with Zara Hussain chairing and Aoife Hegarty (Secretary) taking minutes.

1. Minutes from the last meeting.

Minutes can be found [here](#).

[In writing these minutes, the JCR Secretary (& Acting IT Officer) notes that minutes from HT21 GM1 are not yet available on the website, and are unlikely to become available there until the JCR Secretary figures out how the website works. To speed up this process, please do consider putting yourself forward for the position of IT Officer in the next by-election. Contact the JCR Secretary for more information about this exciting unpaid opportunity.]

2. Matters arising from the minutes.

There were no matters arising.

3. Reports from Officers, Reps and Committees

Written reports are available [here](#). Verbal reports were requested from:

- **E&D Officer:** Naomi Reiter noted that they did not have much to report. The big dinners that had been planned for this term have been cancelled. They've been working on organising EDI training and the Equalities Forum next week.
- **Entz:** Rónán Foley and Shaina Sangha had nothing to report.
- **Welfare:** Zoe Reed said that they have been sorting out the care packages and running Bake Off. They encouraged everyone to "get baking!".

- **SU:** Phil noted that Week 1 Council “had happened, but there were no spicy motions or beef.” They had also attended VP PresCom although noted that they were unsure as to the reasoning behind this invitation, remarking that it was largely irrelevant to their role.
- The Vice President, Sports Reps, Charities Reps, Facilities Rep and PRAT Reps were not present.

4. Ratifications

i) **The “Move the Room Ballot to Trinity” Motion**

ii) **The “Extend the Voting Window for JCR Officer Elections” Constitutional Motion**

iii) **The “I Think It’s Appendixitis” Constitutional Motion**

No objections were heard to Motions (i)-(iii).

Ratified nem. con.

5. Items for Discussion

There were no items for discussion.

6. Charities Motions

a) The “Kujali” Charities Motion

Proposer: Jahnavi Kalayil

Seconded: Freya Allery, Charities Rep

This JCR therefore resolves to:

i) Give £300 to Kujali in aiding the financial aspects of the current project in Gulu, Uganda.

Ratified nem. con.

b) The “Fighting Period Poverty” Charities Motion

Proposer: Khadijah Ali

Seconded: Giulia Moretti

This JCR therefore resolves to:

g) Donate £300 pounds to Freedom4Girls

Ratified nem. con.

c) The Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust Charities Motion

Proposer: Talula Reid, Access Officer

Seconded: Emily Oldridge

This JCR therefore resolves to:

e) Donate £300 to Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife.

Ratified nem. con.

d) The “Anthony Nolan” Charities Motion

Proposer: Emily Oldridge

Seconded: Talula Reid, Access Officer

This JCR therefore resolves to:

a) Donate £300 to Anthony Nolan

Ratified nem. con.

e)The “GiveDirectly” Charities Motion

Proposer: Ava Mitchell

Seconded: Maya Humphries

This JCR therefore resolves to:

f. Donate £300 to GiveDirectly

Ratified nem. con.

f) The “Building the OxPath to Oxford” Charities Motion

Proposer: Talula Reid, JCR Access and Admissions Officer

Seconded: Zara Hussain, Chair

This JCR therefore resolves to:

j) Donate £300 to StudyPath

Ratified nem. con.

7. Agenda Items

a) The “Save the Lamb and Flag” Standing Policy Motion

Proposer: Emmet O’Leary, President

Seconded: Shaina Sangha, Entz Officer

Emmet O’Leary (President) gave a short speech in favour of this motion. Emmet noted the announced closure of the L&F pub because of the financial problems during the pandemic. They felt that the JCr “should be a bit upset that this was happening”. They expressed the belief that this 17th C pub should remain a pub, and not be “leased out to a big chain”. They thought that this might be a good opportunity to chat openly with college about the future of the pub, and how to improve and to “rejuvenate” this important part of the John’s community.

There were no questions for Emmet.

Motion passes. (45 in favour, 2 abstain)

b) The “Budget Reallocation” Motion: Funds for the Suspended Students Reps

Proposer: Maya Blanco, Treasurer

Seconded: Yvonne Clark-Lewis, Suspended Students Rep

Maya Blanco (Treasurer) noted that the Suspended Students Reps had recently contacted her to ask for funds. Maya said that this was a new position, and that these Reps should have their own budget like other reps. Maya noted that the SS Reps were planning to run events using this money. Maya said that they were planning to reduce the other E&D Reps’ budgets by £30 each, and the E&D budget by £20.

Phil Fernandes (SU Rep) asked what the spending would be on. Maya said that Yvonne Clarke-Lewis had suggested spending on dinners, and Maya thought perhaps on dinners when the students returned. Maya noted that they could not answer on Yvonne Clarke-Lewis’s behalf.

Zara Hussain (Chair) wondered if they were allowed to ask questions, and then asked if Maya had taken into account the reduced spending on events in Trinity last year because of COVID-19. Maya said that they were not reducing the Reps’ budget “by a massive sum” and that they would be able to submit a budget reallocation motion for any rep who needs funds.

Emmet O’Leary noted that, in the past, Suspended Students Reps had not been given a budget because this is a new position, and there had not been any spending suggested. Emmet noted that if other Reps overspent, this money could be reallocated. Emmet said that the budget for E&D reps had been increased this year, and that last year the budgets were

£200. Emmet said that the change which Maya was proposing would leave the other E&D Reps with the same amount of money as they had last year.

Naomi Reiter (E&D Officer) said that they were worried that some Reps regularly overspent their budgets and that their budgets would be cut. Maya said that they could amend the motion to cut only the budgets of Reps who do not have a history of overspending but felt that this would be unfair and leave the Reps with unequal budgets.

Phil Fernandes (SU Rep) noted that last year, when this the Suspended Students Rep position was created, the provision of a budget for this Rep position had been considered. This did not happen because there were no ways identified for the Rep to spend this money. Phil said that if Noam and Yvonne (Suspended Students Reps) “have figured out a way to spend this money, fair play to them.”

However, Phil wondered if Maya could take this money from the Financial Motions budget instead of cutting the budget of the other E&D Reps. They noted that decreasing the budget of the other Reps could have a negative impact, and that Reps having their budget cut might lead to fewer events being scheduled. They felt that there was a difference between providing the reps with a higher budget, and telling the Reps that “their budgets could be topped up”. Maya said that this was more complicated for them to organise and that the easiest thing to do was to re-divide the E&D Reps’ budgets, as in the motion. Phil expressed their surprise that this was the easiest way, noting that Maya’s suggestion involved changing 6 budgets, and Phil’s suggestion involved changing 2.

Emmet suggested that the £200 for the Suspended Students’ Reps could be taken from the President’s budget of £400.

Zara Hussain (Chair) suggested that this motion not be put, as it sounded like there were many amendments being suggested. They noted that “things might run smoother” if Yvonne or Noam came to the meeting and suggested some events on which they were planning to spend.

Zara then asked why the budgets for E&D Reps were separated, and not given as a lump sum to the E&D Subcommittee. Maya said that this was a matter of ease and transparency.

Emmet suggested that the way in which funds are allocated to the E&D Reps could be examined again. They felt that this could be a way of reviving “the often-forgotten E&D Subcommittee”.

Zara Hussain took this opportunity to remind the JCR that last year, an unnamed Class Rep had thought that the yearly budget was a termly budget, and had spent all their budget in one term. The unnamed Class Rep was revealed to be President Emmet O’Leary (!!!) and the defendant protested that they had had £60 left. It was noted by Emmet that this was, in fact, an excellent financial strategy for the year 2020 as the JCR was not in residence for Trinity term, and Hilary term was effectively cancelled.

This motion was not put.

c) The “Let’s Create Societies” Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Lachlann Hinley, Secretary 2020

Seconded: Aoife Hegarty, Secretary 2021

Lachlann Hinley gave a short speech in favour of this motion.

Lachlann greeted the JCR, and hoped that everybody was doing well. They reminded the JCR that at the last meeting, the Constitution had had some quite serious surgery to remove a bad case of Appendicitis. They noted that the surgery had not been completely successful, and that some traces of Appendicitis had remained in the form of Appendix IV. This motion would remove the JCR List of Societies from the Constitution and this would instead be available online. They proceeded to explain to the JCR that “when in the process of mending a bad pipe, you might as well put in a new pipe.” Lachlann said that this was a good opportunity to remove “Zombie Societies”. They hoped that the motion explained the proposed amendments quite well and that this motion would cure the JCR’s nasty case of Appendicitis.

There were no questions for Lachlann.

Motion passes. (38 in favour, 8 abstain)

Any Other Business

There was no other business, and the JCR meeting was closed at 8:08pm.

After the meeting had been closed, Emmet O’Leary (President) encouraged everyone to attend the Kahoot Quiz with other colleges on Monday night and reminded people to register to receive the link.