



St John's College Junior Common Room

Minutes – 2nd Meeting, Hilary Term 2022
Sunday 6th February, 8.30pm, Bar Marquee

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The meeting was opened at 20:39 by the Chair.

1. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

The minutes were approved.

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters were arising.

3. Reports from Officers, Reps and Committees

Treasurer: Matt Barrett said he was treasuring things.

Academic Affairs: Jake Hatton said he'd tied up last year's Academic Feedback process, and this year's would begin later in the term. and

Domestic: Paddy Breeze said the airbed scheme would be launching soon, and they had organised the first Guest Dinner.

Welfare: Finn Heywood said they'd held a TW tea that day, with melons and cucumber, and that they are planning to hold more events once Covid's died down.

Bike Reps: Yasmin Ziv said they were planning to label the bikes better and do some repairs.

Not present:

- Vice-President: Amelie Bhaluani
- Entz: Emily Bicknell and Dawid Koscielniak
- Sports: Freya Peers
- Art: Zoe Hind and Lily Middleton-Mansell
- SU: Korben Bailey
- E&D Reps (optional)

The meeting was adjourned for several minutes as the pizzas had arrived.

4. Ratifications

Descriptions of the roles were read out.

- SU Rep. No nominations.

No nominations were received.

- E&D roles:
 - BAME Rep.

Disha Hegde gave a short hust, saying that her experience in her first term as a woman of colour could be isolating at times, as she couldn't find and connect with people with similar experiences. She would like to organise a BAME Facebook group, welfare lunches, and a John's BAME formal, so the community can get to know each other. Being a trustee of a young people's mental health charity has given her skills she can apply here. She said the college has done well with the colonialism project, but more can be done.

No questions or objections were raised.

Zara gave a short hust, saying it can be a culture shock coming here where you're the only person of colour in tutorials and seminars. Her main goal would be to create a closer community in college with welfare support, and it would be good to have a BAME background peer supporter. She would organise diversity teas, formals with other college and be a point of contact for the BAME community.

No questions or objections were raised.

Because there were multiple nominations, and a secret ballot was requested, voting will take place online after the meeting.

- Disabilities Rep

No nominations were received.

- LGBTQ+/Minority Gender Rep

Annabelle gave a short hust, saying she's queer and cares about other queer people, so wants to run for this rep position.

No questions or objections were raised.

Annabelle was **Ratified**.

- Women's Rep

No nominations were received.

5. Items for Discussion

a) Library & Study Centre Update

Khadijah Ali said that the Librarian was unhappy with low levels of mask wearing, and loud talking and eating in the library. Names would be passed on to the Senior Dean if the situation did not improve.

Ozan noted his disagreement and said the policy wasn't the right thing to do, but there was nothing the JCR could do.

George raised an objection, but the Chair repeated that this was just an information point.

Mia Thwaites said the water fountains in the library and JCR were broken, and asked if they could be fixed.

b) Standing Policy Update

Ozan Erder said standing policy expires after a year, and he would update the website and notify the JCR about expiring motions, so they could decide to renew them.

c) Michaelmas 2021 audit

Talav explained the audit process, and said it was rewarding, enjoyable and looked great on your CV. He was happy to advise new auditors. But no auditor nominations were received.

d) Condition of the Republic 2022

Emmet O'Leary said a motion saying 'It was a good year' would be presented. If it's not accepted, he would have to come back with a better report.

e) Providing Stash for College Staff

Adam Arnfield was not present, so this item was skipped.

f) Bar Marquee - Heater Noise

Jakub Ulik was not present, so his statement was read out.

George said a switch would be best. Emmet said people didn't know the thermostat passcode. A switch would be better than sharing the password with everyone.

Jake says the marquee is the only big bookable space in college, which is one of its big appeals and reasons it's maintained, so a booking system would be bad.

g) JCR Room Water Fountain

This item had already been discussed earlier, so was skipped.

6. Charities Motions Nem. Con.

a) The "Otmoor Land Purchase Appeal" Charities Motion

Talula explained Otmoor is a nice place, and birds should be protected. No objections were received.

*The motion was **passed**.*

b) The "Albinism Fellowship" Charities Motion

Jake Hatton objected to the Secretary minuting a motion they were presenting. A vote to request someone else take the minutes was held and failed.

Ozan spoke about the Albinism Fellowship, and explained it provides support, connections and events people with albinism, and took a fundraising hit because of Covid. No objections were raised.

*The motion was **passed**.*

c) The "Alzheimer's Society" Charities Motion

Khadijah talked about how Alzheimer's can be a difficult condition to manage for people and their families, and about the work that the charity does to support them. No objections were raised.

*The motion was **passed**.*

d) The "OxPal" Charities Motion

The Chair read out the motion as Yuxin was unable to speak from Zoom, and explained the role that Oxford students play in delivering medical education in the West Bank and Gaza. No objections were raised

*The motion was **passed**.*

e) The "Project Access" Charities Motion

Hannah spoke on the motion, explaining how the charity supports international students who would otherwise not be able to apply to or study at top universities including Oxford.

Disha said she was a Project Access mentee and gave her support to the motion.
No objections were raised.

*The motion was **passed**.*

f) The "The Grove Cottage" Charities Motion

Ella said the Grove Cottage is the MENCAP centre in her town, where she has previously volunteered. It's a house where people with learning disabilities can come for support and care, and is valued in the community.
No objections were raised.

*The motion was **passed**.*

g) The "Young Minds" Charities Motion

Gracie spoke about the importance of helping young people with mental health issues, and how Young Minds provides an online platform with various support options.
No objections were raised.

*The motion was **passed**.*

7. Agenda Items

a) The "Dolphin Gallery" Financial Motion

Alice spoke about the event she would be holding in the Dolphin Gallery, and wanted to get funding for wine to provide for the opening event.

Emmet proposed a friendly amendment that the money come from Financial Motions as it wasn't directly art-related. Matt agrees. Matt agreed, and Alice accepted the amendment. The motion was amended accordingly.

b) The "Fund The Dumb Waiter!" Financial Motion

Matt took over as Chair, and Alex explains this motion was to fund the first production of his theatre company, which would take place in the Balliol theatre. The company has no existing funds.

No objections were raised.

c) The "Procedure Makes Perfect" Constitutional Motion

Jake said this motion resolved a procedural issue that came up in a meeting in Michaelmas, and it would make online meetings in the future easier. All involved parties had previously agreed to it.

Matt asked if Ozan had checked it would work, which he had.

No objections were raised.

d) The "Ruskin School of Art Degree Show 2022" Financial Motion

Alice spoke and said this motion would help fund an annual show where Fine Art students can showcase their work. Because of running costs, including staffing throughout the week, it is very expensive to put on, costing around £13,000. Any unused money would be returned to the JCR.

No objections were raised.

e) The "Spinning Yarns" Financial Motion

Niamh spoke about her proposed photography show, and said this motion would provide for film, transport and marketing for the show.

No objections were raised.

f) The "Support Immerse" Financial Motion

Niamh said she would like funding for a personal project exploring water and people's relationship with it. This motion would fund it, including a new film camera, film development and printing costs.

Matt said with Kendrew Arts funds, there's often an element of giving back to the JCR. He suggested Niamh produce a report for the website.

Niamh agreed she could make a report or exhibition to showcase it within John's.

Emmet also agreed we should officially get reports for Kendrew Arts Fund projects, and it should be good if we started doing it.

Alice said John's students can use the Dolphin gallery, which wasn't the case previously.

Matt proposed a friendly amendment that Niamh provide an exhibition or report for John's students. There were no objections and the amendment was accepted.

Ozan said that financial motion reports would be enforced from now on, and they also look good on the website.

8. Any Other Business

A) The Condition of the Republic 2021

Emmet presented the Condition of the Republic report motion, to which there were no objections.

Alice asked if the LGBTQ+/Minority Gender rep has to be minority gender. Ozan said they don't, and Emmet agreed.

Alice then asked if it's true for all E&D reps, and Ozan agreed.

Talav said it was important we had the positions filled, and that the College was disappointed that no one attended the Equality Forum. It's good for the JCR to show an interest, and tea sets are available.

Disha asked if only the specific community can vote for the rep, which Ozan confirmed.

Khadijah asked about the "Support Immerse" motion, and whether all of the funding was necessary. She proposed a friendly amendment to include a cost breakdown that Niamh would write.

The amendment was not accepted as friendly, and was not moved.

Paddy asked whether, as the JCR previously had a film camera, the one bought with this motion would be the JCR's property.

Niamh said it would be her camera.

Matt thought the camera should be returned to the JCR after the project, but Emmet said she should be allowed to keep it.

Paddy said that if we're spending JCR arts money, this should be used on future JCR projects too.

Matt said it'd be fine if it was the JCR's camera, but Niamh would initially use it a lot.

Alice said if the Kendrew Arts Fund was the problem we could use Financial Motions. So money can come from other places, and she didn't see a problem with spending money on the camera.

Khadijah agreed that, as it would essentially be permanent personal property, the camera should become the JCR's. There's also a precedent that cameras work like this, as with the current digital camera.

Khadijah proposed the motion be amended as follows:

“a. Purchase a film camera for JCR use, which shall be loaned to the Proposer for the duration of the proposed project.

b. Give the remaining funds to Immerse.”

Giacomo noted that if the JCR bought the camera, Niamh would use it the most.

Khadijah said the digital camera was bought so we wouldn't have to buy a new camera every time a student got into photography, and the same should apply here.

Matt asked who decides who can borrow the camera, but Khadijah said it hadn't been a problem till now. Rachel said we should consider this as a separate point.

Niamh said the motion should stay unamended, and we could buy a JCR camera later.

Hannah said this would be financing purchase of property, not a project.

Jake noted this has happened with financial motions before, and Emmet agreed. Alice also said this hasn't been a problem for anyone else. If this is a problem, we need to change the constitution to deal with purchase of property.

Giacomo said there's a difference between production company equipment and someone's permanent personal property. If we're making constitutional changes, every time we'll have to have a vote. Whereas in the current system we work it out according to demand, which is better and more flexible.

Alice said nothing like this had been questioned before.

Matt said we should consider whether we have a continuous policy on this, or decide on a case by case basis.

Ozan: we can't amend now, the JCr should be able to amend motions as it sees fit.

Niamh: demand for camera should be met in the next year.

Khadijah said it would be better if the camera was communal, and Matt said we now had two options to decide between.

Talav said that we spend £45 on the jukebox a month, and the Sky subscription. These are also funding issues. Ozan said we can talk about this at the next meeting.

Finn said that if Niamh wants a camera that's fine, as it's the point of the Kendrew Arts Fund, so why don't we get another one?

Giacomo asked if we could combine these motions, and Emmet said we could. Finn said this should be a new motion, but he would propose it at the next meeting.

Khadijah moved her amendment, and a secret ballot was requested.

The amendment failed.

The motion will be put to an online vote unamended.

NOTE: An anonymous comment was received, but not read out, during the meeting as follows:

“Niamh already has a film camera, and is asking for more money than one would usually cost, so the camera should be the JCR’s, but she should be allowed to use it for her project. Also, her funding breakdown is unclear, I’m not sure what £500 is needed for in a personal project. £700 for two projects without a clear budget seems like the generous Kendrew arts fund is being taken advantage of by one individual.”.

Jake Masters asked for a statement to be read about clocks in College:
“This JCR notes that: there aren’t many clocks around college.

This JCR believes that: There should be more clocks around college as to tell the time.

This JCR resolves to: Buy clocks and place them where clocks may be useful.”

This was not moved as a motion because a sufficient number of people were not present by this point.

The meeting closed at 21:58.