

St John's College Junior Common Room

The Republic of St Giles

Agenda for the 2nd meeting of Trinity Term 2019
Wednesday 15th May 2019, Larkin Room, 8.00pm

i/ Minutes from the Previous Meeting

None raised.

ii/ Matters Arising from the Minutes

Harry updated the JCR on issues discussed at the previous meeting, starting by noting that College are being slow on room re-grading, as proposed by the outgoing Home Bursar. He continued that he and Greg Howgego (former Domestic Secretary, standing for re-election at the time) had attended Garden Perambulation (a college meeting held with the Head of Garden), and College are willing to install benches in the Garden as proposed by Greg at Domestic Committee. Weekend Brunch in Hall plans are proceeding well, though some College Fellows have raised concerns that alumni may have nostalgia for breakfast, which is limiting proceedings. Harry finished by noting that the Kendrew Events Room will not be used for exams will not be happening, and that College are considering Kendrew Café as a possible space.

iii/ Reports from Officers, Reps, and Committees

- a. Ethnic Minorities Officer: Karen Muperere

Not here

- b. Welfare Officers: Tom Johnson and Amelia Holt

Sent in after the deadline, but added to the report.

- c. Oxford SU Reps: Sam Gunatilleke

Sam noted that he had attended the SU meeting, noting they held a vote on what they should do going forward on what to do (on what specifically he was not clear). Sam then resigned as the Oxford SU Rep, noting his disillusionment.

iv/ Ratifications

- Returning Officer Assistant - 1 vacancy

Sam Gunatilleke gave a short hust, noting his experience and his intention to do a more thorough job than his time as an SU rep.

***Sam Gunatilleke ratified as Returning Officer Assistant
(0 against, 1 abstention)***

- Elections for Equality and Diversity Officer - *Chris Hughes, Returning Officer*

No one stands

- Auditors for HT19 Accounts - 2 vacancies

Issy Stephens gave a short hust, noting the lack of desirability for embezzlement to occur with the College's funds. She noted that she did not have reason to believe Cas had been doing this.

Eleanor gave a short hust, saying simply “Transparency”.

*Eleanor D’Souza and Isabella Stephens ratified as Auditors for HT19
(0 against, 1 abstention)*

- Auditors for TT19 Accounts - 2 vacancies

[Appendix 1](#) - Hust from Shuichi Chiba and Clara Schumacher

Harry gave the room time to read the husts presented on the screen.

*Shuichi Chiba and Clara Schumacher ratified as Auditors for TT19
(0 against, 1 abstention)*

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

No one stands

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

No one stands

- PRAT Rep - 1 vacancy (to serve alongside Felix Stocker)

No one stands

- SU Rep - 2 vacancies

No one stands

- Oxford SU Third Vote - 1 vacancy

No one stands. Harry to appoint.

[vi/ Items for Discussion](#)

- Constitutional Appendices - *Benedict Gardner, JCR Secretary*

Benedict noted that the Appendices have been changed.

- Ball Committee Report ([Appendix 2](#)) - *Leo Nasskau, 2020 Ball Treasurer*

Leo outlined that the Ball Committee have made the report as required from the previous meeting, where they asked for £750 in a Financial Motion. They noted that some budget changes had been made, including provision for a Graphics budget to buy a Graphics Package, with slight reductions to the Sponsorship and Marketing budget as a result.

- Increasing Engagement - *Harry Sugden, JCR President*

Harry noted that many other JCRs have implemented closed eye voting, with some success. Harry said the JCR doesn’t have any recourse to any technology that can do this safely or securely as of yet, so asked JCR members to voluntarily close their eyes. Harry noted that in order to truly express the will of the JCR, a degree of anonymity is required. He said he was particularly keen for new Freshers to understand this idea. No opposition was heard when Harry asked if closed-eye voting could be trialled in this meeting [at a later stage it was decided that Harry would bang the gavel to indicate when people could open their eyes again, to prevent people seeing hands up]. Harry noted his intentions to submit a Standing Policy Motion to make this more long-term going forward.

v/ [Passing of Charities Motions Nem Con](#)

Harry told the JCR that all Charities Motions would be passed Nem Con, meaning that unless any questions were raised, the Motion would pass automatically.

a/ The H2O Charities Motion

Proposer: Issy Stephens

Seconded: Lucy Denly

This JCR notes that:

- a. In rural regions of Kenya 8 out of 10 people lack access to water and sanitation
- b. This disproportionately affects women and girls as they are expected to fetch water sacrificing hours in school
- c. Dig Deep works exclusively in the Bomet and Narok counties, meaning it has specialist local knowledge and isn't just building a well and then leaving

This JCR believes that:

- d. Water is a basic human right
- e. Everyone deserves access to clean water and sanitation as provided by the charity Dig Deep

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- f. Give [£300] to Dig Deep UK.

Passed NEMCON

b/ The "Maggie's" Charities Motion

Proposer: Maya Humphries

Seconded: Ava Mitchell

This JCR notes that:

- a. Maggie's provides free practical, emotional and social support to people with cancer and their friends & families
- b. Maggie's centres are social hubs where patients can meet each other
- c. There are currently 22 centres staffed by nutritionists, therapists and psychologists
- d. Maggie's provides free wig fitting services, yoga and wellbeing sessions

This JCR believes that:

- e. Patients and families have the right to access support and advice as is provided by Maggie's
- f. Patients should not have to face exhausting treatment, tough questions and difficult emotions on their own

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- g. Donate [£300] to Maggie's

Passed NEMCON

c/ The "Support SEED Madagascar" Charities Motion

Proposer: Phil Fernandes

Seconded: Maya Humphries

This JCR notes that:

- a. SEED Madagascar is a charity that manages sustainable development, conservation and education projects in south-eastern Madagascar.
- b. Current projects include improving rainwater harvesting, sexual health education and sustainable lobster management.

- c. Madagascar is one of the world's poorest countries, with 92% of inhabitants living below the poverty line on less than \$2 per day.

This JCR believes that:

- d. SEED Madagascar's work is important in breaking the poverty cycle and enhancing the capacity of communities to meet development goals.
- e. St John's College should support charities that aim to allow communities to thrive in the world's most impoverished regions

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- f. Donate [£300] to SEED Madagascar

Passed NEMCON

d/ The "Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund (JDRF)" Charities Motion

Proposer: Georgia Indie Walker

Seconded: Ed Sandford

This JCR notes that:

- a. Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund (JDRF) is an organisation that funds research, advocacy and education. For instance, they have a long-running clinical trial on family members of those with T1D that aims to detect risk factors and fast-track diagnosis.
- b. Juvenile diabetes has no cure, and unlike type 2 diabetes it cannot be managed through lifestyle changes alone.

This JCR believes that:

- c. Supporting JDRF will improve the lives of people in the UK living with Type 1 Diabetes, including students, to whom JDRF provides packs for parents to craft a disability accommodation plan that will keep their child safe at school.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- d. Donate [£300] to Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund (JDRF) via Gwen Antell (MCR) as part of their Edinburgh Marathon team

Passed NEMCON

e/ The "ICP SUPPORT" Charities Motion

Proposer: Gregory Howgego

Seconded: Leanne Smith

This JCR notes that:

- a. ICP Support is a charity dedicated to finding the causes of and supporting women suffering from a liver condition of pregnancy called ICP.
- b. ICP can cause preterm birth, meconium aspiration and in some cases stillbirth which is why the charity aims to ensure that all ICP babies are born safely.
- c. ICP Support aims to help support ladies through their website, icpsupport.org, telephone supportline and facebook groups (which are both run by volunteers) and also pledges that at least 10% of funds raised goes to research into the condition.

- d. The charity relies solely on the fundraising efforts of its supporters and trustees and receives no government funding. As a small charity, it finds it hard to compete against larger and more well-known charities.

This JCR believes that:

- e. ICP's cause is important because whilst the charity has been running for over 25 years, research into this complex condition has yet to establish why some babies do not survive. Families are being affected by stillbirth. The charity aims to heighten awareness of this condition amongst Health Professionals and pregnant ladies and also aims to promote a standardised care strategy across the UK and also abroad. We want to eradicate stillbirth from ICP.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- f. *Give [£300] to ICP Support*

Passed NEMCON

vii/ Agenda Items

a/ The "Why Not (Rep) Both?" Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Benedict Gardner, JCR Secretary

Seconded: Harry Sugden, JCR President

This JCR notes that:

- a. Many Rep positions go unfilled for extended periods of time in the JCR
- b. When Rep positions become available, often those with one Rep position already consider running
- c. The Constitution currently prevents a person being a Rep for two (non-liberation) positions

This JCR believes that:

- d. There is no reason to stop someone being two reps, rather than one
- e. Members of the JCR are able to manage their own time, and can judge for themselves whether the workload is reasonable

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- f. Change Part 2, Section 19:

From: *Officials cannot hold more than one role at any given time and must be elected in accordance with election regulations contained in §29 for Reps and Standing Order 3A/3B for Officers.*

To: *Officials cannot hold more than two [amended by Cas Burton, accepted as friendly] 'different' roles [amended by Cas Burton] 'excluding Liberation reps, and not more than one Officer role, at any given time and must be elected in accordance with election regulations contained in §29 for Reps and Standing Order 3A/3B for Officers.*

- g. Change Part 2, Section 20:

From: *It shall not be possible for a member to simultaneously be a liberation rep and another type of official, yet a liberation rep for one liberation group may simultaneously be a liberation rep for another liberation group*

To: *It shall be possible for a member to simultaneously be a liberation rep and another type of Official, and a liberation rep for one liberation group may simultaneously be a liberation rep for another liberation group*

*Motion Passed
(1 against, 1 abstention)*

Ben noted that he and Harry were looking to modify the JCR Constitution. One notable difficulty with the Constitution is that it precludes someone from standing for two rep positions, or an Officer and a rep position. This Motion seeks to change that.

Issy asked whether someone could be an Assistant and a Rep under this provision. Benedict noted that Assistants are counted as different to Reps. [the under Article 23 of the Constitution, it states: "The positions that the JCR recognises as "Assistants" are: Academic Affairs Assistant and Returning Officer Assistant. A person may hold another role as an Official, in addition to their role as an Assistant, only if the Vice President appointed them as an Assistant." This has not been changed.

Cas Burton asked whether this Motion prevented someone from being two of the same Rep. After discussion, it was determined it didn't, so the word 'different' was added to item f, accepted as friendly.

Sam Scruton noted concern that the same people could dominate two positions even when people were keen to take roles, suggesting it be kept as a last resort. Harry noted that the fact people have to run with a hust, noting that the JCR could then decide. Chris noted it currently wasn't an issue, because rep roles are going completely unfilled. Sam replied that his concern that people could struggle to break into that community. Sophie suggested existing Reps must note they are already Reps, and Harry suggested that the JCR make it clear going forward that Rep roles can be challenged, and he would make an effort to ensure this was possible going forward, especially for Reps with two roles.

Christopher Hughes noted that the original wording could restrict the number of Liberation Reps a person could be. After much discussion, Cas asked to add the term 'excluding Liberation Reps' was added to item f, accepted as friendly.

b/ The “Facilitating Facilities” Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Harry Sugden (JCR President)

Seconded: Adem Berbic (DVD and TV Room Rep)

This JCR notes that:

- a. The responsibility for the DVD and TV Room falls under the DVD & TV Room rep, who reports to the Discounts Officer.
- b. The responsibility for the JCR and the Games Room falls under the Treasurer’s role description.

This JCR believes that:

- c. A single Facilities Rep should have responsibility for the DVD, TV, JCR and Games rooms with a combined budget.
- d. The Facilities Rep should report to the Domestic Officers.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- e. Rename the ‘DVD and TV Room Rep’ to ‘Facilities Rep’ in all instances (Part Two §22; Standing Order Table Two 2.f.).
- f. Move responsibility for the Rep from Discounts Officer (Standing Order Table Two 1.i.viii.) to Domestic Officers (Standing Order Table Two 1.j.vii. and 2.f.v.).
- g. Move responsibility for the Games Room and JCR from The Treasurer (Standing Order Table Two 1.d.vii.) to the Facilities Rep.
- h. Rename the associated budget, and remove “*Are responsible for the SJC Board Games and Xbox budgets*” since the budgets will be combined (Standing Order Table Two 2.f.iv.).

Harry noted his intention to fuse the DVD and TV Rep into a Facilities Rep, with a unified budget. DVD and TV Rep will now be responsible for the JCR and the Games Room.

Cas clarified with Harry whether the Games Room budget would be merged in with the other merged budget, and noted there is a separate Sky budget and Juke Box budget. Cas to submit a Budget Reallocation Motion in a future meeting to align the budget with the outcome of the Motion.

*Motion Passed
(0 against, 0 abstentions)*

c/ The “Anti Sex-Bug” Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Jahnvi Kalayil (JCR Women’s Officer)

Seconded: Amelia Holt (JCR Welfare Officer)

This JCR notes that:

- a. The Women’s Officer is currently obliged to reimburse menstrual cups, reusable sanitary products, morning after pills and pregnancy tests within five working days of their request.
- b. The Sexual Health clinic offers free STI testing but due to the distance of the clinic from college many people would go longer before being tested, potentially leading to more serious health issues.
- c. Members of college have the need to purchase expensive sexual health treatments (e.g. thrush treatments ~£15).
- d. The JCR currently reimburses much more costly items so this should not be an exception for that reason.
- e. Female members of the JCR have expressed an interest in having regular distribution of the free JCR provided pregnancy tests to avoid additional stresses in having to wait for delivery from Welfare.

This JCR believes that:

- f. The current reimbursement scheme should be amended to include items such as low-cost sexual health treatments and STI testing kits for any members of the JCR.
- g. Pregnancy test distribution should be included in the regular Sanitary Products order by the JCR Women’s Officer.
- h. The Women’s/Welfare budgets should be increased to account for the increase in items for reimbursement.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- i. Add in as (x) the following to Standing Order Table 2, Section 1(q): *Should reimburse the purchase of STI testing kits by JCR members from the Welfare Budget within five working days of the request.*

Jahnvi introduced the purpose for the motion, having received several requests for sexual health testing kits. Jahnvi noted her intention to widen the remit of the Welfare Officers’ reimbursement to include STI kits.

Sam asked whether this motion should be only for female (those who identify wholly or partly as female) JCR members, but Jahnvi noted this kits were available to everyone. Benedict noted these would come out of the Welfare budget, a non-gender specific budget.

*Motion passed
(0 against, 0 abstentions)*

d/ The “Let’s Stay Safe!” Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Jahnvi Kalayil (JCR Women’s Officer)

Seconded: Amelia Holt (JCR Welfare Officer)

This JCR notes that:

- a. According to the Thames Valley Police, there were 1124 accounts of violence or sexual offences in the last year in Oxford.
- b. People of the JCR have the right to feel safe when alone at night.
- c. The MCR Women’s Officer currently reimburses panic alarms to female MCR members.

This JCR believes that:

- d. Panic/personal security alarms should be issued and distributed to members of the JCR.
- e. This purchase should be covered by relevant Welfare/Women's budgets with sufficient budget increase given to the relevant budget.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- f. Add to Standing Order Table 2, Section 1(q)(x): *Should reimburse the purchase of STI testing kits [and panic alarms] by JCR members from the Welfare Budget within five working days of the request.*

Jahnavi noted a similar intention with this motion, based on recent reports in Oxford of incidents and stories occurring. The MCR currently reimburses panic alarms, and Jahnavi noted her intention to do a distribution at a later date. For now, just wants to extend the Welfare Officers' Budget

Harry clarified with Amelia where the Welfare Officers were at with their order of panic alarms, and she noted that she had talked with the Oxford SU team the day of the meeting, who are waiting on their supplier. Amelia noted she had found an alternative supplier can go ahead with the order once the Motion passes.

*Motion passed
(0 against, 0 abstentions)*

e/ The "Improved Access to Storage" Standing Policy Motion

Proposer: Caroline Caruso Carter

Seconded: Costin Andrei Oncescu

This JCR notes that:

- a. Storage is open in ~20 minute slots twice a day in 0th/1st week and 8th/9th week

This JCR believes that:

- b. These opening times can be inconvenient as they tend to clash with tutorials and lectures
- c. If returning on a Thursday, it can be quite stressful to take things out of storage having collections the next day.
- d. Likewise at the end of term, if someone has exams on the Friday and is leaving Saturday/Sunday, it's stressful to have to pack up your room before being done with exams

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- e. Mandate the JCR President to see if access to storage during the weekend could be a possibility
- f. Mandate the JCR President to see if longer opening hours could be an option
- g. Mandate the JCR president to see if it would be possible for students to take a key from the porters to open storage (as done by Balliol and either trade in their keys (like in the Bike Scheme) or have a half an hour "time slot" with the keys, and get charged if you don't bring it back in time
- h. Add item e-g to standing policy

Caroline noted problems with the current storage solution, especially towards the end of term, and suggested trying to raise the issue with college to find a new solution. Her suggestions included a key to give to students (in exchange for a bod card), longer opening times or weekend opening times

Harry noted the next Domestic Committee will be in Michaelmas 2019, to which he can bring the issue then. Alfie asked about the room lease change, which Harry noted will be brought up in Rents and Charges.

Chris noted concerns with theft with a key-based system. Natalia noted it works elsewhere in Wadham and Balliol without issues of theft. Ollie Parkes noted that it is currently easy to steal, as the security is limited in the current system, and that a Bod Card or signing system could in fact improve security.

Natalia asked whether it would be possible to open storage at the weekend. Harry will bring this up as part of the remit. Alfie asked if staff members are in at weekends. Sophie noted they generally are not. Harry clarified that most members of staff are not available at weekends, but some are on-call including the Porters. Alfie asked whether the lodge would run the weekend storage access, and this will also apply to the weekday regime, which Alfie could see the Lodge having a problem with. Harry noted this is something to ask College. Natalia suggested still having particular hours where Porters can give the key, to prevent overloading the Porters with key requests

*Motion passed
(2 against, 1 abstention)*

f/ The “Spruce up the Office!” Financial Motion

Proposer: Harry Sugden (JCR President)

Seconded: Benedict Gardner (JCR Secretary)

This JCR notes that:

- a. The JCR Office (in staircase N3) is currently used primarily as a storage space, is messy, and at present is not regularly used by Officers.
- b. College have confirmed that there are no plans to move the JCR Office.
- c. A costed proposal was presented to the Rents & Charges committee last year, which can be used to guide allocation. (See [Appendix 3](#))
- d. As a cumulative product of underspending in previous years, there is a reserve in the JCR main account available for use to support projects within the interest of the JCR.

This JCR believes that:

- e. There are a number of potential uses of the Office that have been identified by Officers which include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Storage associated with various schemes (including sexual health products, sanitary products, discounts cards);
 - b. Peer support drop-ins (moving from Green’s cafe);
 - c. Welfare drop-ins (a more neutral space, when it may be inappropriate to use student rooms);
 - d. Drop-ins/meetings with other officers, particularly those associated with liberation roles;
 - e. Officer meetings, aiding the President and Vice President in their duty to support to the work and efforts of fellow Officers.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- f. Allocate £1000 from the JCR’s account toward the purchase of new furniture and general refurbishment of the JCR Office.
- g. To present, once refurbishment has been complete, a report of the expenditure associated with the project at a JCR meeting. [Transaction details will also be recorded on the Budget spreadsheet.]

Harry noted his plans to refurbish the JCR Office, currently used as an unappealing storage space, noting the potential to use it as a space for Peer Supporters and to talk to Officers about concerns. Harry noted £1000 may seem high, but that he received it directly from an old Rents and Charges Motion. Harry suggested some may worry this only benefits a few people, but he noted the value of having a base for Peer Supporters in College.

Cas asked whether College had given £1000 in the past for the JCR Office. Harry noted that College had considered a move but have now confirmed the room is here to stay, and that the JCR had the money spare to redo the room.

Lachlann noted that the room is not accessible, and so may be an issue for those seeking Peer Supporters if it becomes the only space. Harry asked whether Greens, once used for Peers Supporters, is not accessible space currently, which Lachlann confirmed it was not. Astrid Ingemann-Breitenstein noted this is not where Peer Supporter Meeting takes place anymore. Cas noted that the JCR’s original room move would have left the space in the Buttery, which is less accessible.

Sam Scruton asked about other potential uses for the room, to which Harry noted the space would serve as a continuity space for the JCR, including a computer for central files. Sam asked why handover meetings don’t just happen in rooms in college.

Felix asked whether this had been a long-term project, to which Greg replied that it had been in the works for several years. Felix noted that if it was not a pressing concern, he wasn't sure the £1000 was a good investment, saying we could give the £1000 to charity [Harry here explained that JCR funds can't be used to support other Charities, as is part of the aims of the JCR's charitable status. This is worked around with a Charities Levy added to Battels and kept in a separate bank account].

Issy asked whether Harry had considered getting College to fund the move, to which Harry noted that College are unsure who has responsibility for the refurbishment. Given his now limited time in Office, he stated his plans to see that the work gets done quickly, and so College was not a viable option.

Leo noted that £1000 is a lot of money for a building renovation, noting economically he did not think it was worth it. He proposed a report was given on spending, which Harry replied was covered by item (g). Leo expressed concern that the Motion gives the mandate for the reimbursement to cost £1000 in total.

Sam Gunatilleke replied that it was worth spending money to ensure the space is high quality and desirable for use, with higher quality equipment being longer-lasting and giving more impetus for maintenance. Leo noted it wasn't desirable to be spending £500 on the room every 5 years.

Amelia noted that the acceptability of spending of £1000 came down to trusting the JCR Officers responsible, noting that it would delay any progress if the money was not sufficient. Amelia reiterated the value of the room from a Welfare perspective as a neutral space, and as storage for Welfare supplies. Leo replied it's not about the trust, but that £1,000 is too much of a mandate to give. Jahnavi indicated there was a lower-bound estimate of £595. Harry noted he did not necessarily intend to spend the full amount, but wanted it as allocation in case.

Cas noted that the £1000 noted the money is not currently earmarked for anything and instead sits in the JCR account. Using the funds will not meant that Officers will lose out.

Sam Scruton noted that the room could come associated with Peer Support, discouraging students from seeking help if they don't want people to know they are receiving Peer Support, noting some students may prefer to go out of college for support. Harry replied that there will be many uses for the room, and that the money is not just a cleanup, but will be renovated to be a nicer space for Peer Support. Greg noted that Peer Support provision meetings in previous years noted the wider number of spaces available for meetings, the better.

Chris noted that the JCR Office is an asset that is currently existing without any utilisation, and any Peer Support use will be a more productive use (both literally and economically) of what is essentially a store cupboard at present.

Adem noted we may want a way for Officers for not to intrude, to which Harry suggested a 'Vacant' slider to be installed on the outside of the door.

*Motion Passed
2 against, 0 abstentions*

g/ The “Support the College’s Arts Programme” Financial Motion

Proposer: George Wilson

Seconded: Izzy Kent

This JCR notes that:

- a. In June, the Kendrew Barn will host an exhibition of famous 20th century painter, Duncan Grant’s works on paper.
- b. For the exhibition to achieve its full potential, a printed catalogue and information labels would be ideal to inform visitors about these valuable works.
- c. St John’s as a college has the valuable resource of significant funds for student artistic activities - and does great stuff to support the arts.
- d. Resources such as the Kendrew Barn and Dolphin Gallery are rarely used by John’s students, but those outside of college instead.
- e. Exhibitions in college are free to all members of St John’s and enrich college life.

This JCR believes that:

- f. Duncan Grant is a hugely famous 20th century painter - his work being displayed in John’s will be an exciting event.
- g. This exhibition will be very popular with the entire university community and beyond.
- h. Nicely printed booklets and labels will raise the quality of the show to potentially national acclaim - we will be advertising it in leading art historical journals such as Apollo.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- i. Donate £150 to the Duncan Grant exhibition from the Financial Motions Budget.

George Wilson told the JCR about the Duncan Grant exhibition, taking place Trinity 2019 6th week with St Peters College which will be open to everyone in College for 5 days in the Kendrew Barn. She hopes to advertise it through some national art journals. George noted the money would be spent on catalogues and labels, with any money made going back to the JCR budget.

Alfie asked whether the public would pay, to which George replied they would not.

*Motion Passed
(0 against, 4 abstentions)*

h/ The “Support Onyx Magazine” Financial Motion

Proposer: Francesca Amewudah-Rivers

Seconded: Tumi Olufawo

This JCR notes that:

- a. Onyx is a creative magazine which showcases the voices of British students with African and Caribbean heritage. Founded and run by black-British students at Oxford in 2018, with the aim of creating a space where under-represented student voices and endeavours could be platformed and showcased in all their creativity.
- b. Onyx is an important and successful publication. The first edition has been distributed to schools and university libraries across the UK and stocked in stores across Oxford such as Blackwell’s. Most recently the Founder was invited to 10 Downing Street to meet with the PM’s advisor on Social Justice and Young People Nero Ughwujabo.
- c. Printing magazines is expensive, and St John’s is relatively wealthy and has a good history of supporting the arts.
- d. St John’s currently gives Cherwell £200 a [**Cas Burton friendly amendment to ‘term’**].
- e. St John’s traditionally does great stuff to support the arts.
- f. Other college JCRs, such as Mansfield, Regent’s and Magdalen, have supported Onyx in the past; many more colleges widely support student-run magazines.

This JCR believes that:

- g. Onyx is a really high-quality publication the likes of which Oxford ought to have.
- h. St John's students have been and continue to be involved in Onyx in the form of artistic contributions.
- i. All St John's students and students across the University would greatly benefit from creative visibility and better representation of diverse voices in the arts.
- j. Without enthusiastic financial backing, Onyx may cease to exist.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- k. Donate £200 to contribute towards the production costs of Onyx's second edition 'STIR' from the Financial Motions Budget

Fran noted the stated aim of the magazine, which is to give voices to black British voices in Oxford, noting the first issue was a big success and is distributed across the UK. The money would be used to ensure it was made to a high standard. Fran noted the College will be mentioned in the magazine as a sponsor.

Cas noted that there was an error in This JCR notes, with the College giving the Cherwell £200 a term, not a week. Cas suggested a friendly amendment, which Fran accepted as friendly. The error came from a template but together by the Secretary (sorry)

Lachlann asked where he could read it, with Fran replying it had sold out. Alfie asked whether a few copies could be put in the pidge, to which Fran responded she could.

Leo asked what percentage of operating costs were, to which Fran noted that the last edition cost a few thousand pounds to put together.

*Motion Passed
(0 against, 1 abstentions)*

i/ The “Donut Kings Tour” Financial Motion

Proposer: Matthew Hopkins

Seconded: Ella Marshall-Shepherd

This JCR notes that:

- a. The Donut Kings Big Band has been a major student band in the Oxford music scene for almost 20 years, providing high quality live music at balls and parties.
- b. The band is going on tour to Lyon in France and Bilbao in Spain in the summer, to play at two separate international jazz festivals, representing the university in the global music scene.
- c. The majority of the cost of the tour is already being covered by the 20 members of the band and the band’s funds, however £4000 (£200 per person) more needs to be raised by a mix of fundraising activities.
- d. **[friendly amendment from Alfie Deere-Hall]** Matthew will try to provide an updated Music profile for the St John’s Website about the trip and Donut Kings
- e. **[friendly amendment from Issy Stephens]** Matthew will provide photos and a blurb to be put on the JCR Instagram Account

This JCR believes that:

- f. Going on tour with a band or ensemble can be an important learning experience for students, encouraging development of transferable skills, including team building and organisation.
- g. The tour would be a brilliant opportunity for the university and the colleges to gain exposure to an international community, encouraging diversity of applications to study here.
- h. The tour will encourage reciprocal cultural exchanges between Oxford and other parts of Europe, promoting a positive message of shared values.
- i. Reducing the burden of cost to the individual members by gaining subsidies will allow greater inclusion to all students irrespective of personal financial circumstances.
- j. The publicity generated by the tour could be used to showcase the activities members of the college participate in beyond their academic studies in the alternative prospectus and other publications.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- k. Give £200 to the Donut Kings Big Band for their European Tour.

Matthew introduced the Motion, which is to raise money for the Donut Kings’ European tour. He noted that he had brought this Motion to the previous meeting, after which he had opted to reduce the amount requested (from £500 to £200), and had ruled out the chance to pay back money after speaking to the Committee.

Felix asked how other funds were being raised, to which Matthew replied a mass Donut sale, and Financial Motions at other colleges.

Sam Gunatilleke asked whether the band will be able to perform at John’s as repayment, to which Matthew replied he was not sure. Harry suggested the Big Night In for Freshers Week, though Matthew noted his concerns with getting the band in the small room. He later suggested getting a St John’s sticker for his instrument, to which Leo suggested a John’s discount sticker could suffice.

Lachlann asked Matthew how the motion represent St John’s, with Matthew noting the project will represent the University at the European level. Alfie asked about St John’s specifically, to which Matthew noted there was no specific John’s representation.

Lachlann asked whether this could be considered a valid Financial Motion, noting that it may be not comply with the preamble for the Constitution, which notes that:

It is a charity, which exists to promote and further the well-being and academic, sporting and cultural interests of the undergraduate students of St John's College.

Lachlann's concern was that only one student benefit from this Motion. Benedict (JCR Secretary) noted he had included the Motion on the second attempt due to Matthew's additions which stated that it could be used to advertise music to other members of the St John's community, which in his eyes was sufficient to bring the Motion to the JCR. Benedict noted however that it would be reasonable to vote against the Motion if it was felt that it was against the JCR's charitable aims. [after hearing this response, Lachlann asked for the minutes to show that he no longer felt his question was necessary]

Issy Stephens suggested that alongside the money, Matthew should pledge to contribute something to the JCR community. After much discussion, it was decided that Matthew would write a short piece on music in College for the JCR website (see amendment submitted by Alfie, accepted as friendly) and to provide the Instagram with pictures and a blurb (see amendment submitted by Issy, accepted as friendly).

*Motion passed
(2 against, 1 abstention)*

j/ The "Support Drama" Financial Motion

Proposer: Eleanor D'Souza

Seconded: Sam Scruton

This JCR notes that:

- a. Two members of St John's are taking part in a performance of 'The Importance of Being Earnest', the Regent's Park College Garden Play
- b. This is a small cast with no funding, and all the proceeds from ticket and drink sales will go to charity
- c. St John's traditionally does great stuff to support the arts.
- d. Regent's Park cannot provide financial support in the way St John's can

This JCR believes that:

- e. The play will be an enjoyable addition to the university garden plays
- f. £150 would enable the purchase of costumes for the performance
- g. The aim of the play, to raise money for charity, is a worthwhile one

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- h. Donate £150 to 'The Importance of Being Earnest' from the Financial Motions Budget

Eleanor noted the £150 would go towards set and costumes, and contains two John's members.

Alfie asked if anything could be paid back, to which Eleanor noted the money would be donated to charity.

*Motion passed
(1 against, 2 abstentions)*

viii/ Any other business

*Alfie reminded the room to fill out the Rents & Charges questionnaires by 4pm at the following day
(17/05/19)*

Harry asked for opinions on closed-eye voting. No opposition was heard. Cas noted that it was unclear when to open eyes. Harry will bang gavel from now on to indicate when members should open their eyes.

Adem asked about the JCR flag on Facebook banners being the Finland flag. Benedict noted that this was not the Finland Flag, but the Lamb & Flag Flag.

Issy Stephens noted that the whole JCR photo was taking place at 4pm on Sunday of 4th Week (19/05/19)

Benedict Gardner
JCR Secretary
13/05/2019