

St John's College Junior Common Room

bit.ly/TT19GM4

Agenda - 4th Meeting, Trinity Term 2019
Sunday 16th June 2019, Larkin Room, 8.30pm

1. Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Minutes

None

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Minutes

Sam noted he was meeting with the protestors for the quarry planned to be built on St John's land (see minutes from previous meeting for Standing Policy Motion added).

Harry asked for objections to closed eye voting. None held.

3. Reports from Officers, Reps and Committees

- Domestic Officers: Greg Howgego and Siobhan Pebody

Minutes

Siobhan noted that Guest Dinner was a success.

- Ethnic Minorities Officer: Karen Muperere

Not present

- LGBTQ+ Officer: Amitai Landau-Pope

Not present

- Alumni and Development Reps: Lizzie Coyle and Sophie Whitehead

Minutes

Sophie noted there was no update

- Computer Reps: Zuza Patryas

Not present

- PRAT Reps: Felix Stocker and Sophie Whitehead

Not present

- SJCTV Reps: Lev Crofts and Izzy Kent

Not present

- Sports Reps: Georgia Ling and Leanne Smith

Not present

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

Not present

4. Ratifications

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

Minutes

No one stood

- Rep Re-Ratifications (Husts in [Officer and Rep Reports](#))

Part 29 of the Constitution reads “For the termly re-ratification of all the reps, the Chair shall ask whether there are any objections to the rep continuing for the following term, and only if there are shall a hust be held with a vote to follow on their ratification”

Minutes

Ben explained that while normally Reps are ratified as a formality, the JCR were keen to free up roles for incoming Freshers. As such, those who did not provide a Hust either in person or submitted were objected to, and thus not re-ratified.

Member	Rep	Hust Provided?	Re-Ratified?
Sebastian Towers	Bike	Written	Yes
Hazel Weng	Bike	Written	Yes
Georgia Ling	Sports		No
Leanne Smith	Sports		No
Ollie Parkes	Art	Written	Yes
Mungo Drake	Art	Written	Yes
Lizzie Coyle	AlumDev		No
Sophie Whitehead	AlumDev		Yes
Freya Allery	Charities		Yes
Katya Alban	Charities		No
Zuza Patrya	IT		No
Adem Berbic	DVD+TV	Written	Yes
Jake Owen	SU		No
Felix Stocker	PRAT		Felix Resigned
Sophie Whitehead	PRAT		Yes
Lev Crofts	SJCTV		No
Izzy Kent	SJCTV		No
Astrid Ingemann Breitenstein	Social Media		Yes
Issy Stephens	Social Media	Written	Yes
Safier Lewis	Staff Liaison		Yes

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Bella Parker-Byatt	Staff Liaison		Yes
Noam Rosenbaum	Staff Liaison		Yes

Minutes

Astrid (Social Media Rep) was asked to give a short hust, in which she noted that she had ‘big plans’ for the social media.

1 objection was raised to Issy’s (Social Media Rep) re-ratification. Issy submitted a hust in written form, which was referred to. A vote then took place:

(10 for, 1 against, 6 abstentions)
Issy re-ratified as Social Media Rep

Any positions left vacant after re-ratifications were then opened to the room.

Sam gave a short hust for the position of PRAT Rep. He noted he was good at carrying things.

(0 against, 1 abstention)
Sam Gunatilleke ratified as PRAT Rep

Felix Stocker gave a short hust. Felix noted he liked sports and is now the Treasurer of the rugby club. Cas asked what sports Felix plays, to which he noted rugby and powerlifting.

(12 for, 0 against, 10 abstentions)
Felix Stocker ratified as Sports Rep

a/ The “Lower the Quorum, Keep Decorum” Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Harry Sugden (JCR President)

Seconded: Benedict Gardner (JCR Secretary)

This JCR notes that:

- a. Quorum is currently set at 25 full members, except that if any single vote is cast against a motion, then at least 30 full members must be present. This is not applied to procedural motions, for which 25 full members must be present.
- b. The “Can We Start the Meeting Yet?” Constitutional Motion (Trinity Term 2018 2nd General Meeting) led to the current quorum requirements.

This JCR believes that:

- c. Struggling to reach quorum harms engagement with the JCR and disillusion those who wish to participate by forcing them to wait arbitrarily long periods of time for Members to arrive.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

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- d. Replace Section 40 of the Constitution with “There must be 25 full members present throughout an Ordinary General Meeting unless the voting on a Motion results in a result where the margin between the ‘yes’ votes and the ‘no’ votes is 10 people. In this case, the quorum shall be deemed to be 30 and, a quorum not being present, the motion shall be placed at the top of the agenda at the next ordinary meeting and the Secretary shall be instructed to draw the attention of members to the fact that motion has been voted against. This process shall repeat until a quorum of 30 is present”.
- e. Replace Section 46 of the Constitution with: “There must be 25 full members present throughout an Extraordinary General Meeting unless the voting on a Motion results in a result where the margin between the ‘yes’ votes and the ‘no’ votes is 10 people. In this case, the quorum shall be deemed to be 30 and, a quorum not being present, the motion shall be placed at the top of the agenda at the next ordinary meeting and the Secretary shall be instructed to draw the attention of members to the fact that motion has been voted against. This process shall repeat until a quorum of 30 is present.”

Motion Passed Nemcon

5. Items for Discussion

a) Removal of Standing Policy Item ([Appendix 1](#)) - Benedict Gardner

Minutes

Ben noted that a Standing Policy Item had expired, but that a new one was being put through this meeting.

b) Democracy - Christopher Hughes

Minutes

Item deferred to next meeting.

c) Constitutional Appendices - Benedict Gardner (JCR Secretary)

Minutes

Ben noted they had been updated.

6. Agenda Items

a/ The “Think of the Magic Money Tree” Standing Policy Motion

Proposer: Cas Burton (JCR Treasurer)

Seconded: Benedict Gardner (JCR Secretary)

This JCR notes that:

- a. The “Tom is broke and needs money for beer” Standing Policy Motion has recently expired.
- b. The Standing Policy Motion stated that JCR members should not seek reimbursement after the fact without having approval from the JCR Treasurer or having a relevant budget to draw from.
- c. The current JCR Treasurer, Cas Burton, has received multiple requests for reimbursement approved by previous JCRs
- d. The Constitution currently gives no provision for a time limit regarding claims made from Financial Motions Budget. See part 49(b) - “Financial Motions, mandating specific expenditure from the JCR Financial Motions Budget on matters solely related to the JCR’s charitable objectives in the Preamble”

This JCR believes that:

- e. It is important that money is spent responsibly in the JCR
- f. Members should be encouraged not to make purchases expecting reimbursement if it has not already been approved by the Treasurer, or is included as part of their budget
- g. It is impractical and inconvenient for the Treasurer to factor in reimbursements which predate their year in Office
- h. Any member of the JCR wishing to seek reimbursement must either have an appropriate budget with sufficient funds to draw from, of which they are in control as the designated Official OR first ask the permission of the current JCR Treasurer.
- i. Money granted from Financial Motions must be claimed within the calendar year they are granted. If a Financial Motion is granted within one calendar year, and an attempt to be claimed is made in the next calendar year, the claim will be denied.
- j. The only exception shall be when there are technical issues with transferring the money from the JCR Account to the claimee
- k. This policy shall start immediately and apply to all backdated unclaimed payments

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- I. Add items (g), (h), (i) and (j) to Standing Policy.

Minutes

Cas introduced the Motion, noting that it replaces the previous Standing Policy motion and adds a caveat that claims for Financial Motions must be made within one calendar year, subject to interpretation by the Treasurer.

No short factual questions of items for discussions

(0 against, 1 abstention)

Motion Passed

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b/ The “Budget Reallocation” Financial Motion

Proposer: Cas Burton, JCR Treasurer

Seconded: Chris Hughes, JCR Returning Officer

This JCR notes that:

- a. The Treasurer has the responsibility of ensuring that the Budget is spent efficiently and with the aim of maximising the overall benefit of this money for the members of the JCR.
- b. The Treasurer is mandated to bring Budget Reallocation Motions to prevent overspending in particular Budget Areas, whilst ensuring that the overall expenditure remains constant.
- c. St John’s Homeless Society has claimed £400 from a financial motion from last year.
- d. The DVD rep has bought a new TV, costing £379, after the one in the DVD room broke, thus the Repairs budget needs an increase.
- e. The Disabilities Officer has used less this year as there was no Officer in Hilary.
- f. The International Officer does not use their budget as International Formal Hall is covered by College.
- g. E&D Officer is not filled and does not spend much in Michaelmas
- h. The Class Officer does not plan to spend their whole budget in Michaelmas.
- i. Music Society do not plan any expenditure this year.
- j. No more expenditure is expected from the Survey Monkey Budget.
- k. The Treasurer does not expect to use their full budget.

This JCR believes that:

- l. The Budget should appropriately account for all expected expenditure.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- m. Increase the Expenditure Carried Forward budget from £1,180 to £1,552.07
- n. Increase the Repairs budget from £350 to £650
- o. Decrease the Treasurer budget from £50 to £41.93
- p. Decrease the E&D budget from £100 to £50
- q. Decrease the Disabilities Officer budget from £300 to £150
- r. Decrease the International Officer budget from £300 to £150
- s. Decrease the Class Officer budget from £300 to £150
- t. Decrease the Music Society budget from £200 to £50
- u. Decrease the Survey Monkey budget from £350 to £336

Minutes

Cas introduced the Motion, noting he needed to pay people with budgets that had run low. Cas noted he has asked all the people in control of these budgets before reducing their budgetary allowances.

Sam asked why Music Society had lost money, to which Cas replied they are running no events this year.

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(0 against, 1 abstention)
Motion Passed

c/ The “Trashing People not the Environment” Budget Reallocation Motion

Proposer: Leo Nasskau, Discounts Officer

Seconded: Cas Burton, Treasurer

This JCR notes that:

- a. EcoTrash is a company founded by Oxford engineer Prateek Mehan, currently a student at the University of Oxford;
- b. The company sells environmentally friendly trashing packs via their website at ecotrash.co.uk;
- c. One pack typically includes an amount of biodegradable confetti, coloured powder, and shaving foam, as well as a complimentary white sash and party hat;
- d. These packs retail for £8.50 per pack;
- e. The Discounts Officer has secured a discount of over 25% per unit for 100 trashing packs from EcoTrash, costing £625 in total;
- f. There is not enough shaving foam for 100 packs, thus:
 - a. 20 packs will include the following: biodegradable confetti; coloured powder; shaving foam; a white sash; and a party hat, whilst
 - b. 80 packs will include the following: 2x biodegradable confetti; coloured powder; a white sash; and a party hat;
- g. Upon buying the items, Leo will gain a receipt from EcoTrash to prove the money provided as a result of this motion is not misused, i.e: used for purposes other than procuring the packs detailed in clauses *f.a* and *f.b*;
- h. These items will be sold below cost to members of the JCR following a £100 subsidy from the E&E budget;
- i. This will permit each of the 100 packs to be sold for £1 than they were originally bought for, costing £5.25 each; and
- j. This pack cost may be reduced further, pending discussions with the JCR Executive Committee; a JCR-members discussion on prices would be appreciated.
- k. Leo, Cas, Harry, and Greg have contributed £75 each for a £300 down payment to pave the way for speedy delivery before more people finish exams, hence this cannot be a financial motion

This JCR believes that:

- l. Trashing is notoriously bad for the environment in two ways: leaving items on the street, which can cause harm (see [Oxfess39184](#)) and is unattractive for others, as well as endorsing inadequately sourced trashing materials;
- m. EcoTrash’s items deal with the former concern by having biodegradable confetti, and the latter by sourcing produce that is less harmful to the environment in production; the powder is 99% cornstarch;
- n. Although the shaving foam itself appears to be no more environmentally friendly than average, the can is recyclable; and

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- o. The JCR should continue to put into action its support for more environmentally friendly processes.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- p. Establish a EcoTrash budget, to be used to procure the packs detailed in clauses *f.a* and *f.b* and assign it £625 total
- q. Decrease the Financial Motions Budget from £4,000 to £3,375

Minutes

Cas introduced the motion, saying that the JCR will be buying eco-friendly trashing packs, and requires Financial Motion for a down payment.

Sam asked if the Ecotrashing is a hazard to ducks, to which Cas replied that it probably wasn't suitable for duck consumption. Chris noted it would certainly be less harmful than non-biodegradable supplies currently used for trashings.

(1 against, 0 abstentions)
Motion Passed

7. Any Other Business