

## St Hugh's JCR Meeting Minutes

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2017, 6<sup>th</sup> week HT17, JCR Aung San Suu Kyi Room

1. Reports from members of the JCR Committee 2. Statement by the JCR Treasurer of the balance of the term's motion budget and the balance of any other budget relevant to that meeting 3. Late motions for submission 4. Action motions for debate asking for funding 5. Action motions for debate not asking for funding. 6. Statement motions for debate 7. Items for discussion 8. Any other business

### 1. Reports from members of the JCR Committee.

President – Ana Pavlova:

- Attended OUSU council, though at Hugh's nothing too Hughsie on the agenda;
- Storage cull completed, bike cull soon;
- Attended Governing Body. Wolfson update: redesigning stage in progress. Now is definitely the time to tell Ana your suggestions and ideas, and have an impact on what happens next.
- Nervous gate now unlocks at 6am not 7am. College is now extremely reluctant to change how the gate works. Along with VP, looking at alternatives to put to college, and arguing for an alternative nighttime entrance to the south of college.

Vice-President – Ed Piggott:

- Went to Proctors and Assessors' meeting, looked at welfare issues within and between colleges.
- Went to final governance structure meeting about the new Wolfson project. As one of the stakeholders, during the construction and demolition, talk to Ed if there's any academic, noise, practical issues due to the changes.
- Spoke to MCR Pres and VP about halfway hall, so that we get more tickets going to second years next year.
- Exploring new alternatives to the current washing machine system such as one that uses bod cards instead of cash.

Secretary – Curtis Crowley:

- Attended OUSU council;
- Completed all agendas and minutes as per.

Treasurer – James Brown:

- Released the Blues Funds application forms, deadline is Thursday of 6<sup>th</sup> week.

AccAff – Sophie Roche:

- Followed up on outstanding collection marks. Let her know if you are still waiting on one.

- Had a meeting with Luke Jackson-Ross following on from last JCR meeting's motion about outreach to state schools in Kent. Let him or Sophie know if there's a school in Kent he should get in touch with.
- Sometime soon there will hopefully be a special access day where students on free school meals come to St Hugh's. Please support Sophie with that.

#### Welfare and Equal Opportunities – Rosie Tabor and Cameron East:

- Just had welfare week, held lots of events, hope you enjoyed it.
- Will send out a survey about welfare week, what people would like, how it could be better, which times would be best for events, etc. so that as many people as possible are involved.

#### International Students' Rep – Tatjana Marks:

- Held an international students event in the JCR where we ate ice cream and watched Ted Talks last weekend.
- This week, took part in an international students drinks event at the Turf Tavern with some other colleges.

#### LGBTQ Rep – Elise Page:

- Ordered £60 of alcohol for next Thursday's LGBTQ drinks event for the JCR and MCR.

#### Entz Reps – James Atkey and Nathan Peters:

- Held a successful cupcake decorating session this afternoon.

#### Charities & Communities Rep – Hannah Taylor:

- Raised awareness of the RAG charity elections;
- Advised students about running their own charity events in college;
- Excitingly the Charities Meeting will be held tonight directly after the JCR meeting, with the election to follow at the start of this week.

#### Environment & Ethics Rep – Ben Jones:

- Advertised the Switch Off campaign;
- Planning for the LMH - St Hugh's garden party.

#### Sports and Societies Rep – Harry Thomas:

- Wrote a motion for this week's agenda, r.e. JCR chocolate fountain.

#### DODO – Hannah Choi:

- Bought the new DVDs the JCR voted for, most are now in the library;
- Decorated the JCR notice board;
- Printed off a JCR events calendar with all the term's events, and put it up so that everyone can know what's coming up. This was a great idea of Ana's.
- Updated the JCR website, including uploading the 2017 versions of the constitution and associated docs;
- Updated lots of society pages. Let Hannah know if any more need updating (for amalgamated funding) and she will sort it for you.
- Asked the Welfare Reps to provide some content for a new WEQ Committee page.

- Met with Kate, the college's communications manager, to sort the permanent URL for the JCR website. This should finally be sorted out as soon as Kate hears back from the developers who are being slow.
- Asking for nominations for the new PS4 game we can buy this term.

Freshers' Rep – Theo Davies-Lewis:

- Working on t-shirt designs (with Joe Higton);
- Booked Oxford Imps to perform during Freshers' Week;
- Booked club night tickets at greatly reduced prices.

## 2. Statement by the JCR Treasurer of the balance of the term's motion budget and the balance of any other budget relevant to this meeting.

£750 left. 2 meetings including this one remaining.

## 3. Late motions for submission.

### Motion 1) Funding a garden party.

#### **The JCR notes:**

1. There are plans for a garden party on Saturday of 7<sup>th</sup> week at LMH between LMH, St Hugh's and St Hilda's promoting the environment and raising money for charity
2. Environment and Ethics currently gets no direct JCR funding
3. The Garden Party between St Hugh's LMH and St Hilda's costs money to run
4. The other two colleges' JCRs are giving money to the event

#### **The JCR believes that:**

1. The garden party is a fun yearly event that should continue
2. Without funding, it won't be able to continue
3. It would be unfair to allow the other colleges to fund the whole event

#### **The JCR resolves:**

1. To put aside £75 of the JCR motions budget for the Treasurer to pay to the organisers of the joint garden party when they approach the E&E Rep to say they need it, though in the expectation that the Executive Committee will vote to take the money from the Executive Committee's Discretionary Spending Budget at the next Committee Meeting.
2. To mandate the E&E rep to advertise the event through emails and posts on the JCR FB page

Proposed: Ben Jones

Seconded: Molly Carlin

Motion is admitted.

Short factual points:

How funded last year? Executive committee paid for it using their rights to spend up to £100 of the JCR budget at their discretion.

Points of debate:

Could you not fund it by executive discretion again so there is more money left in the motions budget for people from the JCR to spend? Yes, though worried about whether that can be done in time for the event which is coming up in 7<sup>th</sup> week.

Amendment made to the proposer as interpreted by the Secretary:

*Change 'The JCR Resolves' point 1 'To put aside £75 of the JCR motions budget for the Treasurer to pay to the organisers of the joint garden party when they approach the E&E Rep to say they need it' to 'To put aside £75 of the JCR motions budget for the Treasurer to pay to the organisers of the joint garden party when they approach the E&E Rep to say they need it, though in the expectation that the Executive Committee will vote to take the money from the Executive Committee's Discretionary Spending Budget at the next Committee Meeting.'*

This is accepted by the proposer of the motion.

Procedural Motion: This cannot be voted on until all the motions asking for funding are read out.

After all such motions are read out, the motion passes.

Motion 2) Motion for lacrosse funding

**The JCR notes:**

1. There is lack of mixed sports available to play at St Hugh's
2. St Hugh's has a number of people who would be interest in playing lacrosse, who can't currently do so
3. St Hugh's currently only has 1 lacrosse stick and no balls, meaning that it is impossible to set up a team
4. Barclay's were not able to set up an account in time for the amalgamated funding deadline, and therefore the lacrosse club has no money
5. Money is essential for buying sticks and balls, which are needed to play

**The JCR believes that:**

1. The JCR is committed to support activities that its members want to participate in
2. In order to make sport accessible to all, it is important to have college-based teams open to everyone

**The JCR resolves:**

1. To give £200 to fund the St Hugh's Mixed Lacrosse team from the motions budget.
2. To mandate the JCR Sports and Socs and Socks rep to add St Hugh's Mixed Lacrosse to the list of clubs and societies

Proposed: Ryan Power

Seconded: Ben Jones

Motion is withdrawn by the proposer and seconder, due to the deadline to apply for Amalgamated funding being at the end of 6<sup>th</sup> week.

#### 4. Action motions for debate asking for funding.

##### **Motion a. Supporting Ben Peacock in his fundraising efforts for Parkinson's UK.**

###### **The JCR Notes:**

- Parkinson's UK has been a JCR supported charity, as voted for, in the last two Charities elections.
- From September to October 2017, Ben Peacock (a finalist), intends to run 6 half marathons in 6 weeks on behalf of Parkinson's UK (even racing the day after Graduation...).
- Entrance fees to events can cost a considerable amount, in the case of the event Ben wishes to enter, from £17 to £45.

###### **The JCR Believes:**

- Supporting the fundraising efforts of a JCR member is a positive enterprise.
- Supporting Parkinson's UK is important to the members of the JCR.

###### **The JCR Resolves:**

- To provide £200 towards the entrance fees of the races Ben intends to enter. (Any money of the £200 not spent will be retained by the JCR treasurer).
- To encourage JCR members to run the Oxford Half Marathon, the last of the 6 Ben will run, in support of Parkinson's UK.
- To encourage JCR members to sponsor Ben nearer the events.

Proposed: Benjamin Peacock      Seconded: Ana Pavlova

###### **Short Factual Points:**

Is this motion legal? Yes. The JCR (a charity) would not be paying money to a charity. It would be paying for entry fees to half marathons.

What's your fundraising target? £1500. Also £3-500 per event for anyone else crazy enough to let Ben persuade them to do a half marathon.

###### **No Points of Debate.**

###### **Motion passes.**

##### **Motion b. The Purchase of a Chocolate Fountain.**

###### **The JCR Notes:**

- 1) The JCR needs a chocolate fountain
- 2) JCR meetings are lacking in chocolate fountains
- 3) Costs:
  - a. ≈£25 for a chocolate fountain

- b. ≈£20 for chocolate (≈3 meetings)
  - c. ≈£1 for bamboo skewers (a lot)
  - d. ≈£14 for dipping goodies (fruit, marshmallows etc.)
- 4) The Sports and Societies Rep. will wash up the chocolate fountain after every meeting (out of their own kindness. Not mandated to by the constitution, since that would involve too much faff)

**The JCR believes:**

- 1) It will bring joy to the JCR
- 2) It will help Quorum be more easily reached in JCR meetings and therefore;
  - a. decrease stress levels
  - b. increase stillness
- 3) It will be tasty
- 4) It will put smiles on peoples' faces.

**The JCR resolves:**

- 1) £60 of the term's motions budget will be put aside for the chocolate fountain and accessories.
- 2) It will be up to the JCR committee to decide when the chocolate fountain will be brought to JCR meetings (most/all meetings hopefully)

Proposer: Harry Thomas

Secunder: Sophie Roche

Short Factual Points:

Does the motion mean this term's budget only, rather than spending £60 of the motions budget every term? Yes, just this term is meant. 'JCR Resolves' point 1 is amended from *'the termly motions budget'* to *'the term's motions budget'*.

How can you prove it increases 'stillness'? The secunder has video evidence.

Can you guarantee it will be present at most meetings? Will it be a worthwhile investment? Yes.

Points of Debate:

Will there be any budget for cleaning supplies, because this could be very messy, and it would not be fair if the scouts had lots of chocolate to clean up? No, Harry Thomas should manage.

Could we not just spend more on pizza instead? There is a separate budget for the food at JCR meetings, so this will not negatively affect the amount of food we have.

Where will it be stored? The committee room.

Worth getting a kids table cloth to go under the fountain to make the cleaning up easier.

Does the Sports and Socs Rep realise how much responsibility this would be? He loves cleaning.

Should it be constitutional? What about if future Sports and Socs Reps aren't keen to do it? Just like with the JCR mattress, the committee is capable of arranging amongst themselves who performs certain responsibilities not in the constitution.

What is the lifespan of a chocolate fountain? Not long.

How long? A couple of uses. The less care you take of it, the more likely it is to get blocked and be no more use.

Motion passes.

## 5. Action motions for debate not asking for funding.

### **Motion c. Support the Close Campsfield Demonstrations**

#### **The JCR notes:**

1. That Campsfield Immigration Detention Centre, run for profit by the private company Mitie, is located 5 miles from Oxford City Centre
2. Since it opened in 23 years ago, over 30,000 migrants and refugees have been imprisoned in Campsfield.
3. Detainees at Campsfield are held without trial, without limit, and without proper judicial oversight, which Amnesty International reports is a breach of international rights.
4. Detainees at Campsfield report frequent abuse. In the last year, numerous detainees reported that a detainee with mental health issues had been left in critical condition after being beaten by guards, and in the past detainees have gone on hunger strike to protest the appalling conditions in the detention centre
5. Detainees at Campsfield are held behind a twenty-foot high razor wire topped fence. Throughout the centre there are surveillance cameras, and friends and relatives wishing to visit detainees are searched before passing through five separate remote-controlled doors – conditions which mean that Campsfield House operates as a high-security prison
6. Authorities and organisations such as the Chief Inspector of Prisons, the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture, and Medical Justice, have all condemned conditions at Campsfield House.
7. That the Close Campsfield campaign, alongside Oxford Migrant Solidarity, organises a monthly demonstration outside Campsfield detention centre on the last Saturday of every month
  - a. The next demonstration will be Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February, 12 – 2pm
  - b. That you can get the S4 bus to Banbury from outside Debenhams on Magdalen Road to Langford Lane (takes approximately 20 minutes)
8. That St Hugh's JCR has passed motions supporting the closure of other detention centres in the past, e.g. Yarl's Wood, and that there is therefore a precedent for this motion.

#### **The JCR believes:**

1. That the use of immigration detention centres is contrary to the European Convention on Human Rights and the United Nations Convention on Refugees

2. That Campsfield detention centre should be shut down.
3. That in the current climate of increasing xenophobia, and with the reported rise in attacks motivated by racism, Oxford University must stand in solidarity with all migrants and those affected by racism.
4. That common rooms have a role to play in encouraging students to engage with local political issues.

**The JCR resolves:**

1. To join other Oxford common rooms, and local and national campaigners, in calling for a closure of Campsfield Detention Centre
2. To support Close Campsfield and OMS by advertising the monthly demonstrations via the JCR president's mailing list.

Proposed: Catherine Kelly

Seconded: George Haggett

Short Factual Points:

The proposer is not suggesting that the JCR's support will singlehandedly result in the detention centre being shut down, but these demos are going on at our doorstep (so to speak) and our getting low turnouts, and would benefit from the JCR getting involved.

Is it just adults or are there children being detained there? It is adults only, but the definition used of an adult is someone aged 13 or over.

Points of Debate:

An amendment is offered to the proposer to change 'JCR Believes' point 1 from *'That the use of immigration detention centres is contrary to the Human Rights Act and the United Nations Convention on Refugees'* to *'That the use of immigration detention centres is contrary to the European Convention on Human Rights and the United Nations Convention on Refugees'*.

This is accepted by the motion's proposer.

Doesn't the UK Human Rights Act reference the European Convention on Human Rights?

The UK Human Rights Act itself is not that substantive, it only really refers to the European Convention on Human Rights.

Motion passes.

**Motion d. Increase the blues fund.**

**The JCR notes:**

1. The JCR Committee cut the blues fund this term, from £1500 to £1000, despite being hugely over-applied for last term. The JCR's recent income has been higher than expected, and costs have been lower than forecasts.
2. The costs of playing university level sport can be very high, and without JCR support it may be high enough to deter people from playing.

**The JCR believes:**

1. Playing sport for the university should not be a financial decision, if possible. Competing for the university should be attainable for any athlete, irrespective of how much money they have.
2. Sports players may have committed to playing at university level at the start of the academic year with the knowledge of the £1500 JCR budget that could support them. Thus, cutting this by a third could leave athletes struggling financially, and having to question if they can still afford to compete for the university. Raising the budget back to its former level will hopefully at least cover the subs of university sports players in the St Hugh's JCR.

**The JCR resolves:**

1. The treasurer should use the surplus budget to top-up the blues fund, from £1000 back to its former level of £1500.

Proposed: Mimi Elvidge

Seconded: Bryan Leighton

Short Factual Points:

Ana Pavlova: There is a mistake in the motion. The Blues Fund was actually only cut to £1300, on the grounds that at current levels of income and expenditure in a few years the JCR would be in a deficit. Also, the Blues Fund constitutes over 20% of the JCR budget, but last term only 28 people applied.

Bryan Leighton: Is the treasurer bound by the constitution to set the Blues Fund at at least £1000?

Ana Pavlova: No, only a fixed maximum, £1500.

Bryan Leighton: The Treasurer seems to have a lot of discretion to change it as they please. There didn't seem to be much communication as to why James chose to reduce it this term.

Ana: James did explain in an email why it was initially dropped.

What does the Blues Funding go on? Subs to your club each year, equipment costs, travel and kit for varsity matches.

Lots of Varsity matches coming up in the next week. Very expensive week for lots of sportspeople. Not the best time to cut the Blues Fund. A decrease in Michaelmas term would make more sense than in Hilary term.

Points of Debate:

In terms of the actual costs for a Blues player, here are some figures: £150 rugby subscription yearly, £50 on kit last term, £60 on travel this term, recommended spending on supplements £100 per term. All in all, the costs are pretty huge.

Hannah Taylor: This is a fund that is not means tested. Sport should be acceptable to everyone, so please only apply for the money you truly need.

Bryan Leighton: Is that recommendation on the Blues Funding form?

Hannah Taylor: Not sure, committee decided that it should be.

Motion passes.

**Motion e. Extension of the submission deadline for JCR motions.** (2<sup>nd</sup> reading)

**The JCR notes:**

- 1) Point 1.4 of the JCR Standing Orders: *Motions shall be submitted to the JCR Secretary not less than 48 hours before the meeting is due to commence. Motions submitted after the deadline shall be considered as Late Motions, and will be treated as such.*
- 2) Point 1.6 of the JCR Standing Orders: *The JCR Secretary shall, in consultation with the Independent Chair, produce and distribute an agenda for the meeting not less than 24 hours before the meeting.*

**The JCR believes:**

- 1) St Hughs' Students are very busy people, and may not all have time to be writing/submitting JCR motions during the week, and thus would benefit from having the option of writing/submitting a JCR motion by the Saturday evening before the meeting, rather than by the Friday evening.
- 2) If the deadline for submitting motions were 26 hours before the JCR meeting was scheduled to take place, the Secretary would still have plenty of time to finish compiling the agenda and send it out to the JCR at least 24 hours before the JCR meeting was scheduled to take place.
- 3) An increased deadline could lead to more JCR submissions and participation in JCR meetings.

**The JCR resolves:**

- 1) To change point 1.4 of the JCR Standing Orders so that it reads '26 hours' not '48 hours'.

Proposed: Curtis Crowley (JCR Secretary)

Seconded: Elise Page

No short factual points or points of debate.

Motion passes.

## 6. Statement motions for debate.

## 7. Items for discussion.

## 8. Any other business.

Is there going to be a new TV for the JCR? We were promised one in Michaelmas week 1. When is it going to happen?

DoDo: There's a TV in the bar that we can use. We will move this up to the JCR room in the next few weeks once the rugby is over.