

JCSU ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the OGM of the JCSU held on 2nd March 2017 at 7:30pm in the Webb Library.

MINUTES

Present: the President (Katherine Boucher), the Vice-President (Vicky Taylor), the Treasurer (Kirsty McKnight), the Secretary (Max Bowling), the Services Officer (Olivia Argent), the Communications Officer (Caspar Ramsay), the Access Officer (Matthew Kevin Sample), the Green Officer (Lili Bidwell), the Ents Officer (Ollie Brown), the Women's Officer (Alex Rowe), the Welfare Officers (Holly Hamilton & Cormac Devlin), the Mental Health and Disabilities Officer (Sophie O'Reilly), the LGBT+ Officer (Holly Bracewell) and the Ethnic and Religious Minorities Officer (Heval Turel)

Absent: the Ents Officer (Mary Kiernan) and the International Officer (Nikhil Dwivedi)

1. Executive reports of actions since last OGM:

KB: Been to CUSU Council, sat on College Council, arranged LGBT+ flags and lights, contributed to discussions on degree reform review, attended Student Affairs Committee meeting, organised Prevent training for JCSU Committee, met with CUSU President, discussions about KFC, later bar opening times and new finance arrangements for the boat club, hosted bar quiz with KM.

VT: Organised Halfway Hall for 2nd Years including menu, jazz band, photographer and bop afterwards, attended Students Affairs Committee meeting, involved in discussions about accommodation, worked with Julian Huppert about the Intellectual Forum (internship opportunity for Jesus students).

KM: Attended regular meetings with Richard Dennis and Rob Shephard to work on accounts, worked through a lot of receipts, been to CUSU Council as a proxy, hosted bar quiz with KB.

MB: Organised JCSU Committee Grid of Faces, booked photographer for Sports and Societies Photos day in April, ran a number of bar quizzes, sorted out a rota for the JCR, organised the OGM, uploaded minutes from JCSU meetings, attended meetings of Health and Safety Committee and Charitable Donations Committee, been to CUSU Council as a proxy once.

OA: Attended meetings of IT Committee and Student Affairs Committee, organised a student survey of College Wi-Fi, organised accommodation ballot, working on a Caff Forum to facilitate student feedback about Caff.

CR: Received feedback about the new JNET website, sent out a number of bulletins, set up email accounts of JCSU Committee members, attended Communications Committee meeting.

MKS: Assigned college parents to American exchange students, managed CUSU Shadowing Scheme within college over three weekends, worked on North-East Access tour, attended meeting of Student Affairs Committee, attended numerous meetings with SLO and College Outreach team, ran a few bar quizzes, talked with Communications Officers about outreach.

LB: Held GreenSoc meetings, worked closely with OA regarding feedback about Caff, attended Charitable Donations Committee meeting, organising a Green Formal and Green welfare cake, trying to get a hand dryer installed in the library, trying to get 'take me' tags for kitchens next term.

OB/MK: Organised bop and movie night at the start of term, working on similar events for the last few weeks of term, discussions with DJ about making bar opening times more reasonable, spoken to Christ's JCR President about a potential Formal swap, shown 6 Nations matches in the Brewery Room, helped organise Blues & Chill in the Chapel.

- AR: Attended CUSU training, reviewed sexual harassment policy in Student Affairs Committee meeting, organised fortnightly Women's Forum, maintaining stock of sanitary products, organised International Women's Day Formal and tea party, sent out Women's bulletins, dealt with various incidents reported.
- HH/CD: Numerous discussions with College welfare staff, looking into diversifying the counselling offering in College, changed Welfare policy to require anonymity (other than Welfare Phone), helped organise a lot of events during Wellness Week (including mindfulness event and STI checks), looking to put on a movie night with OB/MK, working on installing new condom machines around College, organised fortnightly Welfare Cake, attended CUSU welfare training and mental health training, held weekly drop-ins, done shifts on the Welfare phone, maintaining stock of condoms/pregnancy tests, helped organise Blues & Chill event, distributed Valentine's chocolates.
- SO: Wrote a Mental Health bulletin, attended mental health training, spoken with Richard Birkett about disability issues, organised and held 'Mind Unwind' art event, looked into counselling expansion with HH/CD, done shifts on the Welfare phone, dealt with some incidents.
- HB: Coming out comments, done shifts on the Welfare phone, organised LGBT+ Formal, delivered pancake packages to pidges, tried (unsuccessfully) to get agreement for a drag event in Chapel, proposed LGBT+ flag to be flown.
- HT: Dealt with fancy dress incident, done shifts on the Welfare phone, looked into demand for a Halal staircase, attended Prevent Committee meeting.

2. Members' questions to the Executive

N/A

3. Junior Treasurer report on JCSU Enterprise Account

KM: £106 was transferred out of the Enterprise Account for Halfway Hall.

4. Ordinary Motions

(a) Motion 1: Motion to Reaffirm Support for and Reform of the Student Charity Fund (SAFE)

Alex Barry (AB): Proposes the motion according to the agenda (see appendix). Emphasises the need for reform so that it works for the student body.

Seconded by João P.B. Santos

KB: No opposition/abstention, so motion passes nem con.

(b) Motion 2: Formation of arts, humanities, and social sciences society

Todd Gillespie (TG): Proposes the motion according to the agenda (see appendix). Platform for interdisciplinary discussions, eccentric debates, hosting outside speakers alongside the work of the Debating society. The society would facilitate academic reach, allowing students to push beyond the bounds of their own course.

Seconded by CD.

KB: No opposition/abstention, so motion passes nem con.

(c) Motion 3: Alcohol at societies ('Jesus turned water into wine- let's do it again') motion

Todd Gillespie (TG): Stems from the motion for the interdisciplinary society. Thought it would be good to be able to offer wine at this society. Notes that JCSU funds are not currently allowed to be used to purchase alcohol, although

this is not a restriction that appears in the JCSU Constitution or Standing Orders. Seems to be handed down from the College, with the reason being that no alcohol can be purchased with money given to the JCSU by College. Wants to ask the JCSU to look into this, particularly as it seems other Colleges might allow this. Not asking for complete autonomy and is happy with the Junior Treasurer to have discretion over the amount allowed to be spent on alcohol. Not about creating new drinking societies, more about facilitating more autonomy for societies and moderate alcohol provision by JCSU-affiliated societies.

Seconded by OB.

Daniel Patton (DP): The Peter Mitchell Society serves alcohol at events.

TG: JCSU societies can buy alcohol as long as it is with external funds.

Niall Devlin (ND): We were allowed to buy alcohol for the JCSU Garden Party.

KM: Believes that the bar purchased and provided this alcohol.

Lavinia Abell (LA): Senior Treasurer likely to oppose it, but worth investigating to see how far we can get.

TG: Can also investigate what happens at other colleges.

George Thompson (GT): It is difficult to see where you draw the line, e.g. if MedSoc wanted to start providing alcohol, then money could be transferred through Enterprise Account. Could put aside some money for that.

KM: Under pressure to keep Enterprise Account in profit, with the College worried that it is getting a bit low, so not sure how feasible that would be.

LB: Societies might ask for more money if they are allowed to buy alcohol, so would need the budget to stay same for each society. All well and good saying that it is at the Junior Treasurer's discretion, but discretion could be dangerous.

CR: The initial problem is that the process of getting that money reimbursed involves receipts. Could reimburse spending on alcohol on a standard night out. Might be why Senior Treasurer would oppose this. Need to think around this – e.g. need to be in JCR/bar and given to you by a certain member of staff/JCSU.

AB: Could argue same for food receipts from Sainsbury's. Claims that society money does not all get spent each year – so there is some money left over.

KM: That money stays within JCSU funds.

LB: Not necessarily for every society, funding allocated varies year on year.

MKS: Debate relevant if we were looking to endorse JCSU spending on alcohol. Would be valuable points maybe to make at next OGM if we have a workable motion. At present, the motion is quite limited, simply asking the JCSU to look into it further. Not committed to any constitutional change. Thus, points made not particularly useful right now. Leave that debate for a more useful forum.

CD: Might be useful to have an alternative to the current system when we approach College. So now might not be a bad time to thrash out an alternative system.

KB: Does anyone have any more points?

KM: For the Economics dinner, the College provides alcohol in the Prioress' Room, have to pre-order set number of wines. College bill directly to the society, so that might be more acceptable to the College.

GT: If it is in a College room, then it will have to be College-provided. Maybe they might provide a staff member. Rather than autonomy to dole out money on alcohol as and when. Arrangement whereby they can subtract something from budget and provide staff / wine.

KB: Put it to a vote.

Vote

In favour: 34

In opposition: 0

In abstention: 0

KB: Motion passes.

5. Emergency motions

N/A

6. Any other business

Lara Tritton (LT): More covered bike racks to prevent exposure to elements, which reduces lifespan of bike / bike chain. Unsure how much bike shelters might cost, but might inquire into whether a roof can be put over some bike racks. Would mean less maintenance of bikes needed and probably safer.

OB: College does not let students store bikes inside because fire hazard. Since bikes have to be stored outside, it would seem right that the College provides some shelter from the elements.

Jamie Dougherty (JD): There is a store behind Malcolm Street houses. £15-20 a term, can store outside of term time.

OA: Happy to look into that.

Meeting concluded at 20:10.

APPENDIX - AGENDA

1. Executive reports of actions since last OGM
2. Members' questions to the Executive
3. Junior Treasurer report on JCSU Enterprise Account
4. Ordinary Motions

(a) Motion 1: Motion to Reaffirm Support for and Reform of the Student Charity Fund (SAFE)

The JCSU notes:

1. The students of Jesus College, Cambridge, have supported and managed a charity fund — the Jesus College Sub-Saharan Africa Fund for Education - since 1987. The Fund was created so that Jesuans could support efforts to provide universal access to education in the region, as part of humanitarian efforts to combat the injustices produced by the South African Apartheid and the broader history of European colonialism in the region.
2. The grants that have been made by this Fund to charities chosen each year by the students on the SAFE committee from a large pool of applicants have had a large positive impact, funding education for hundreds of people over the Fund's 30-year history.
3. The scope of the interventions supported by SAFE has become progressively wider during its last thirty years of operation. The Fund, which was once exclusively focused on supporting educational projects that served populations affected by the South African Apartheid regime, now supports a number of humanitarian projects in the wider region of Sub-Saharan Africa.
4. Funds for Jesus SAFE have always been collected on an "Opt-Out" basis, whereby junior members of the College have the option to withdraw their yearly donations (at present £15), which are made through the College Bill. However, there is currently a general lack of awareness among junior members of the College regarding how the Fund is managed, what its current aims and initiatives are, and how the "Opt-Out" system works.

The JCSU believes:

1. It is worthwhile for the students of Jesus College to reaffirm their support for the existence of a student-run charity fund, whose primary goal is to support valuable humanitarian efforts to provide universal access to education, health, and other fundamental human rights in Africa.
2. It is important for changes to be made to the Jesus SAFE constitution, so that its official aims and procedures are aligned with those that currently exist, and so that the work of the Fund is better informed by the views of current junior members of the College.
3. It is necessary for the "Opt-Out" system for collection of student donations to be made more transparent. Reforms should be made both so that the student body is aware of the initiatives that are supported by their donations, and so that the procedure for opting-out of making a contribution to the Fund is clear to all members of the student body.

The JCSU resolves:

1. To continue the £15 opt out annual charge to all JCSU members to fund SAFE (or any potential successors), and to set this sum to increase with inflation so it keeps the same real value. This is on the condition of:
 - a. An annual email is to be sent to all junior members of the college informing them about the student charity fund and explaining simply how to opt-out.

- b. The names of the charities the student charity fund chooses to support, and where relevant the specific projects being funded, to be made publicly available, through an annual report to the JCSU and other means.

Proposed by: Alex Barry

Seconded by: João P. B. Santos

(b) Motion 2: Formation of arts, humanities, and social sciences society

The JCSU notes:

1. There are interdisciplinary discussion societies at other colleges, including the Perne Club at Peterhouse, the Humanities Society at St John's College, and the Dilettante Society at Clare College.
2. The postgraduate-only Coleridge Society operates at Jesus College.
3. Discussion groups at Jesus, such as FemSoc, have become popular forums for relaxed and constructive debate on topics relevant to Jesuans.

The JCSU believes:

1. An interdisciplinary arts, humanities and social sciences society would enrich the social and academic lives of undergraduates.

The JCSU resolves:

1. To recognise the institution of a new interdisciplinary discussion society for undergraduates at Jesus, which would also be open to non-Jesuans, to host discussion groups and external speakers.
2. To provide funding of £100 for the society until the next JCSU budget (November 2017). This will be to fund refreshments, speaker expenses and publicity costs.

Proposed by: Todd Gillespie

Seconded by: Cormac Devlin

(c) Motion 3: Alcohol at societies ('Jesus turned water into wine – let's do it again') motion

The JCSU notes:

1. Currently, informal regulations ban the purchase of alcohol by societies and JCSU entities, including Ents, using funds provided by the JCSU.
2. Many other colleges' students' unions and JCRs permit this.

The JCSU believes:

1. There is a question surrounding the autonomy of societies regarding the purchase and distribution of alcohol.
2. Alcohol may contribute to the enjoyment of societies and bops, and facilitate 'social interaction' which is one aim of the JCSU, as stated in the constitution (Article 2.4).

The JCSU resolves:

1. To look into the alcohol policy, including any legal issues and restrictions by the College.
2. To aim to provide clearer guidelines for societies and Ents by the end of the Easter term.
3. At the next JCSU General Meeting to report back on the ban on alcohol in societies and bops funded by JCSU funds.

Proposed by: Todd Gillespie

Seconded by: Oliver Brown

5. Emergency motions

6. Any other business