

## **JCSU Executive Committee Meeting**

January 25th 2023 The Bain room

Present (14): the President (Nicole Ling Yan Lee), the Vice-President (Esther Anthony-Ajileye), the Treasurer (Krish Nanavati), the Secretary (John Jessop), the Male and Non-Binary Welfare officer (Tom Morgan), the Mental Health and Disabilities officer (Anika Goddard), the Women's and Non-Binary officer (Helena Kondak), the Freshers officer (Lizzie Caird), the Freshers officer (Kieran Leete), the LGBTQ+ officer (Patryk Wisniewski), the Ethnic and Religious Minorities officer (Haajrah Ashraf), the Access officer (Stephen Fajemilusi), the Services officer (Jonathan Driver), the Communications and Computing officer (Dom Swift), the Ents officer (Lyra Christie)

<u>Apologies(3):</u> the Female and Non-Binary Welfare officer (Orchid Amira Balgobin), the Environmental and Ethical Affairs officer (Ezra Grosz), the Ents officer (Yuval Weiss)

#### Absent (0):

## **One Minute Summary**

This is not a substitute for the minutes and is not an official record.

- The JCSU resolved to vote in favour of mandatory anti racism training for incoming freshers at CSU
- A new stash drop is on the way! Offering yet more opportunities wear the college logo
- Rent is set to rise 6% next year low compared to an average of 10% at other colleges, but still a little higher than last years 5% rise
- We're already taking in feedback about caff on the new anonymous suggestions form! And are organising to take your suggestions and concerns to the manciple as soon as possible
- Food waste is being looked at in caff and multiple strategies are being explored to reduce it
- The JCR and Brewery Room remain in the forefront of our minds with visits to the college furniture store occuring with the aim of removing some of the corporate sofas from the JCR and options being explored for brewery room improvements
- The Women's and Non-Binary officer is in full swing organising a great lineup for week of woman in March!

#### Minutes

Meeting opened at 20:12

# **1.0 - Approval of MINUTES 2023\_1\_18**

The Committee APPROVED the draft minutes as the official record

## 2.0 - Actions updates

The Secretary

2.1 - Decorate the bulletin boards (Comms)

- **Nicole** As far as I know this hasn't been done yet can we get some more urgency with it please
- **Dom** Sorry have had a really busy week, I'll get on it it will also be better after elections so we can get photos for the board by Caff [AP]
- **Tom** I'm In the process of redoing the welfare board by caff it's currently just like 8 pages of plain text, trying to make it more concise and easier to find the important info without losing anything vital [AP]
- **Nicole** We also have a giant bulletin board in porters lodge by the pigeon holes, we can use and the blackboard outside. I think it would be good to get a themed formal term card out so people know what's coming [AP]
- **Dom** Where is the chalk? we need to record the upcoming (football) threes win on Saturday
- **Nicole** I think it's in plodge with the porters

# 2.2 Books JCSU formal for the 29th (Whole committee)

- All - yes

### 2.3 Turn up to FNJ (Whole committee)

- Mostly yes
- Nicole Some people I've spoken to said they like a dress up theme for FNJ
- **Lyra** The pop girlies bop on the 3rd is fancy dress

# 3.0 - COVC briefing

The President

- Nicole This is mainly for Krish and John, there was a varsity article about the CSU voting system and its ongoing data breaches, and long wait times. Currently any SU staff and JCR president can see info about self ID essentially outing people without their knowledge. COVC (Cambridge Online Voting Consortium) is a new voting system. The JCSU was selected as chair by a random generator. So now we have to pay the fee for the website hosting (~£80) then the subscribed colleges will reimburse us. Did Lewis talk to Krish?
- **Krish** Not yet will organise this though [AP]

#### 4.0 - Student affairs committee updates

The President

- **Nicole** The student affairs committee meeting is on 6th February it handles studenty things. I need to make a report of what we've done so far for them, please send over small paragraphs of what you've done ASAP (tonight) so I can collate them. Doesn't have to be too long, even just bullet points are fine. Anything over vacation, anything set up no matter how small. **[AP]** 

# 5.0 - Upcoming CSU council motions & updates

The Vice President

- **Esther** CSU council meets every two weeks, I vote on the behalf of the Jesus student body rather than myself. I would like help from the JCSU. We usually abstain on the issue of strikes as the student body is usually split on this issue but we have upcoming votes on three motions:

Issy arrived - 20:20

- **Esther** Mandating anti racism sessions for new freshers. Currently it's up to different colleges discretion

The committee indicated their agreement with the motion

- **Esther** Mandated prayer spaces (in uni spaces) *The committee indicated their agreement with the motion*
- **Esther** Support transition to 100% planted based catering *The committee indicated their disagreement with the motion*
- **Anika** I feel like we shouldn't be providing only one diet but that the student body would agree that the uni and colleges should be mandated to cater for all dietary needs
- **Esther** If things get rejected then they are usually resubmitted with some amendments, so they might come back around again
- **Esther** Thanks for the help with handing out stash. The company we've just used for the latest drop is bad we're not using them again, they have been non responsive on a few major issues. They also used billing addresses as postage addresses which is a breach of peoples data I think. There is a new stash drop coming in the next few weeks, thankfully Redbird (the company we've used previously) have the sustainable options now and it's only £3 more so it shouldn't be prohibitive. The plan is to offer quite a lot, and where they have a sustainable option to offer that instead of the non sustainable one.
- **Esther** Halfway hall and drinks reception is on the 18th feb followed by a bop, and formal it used to be £35 but now it's £20. I'm talking about getting bursary tickets with Paul to help make sure accessible to everyone as it's like twice the price of a usual formal which could easily push it outside peoples budgets. We just need to make sure everyone in 2nd year who wants to go can get a ticket, so I'm also talking to Alexis about making enough space

#### 6.0 - Rent negotiations

The President

- Nicole Krish and I attended rent negotiations today with the Bursar, Domestic Bursar, MCR President, Vice President and the Housing Manager. For context the average rent increase is about 10% based on talking to other JCR presidents. Jesus by comparison is looking at a 6% rise (last year it was 5%). We are being sheltered from the huge rise due to inflation mainly through a restructure of housekeeping and looking at how much housing costs. The main change is reducing the frequency of cleaning to only what is necessary. Notably this shouldn't lead to layoffs or overworking staff, as college was dealing with national labour shortage and relying on agency work.
- **Krish** Going in I was expecting a lot worse. I think 6% is probably the best we're going to get and it sounds like we're getting a better deal than most colleges. With regards to housekeeping, I think they could easily come less often and we just keep our spaces clean.
- Dom When is the rent change coming into effect?
- **Nicole** It'll be beginning of next year (mich 2023), it is done at this time of year in case it alters people's balloting choices. It has been confirmed that it's going to be a uniform

increase for everyone (postgrads and undergrads). It was brought up that energy is a big cost, the main thing is heating and they're thinking of getting thermostatic valves which increase energy efficiency quite greatly

- Nicole We have the Jesus hardship fund, and the message needs to be clear that if people have any issues, the tutorial office is readily available to offer financial support
- **Anika** Is the University offering justification for the lack of increase to the Cambridge Bursary?
- **Nicole** Not really, their main "reason" is that students' main cost is rent and that rent is increasing below inflation rates. Bursar said 29 colleges need to agree in order to increase the Bursary Jesus will be voting in favour.
- **Nicole** There are going to be discussions soon with Alexis about caff price changes. In order to mitigate rises it's been suggested that we could start pre ordering for caff which would reduce cost and waste, if they release a menu ahead of time this could work, also suggested was rolling over left overs from the previous day.
- **Dom** Giving away spare food makes more sense to me than pre ordering, as people often go to caff last minute if they can't be bothered to cook
- **Issy** Roll over is a good option I think as not many people go multiple days in a row, so no one would really notice

#### 7.0 - JCR use

#### The President

- **Nicole** I had a meeting with the housing manager and went to the furniture storage. I found a nice comfy beige sofa and some cool green velvet arm chairs which I think would be nice in the JCR. Basically it just feels really really corporate at the moment.
- **Dom** How can we get rid of furniture sustainably if we're going to replace the sofas?
- **Krish** Could we donate them to charity shops?
- **Dom** We need to be careful with the fire tag sometimes the charities very specific and wont touch furniture without the correct tags
- Nicole What are peoples opinions on the JCR games room, it was discussed to have the pool table in the JCR with a cover so it can be used as a table at times
   Kierran Personally I think it's good where it is, it's in a nice room and since being opened up

I've already been a couple of times

- **Dom** Yeah I'm literally going after this meeting
- Nicole Great I'm happy to keep it there then, we can make the JCR a bit more screen based with the TV, look at getting a new rug. College are still saying they'll pay for a repaint and some lighting. They have now bought and installed a sound bar too so the screen has become usable as a TV.
- Dom The sound bar also functions as a bluetooth speaker!
- **Patryk** A giant jesus logo in the JCR or brewery room would be fun
- **Nicole** General decorations would be nice, if anyone wants to go to furniture storage let me know and you can come along next time
- **Haajrah** I would like to come, I redecorated my mums house so I feel like I can tackle the JCR [AP]
- **Issy** If we can't donate sofas can't we put them in the storage?
- Nicole No they're keen to reclaim the storage rooms so they can be used for other stuff

#### 8.0 - Week of woman

The Women's and Non-Binary officer

- **Helena** Met today with my MCR equivalent and we're going to collaborate on week of woman so we can split the budget which is good. Currently we have an international women's day formal, a women's welfare session with yoga and smoothies and we have talks and events throughout the week planned. What is my budget?
- **Krish** £750

Anika left the meeting at 20:46

### 9.0 - Decoration of the brewery room

The Women's and Non-Binary officer

- **Helena** Haajrah and I were in the brewery room earlier and basically decided that it is really a soulless place to be
- Krish We should get JPA branded pint glasses
- Dom Yes!
- Krish Decoration was left to the previous ents officers who basically just stuck up a few posters for films
- **Lyra** The lights are nice and pretty good for bops
- Krish Ents could handle this again and use their budget to redecorate
- Nicole Disposable camera idea sounds great if we can get it up
- **Kieran** I've seen that Sid bar have a list of drinks and prices which would be nice and also very useful for everyone so you actually know what you're paying upfront
- **Haajrah** The high tables are a bit weird I think it would feel more communal and like somewhere to stay if we had lower tables to sit around
- **John** The new bar manager is lovely and really happy to help around he suggested we run a charity mario kart tournament at some point
- **Dom** It is really difficult to use the brewery room for social events tried to book it for a football game, it's difficult to book you have to apply for a permit and stuff
- Lizzie Yeah it's tricky they lost all our permits for refreshers. You just have to keep emailing
  and following up, you need permission from Jo and the Dean of college simultaneously and
  also Simon's permission before both of them.
- **Nicole** It used to be partially the JCSU president's responsibility, Jo is working on trying to make it easier to book and use. As it is a student space at the end of the day so it should be ours to make use of as and when.
- **Dom** JNET isn't clear on it which doesn't help it needs updating.

### 10.0 - Anonymous services feedback form

The Women's and Non-Binary officer

- Jonathan I've already had 8 emails in about 3 days, the most pressing issues are about allergies, someone who is allergic to gluten and got ill post caff and strongly suspects they had contaminated food. There were also complaints about not enough Kosher food, as well as some less pressing issues about no meat options.

- **Kieran** I have noticed inconsistencies with the screen and the blackboards with regards to allergen information, and I have seen people using the same tongs for multiple foods potentially contaminating them both.
- Nicole Send a nice email to Alexis about discussing issues, what were the main things [AP]
- **Jonathan** Allergies, Kosher, and more diverse food options in general.
- Patryk I know Queens do a day a week of different cultures food which could be good

# 11.0 - Any Other Business [AOB]

Any business not raised before the meeting may be raised by an Officer under this agenda point for a lengthier discussion. Points raised during the meeting may also be deferred to this point by the Secretary or President.

- Dom For urgent announcements, facebook isn't really quick enough from my experience, whatsapp is probably the best option but it's not easy to get to all year groups, and I don't want to run the risk of overusing the email. In the comms survey people tend to like emails but that only works with more advanced warning
- Lizzie If we get someone in each years whatsapp group we can communicate quickly that way
- **Nicole** early comms is best comms
- **John** I want to put the minutes summary somewhere where people can see [AP]
- **Nicole** The facebook group is probably the best place rather than the bulletin so we don't clog it up too much.
- **Kierran** Today is the Cambridge offer day, so me and lizzie will be making the new freshers group chat in a week or so.

Meeting closed at 21:11

#### Action List [AP]

- 1. Start creating info for the JCSU board outside Caff [2.1] (The Comms officer, anyone organising events)
- 2. Finish welfare board design and get it up [2.1] (the Male and Non-Binary Welfare officer)
- 3. Organise meeting with LWF to discuss COVC [3.0] (The Treasurer)
- 4. Send Nicole details of work completed for the student affairs committee [4.0] (The whole committee)
- 5. Visit furniture rooms and start making plan for JCR [7.0] (Any interested officers)
- 6. Start communicating with the manciple about the anonymous feedback [10.0] (The Services officer )
- 7. Publish the minutes summary from previous meetings [11.0] (The Secretary)