



JCSU Executive Committee Meeting - Minutes

Held on 27th January 2024 at 6pm in the Coleridge Room.

Present

Adi Mishra, AM (President)
Kieran Leete, KL (Vice-President)
Anna Putland, AP (Secretary)
George Dickenson, GD (Comms Officer)
Devavrat Verma, DV (International Officer)
Jenni Buss, JB (Freshers' Officer)
Ewan Cornwall, EC (Freshers' Officer)
Abena Appiah, AA (Ents Officer)
Becca Juman, RJ (Ents Officer)
Tara Buxton, TB (Women's and Non-Binary Officer)
Sarah Marsh, SM (LGBTQ+ Officer)
Leah Neves Gomes, LNG (Services Officer)
Belle Richmond, BR (Female and Non-Binary Welfare Officer)
Edith Stewart, ES (Environmental and Ethical Affairs Officer)
Shams Ullah, SU (Ethnic and Religious Minorities Officer)

Absent

Dom Swift, DS (Treasurer)
Muzammal Mushtaq, MM (Access Officer)

Quick Summary

- The Committee discussed:
 - possible changes that could be implemented in Caff.
 - Free Prescription Scheme paper feedback.
 - heating and hot water changes.
 - updates on the draft constitution.
 - feasibility of a first/second year social.
 - possibilities for a bigger welfare event.
 - do not disturb signs for doors.

Meeting opened at: 18:06

Administrative Matters

34.0. Apologies

DS, MM

35.0 Approval of draft minutes

The Committee APPROVED the draft minutes from [20/01/24](#) as the official record.

Green Officer & Services Officer

36.0 Manciple Meeting Updates

- ES shared that she and LNG had met with the Manciple to discuss food arrangements in Caff. She outlined some of the highlights of their conversation.
 - (1) She said that they had talked about displaying the nutritional information of the options. She acknowledged that some members of college (e.g., those with eating disorders) do not want to be exposed to this information, whilst others (e.g., those training for events) do want to be. The Manciple said that collating this information would be time consuming, and so ES said that they had provisionally agreed to display factors such as 'high in protein', 'high in fat', etc. She wanted the Committee's approval before this change was finalised/implemented. LNG added that the plan was to start with main meals and extend to side dishes/desserts afterwards.
 - AM questioned how useful this would be. He pointed out that people already understand that a chicken dish, for example, is likely to be high in protein.
 - KL agreed, and didn't think that it should be pushed until the Committee could reach a better solution.
 - Overall, there was a general consensus that displaying calories on the Caff menu was a bad idea, and it would do more harm than good - particularly to those susceptible to, or possessing, disordered eating habits.
 - AM agreed, however he thought that people should have the right to be aware of what they were consuming.
 - LNG thought that an opt-in link on JNet would mitigate against concerns that committee members possessed, whilst still giving people an option as they would have to choose to access the information.
 - AM agreed that this was a good idea. He said that he would take it to the Domestic Bursar and report back. ([AP 36.1](#))
 - (2) ES also shared that they had discussed the fact that Caff was often adding toppings to dishes (e.g cheese on chips). She noted that this was inconvenient from both an allergen and preference perspective. As such, she said that the Manciple had agreed to serve a plain version of these foods too.
 - (3) Finally, she said that they had talked about a default change from butter to a vegan substitute during formals. She felt that this was justified from an allergen and sustainability perspective.

- The Committee was divided on this suggestion. AM and KL were of the opinion that the default option should be reflective of student opinion.
- TB suggested trialling a half and half scheme. BR thought that this was a good idea, and proposed introducing baskets for the middle of tables. This way, students would be able to pick which they preferred.
- AM thought it would be necessary to limit the numbers of packs to ensure people did not take too many. He felt this would give people the opportunity to make a choice, and would also have a positive environmental impact: fewer unused packets would likely end up being thrown away.
- Committee was broadly in favour of this 'half and half' solution: rather than a default option, students could exercise choice without a significant barrier to

President

37.0 Free Prescription Scheme

- AM shared the draft paper that he and DS had prepared for the Student Affairs Committee (SAC) on the Free Prescription Scheme. Committee members were impressed with this.
- AM added that he had begun circulating the draft paper to members of college, and the feedback that he had received had been positive so far. However, he did say that some adversity had been expressed to (1) who would administer the scheme; (2) the blanket funding which the scheme necessarily involved; and (3) what we can infer from students suffering mild illnesses and not seeking medical attention given that most mild illnesses do not require prescriptions.
- On (2) AM emphasised that the purpose of the scheme was not to provide financial aid; it was to incentivise welfare. He accepted that (3) *may* be true, however he pointed out that there was still a general reluctance towards seeking medical attention and making prescriptions 'free' still incentivises people to seek medical attention. In a number of cases, this will cause individuals to seek attention where prescription medication *is* necessary and where they otherwise would not have sought attention.
- BR added that the scheme had been proposed on a trial basis – we can see how people behave and then review the data.
- AM emphasised that those on the SAC need to be well prepared on the Paper.

TB, ES, SU & SM left 18:43

38.0 Heating and Hot Water

- AM shared that the Domestic Bursar will be presenting a paper on heating and hot water arrangements at SAC. Discussions were ongoing but AM expected that a middle ground would be adopted on heating hours, and hot water would be reverted to normal.
- Committee members thought that this would be a good solution: this is the position that the JCSU would support.

39.0 Update on By-elections

- AM said that the JCSU now had candidates for each of the vacant positions except Female/NB Gym Rep. He said that all Committee members were required to be in attendance at the hustings for 5pm on Sunday 28th January.

40.0 SAC Report on JCSU Activities

- AM said that he was due to submit a report, on Tuesday, to the Student Affairs Committee detailing the work that the JCSU has carried out so far. He requested that all officers draft a summary of everything they have been working on, and send it to him by EOD Monday 29th. ([AP 40.1](#))

41.0 Update on the draft Constitution

- AM shared that the JCSU Draft Constitution was not passed by the College Council. Therefore he said that the Committee will need to review it, making amendments to resolve issues raised by both the College and the MCR. He also said that it was necessary to vote on a change to JCSU financial policy 1.2. However, it was decided that this should be made when DS was present.
- DV asked whether it would be necessary to hold another referendum once the Draft Constitution had been amended. AM confirmed that it would.

Vice-President

42.0 Second and First Year Social

- KL explained that the JCSU had arranged a first and second year social event in Michaelmas of 2022. He said that it was successful, however there wasn't a chance to repeat it in 2023. He thought, therefore, that it would be good to do it in Lent this academic year instead.
- BR said that she thought this would be a good idea - she wanted to get to know the Freshers better.
- AM suggested trying the Burleigh Arms, and BJ said that nothing had been arranged for Friday 23rd February on the FNJ calendar.
- DV questioned whether the social event needed to be held in a pub as he thought that doing so would exclude a significant proportion of students who didn't feel comfortable in such an environment.
- JB added that the Refreshers week Pub Crawl was not well attended.
- AM decided it was best to park this suggestion whilst committee members thought through the feasibility of this idea.

43.0 Updates on SU Council

- KL also shared that he had attended the SU Council meeting on Monday.
- One of the key takeaways from the meeting was that the Committee needed to find out who was responsible for the regular stocking of sanitary products. The CSU Women's Officer had highlighted that this was the responsibility of Colleges, not JCRs.
- TB was not present, therefore, BR recommended that KL talk TB to discuss the division of various responsibilities between herself and the College. ([AP 43.1](#))

Female and Non-Binary Welfare Officer

44.0 Larger-Scale Welfare Event

- BR shared that, for years, there has been an ongoing discussion about organising a petting zoo to come into College. However, in the past, this had been rejected on the basis of concerns about animal welfare. She asked for members' thoughts on pushing for this.
- KL asked how much it would cost.
- BR said that the estimate was £500 for 5 hours.
- There was a general consensus that this was rather expensive, and therefore not worth pursuing.
- AM added that he thought, in principle, the idea of a large welfare event was good, and the committee should try to organise something.
- BR asked whether members had any alternative suggestions.
- JB suggested hiring Jack's gelato to bring a cart to college.
- Everyone thought that this was a good idea. AM suggested that it could be arranged in place of 'Thursday Treats' one week during Easter term.

45.0 Any Other Business [AOB]

- BR said that she wanted to introduce a 'do not disturb' sign which students could use if they didn't want the maintenance staff to enter their room in the morning.
- KL was mindful that not all the staff spoke good English, and therefore a uniform sign would be a good idea.
- AM asked LNG to follow up on this. ([AP 45.1](#))

Meeting closed: 19:37

Action Points

<u>Action</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Assigned to</u>
AP 2.1	Update task-list to include policies.	SU & GD
AP 2.4	Create a timetable detailing the sporting events due to be streamed from J-Bar.	AA & BJ
AP 12.7	Investigate overspending of the Mental Health & Disability budget	DS
AP 18.1	Further investigate the online budget viewing platform.	DS & GD
AP 19.1	Update the sports and societies list on the JCSU website.	GD
AP 27.1	Write a summary of the events which took place during Freshers week and send it to AM.	KL
AP 27.2	Write a summary of the events which took place during Refreshers week and send it to AM.	JB & EC
AP 27.3	Write a summary of the sporting events which have taken place since the beginning of this academic year and send it to AM.	LNG
AP 27.4	Start a document to keep track of what you have done.	All Committee Members
AP 36.1	Speak to the Domestic Bursar about the feasibility of creating a separate opt-in link on JNet which displays the nutritional information of Caff meals.	AM
AP 40.1	Draft and send AM a summary of what you have achieved/been working on this term. This needs to be done by 29th January.	All Committee Members
AP 43.1	Speak to TB about who restocks college sanitary products.	KL
AP 45.1	Follow up on the possible implementation of 'do not disturb' signs throughout college.	LNG