



JCSU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 2020

Minutes of a meeting of the JCSU Executive Committee held on Monday 20th April on Zoom.

Present: the President (Aurelio Petrucci), the Vice-President (Octavia Rooks), the Treasurer (Will Davison), the Secretary (Sameer Aggarwal), the Ents Officers (Ollie Dennis and Matt Griffiths), the Access Officer (Cormac Parks), the Male Welfare Officer (Tom Cay), the Female Welfare Officer (Honor Abery), the Women's and Non-Binary Officer (Jess Molyneux), the LGBT+ Officer (Ben Gibson), the Environmental & Ethical Affairs Officer (Zak Coleman), the Freshers' Officer (Libby Bryant), the Ethnic & Religious Minorities Officer (Bobby Mugo), the Services Officer (Heather Jones), the Mental Health & Disabilities Officer (Sophie Baldwin) and the Communications Officer (Jacob Powell).

Apologies: the International Students' Officer (Satya Amin),

The meeting opened at 17:03.

MINUTES

AP: How is everyone?

Everyone is generally OK. Some discussion about the intricacies of Zoom.

1. Requests Form Report [HJ]

HJ: As expected, nothing.

2. Matters Arising

a) Virtual Jesus

AP: Going very well, going to launch this week. Thank you to JP for his hard work.

JP: David Adeboye has put a lot of work in designing the website.

AP gives a brief tour of the website via screenshare.

JP: The Master has been big driving force behind the project. Will hopefully launch it on Friday.

AP: In terms of design it is basically done, but if you have content that you're doing or want to advertise get in touch with me or JP.

b) Welfare

AP: As far as I know all going well – how are welfare hangouts?

HA: Had no one in hangout but have been asked about getting in touch with the College Counsellor. Has been on leave until today. Had thought about welfare events we could do. Welfare team had a meeting a few days ago – thought about a Bake Off and an art competition.

TC: Also had thoughts about film nights for 1st/2nd years and 3rd/4th years; would put polls about things people would like to watch.

ZC: Will films be through Netflix Party?

TC: Yeah.

AP: Asked around about alternatives – only thing seems to be to have a JCSU account. There will also be a film club as part of Virtual Jesus, but only like in terms of being about giving recommendations, so quite different to your proposition.

OD: Me and MG thinking of doing similar things on Friday nights as well. Thinking about some sort of talent show, where people send in a video of whatever skills people have. Also thought about doing a cocktail-making event, and we also had quizzes and movie nights.

HA: If Ents do movie nights then instead of Welfare? As you'd probably get better publicity.

OD: I also know some colleges have done Houseparty as well but those have been a bit chaotic.

ZC: What about live rap battle?

OD: Will liaise with WD and CP.

OD: Caius have guided meditation and mindfulness sessions.

AP: There is also that Tab article about things that JCRs are doing.

OR: Should we do the online email welfare packages that some colleges have been doing.

HA: Have been thinking about them, but don't know if they would be wanted.

OR: If they're good, yeah.

HA: Ideas on what should be included?

AP: What are they?

HA: Basically, you request a welfare package, and welfare reps put together something and email it to you, e.g. a recipe, a workout and a cute video/photo.

AP: Sounds like a good idea in principle but would be good to spread the work around the committee.

HA: Can always put out a form to gauge interest.

TC: Yeah, I doubt the demand would be crazy.

HA: Yeah let's do that tonight then.

c) Freshers' Week

AP: Geoff Parks has said to plan as normal for Freshers' Week. Not too arduous, looking at what's worked well and what we want to keep, and new things we'd like

LB: Basically no one is sure about what is going to happen but thinking about what we'd do in the circumstances if Michaelmas is virtual. The idea in that situation would be to do as much virtually as we could, and then do a "proper" Freshers' Week in January. We can pretty much start to do everything as normal in terms of planning. I know we were looking to change the structure of the consent and implicit bias workshops, and BM wanted to insert something about the legacy of slavery. Am in touch with other colleges' Freshers' Reps

ZC: With workshops, will the drinking society workshop just slot into a general orientation workshop?

LB: Yeah would put it into the general one.

ZC: Could I add some sustainability stuff in as well?

LB: Yeah of course. Thought about putting it in the general JCSU introduction, but probably nicer to do it in smaller groups. More generally workshops were interspersed throughout the week for us, but would prefer to get more volunteers and schedule them into a narrower window of time next year.

ZC: Don't know if it would be too much work, but could send out a booklet before with the information beforehand as well?

BM: Booklet could be a good idea, but would depend how much it gets read, and the workshops allow discussion and asking questions.

OR: Are you going to the workshops if Michaelmas is virtual?

LB: Yeah, because it's also a nice way to see faces, and we'd have to do them in January anyway. Also then leaves more time for fun stuff in January.

AP: May feel like all the best stuff about university isn't happening and all the worst stuff is. If Michaelmas is virtual, probably wouldn't be good if they're set the same amount of initial work – should talk to Geoff Parks about this. Probably worth asking him if we can keep a week free for a "Freshers' Week".

SAg: What are the University's and College's contingency teaching plans?

LB: I think the same as now.

AP: Can we not just rearrange labs and lectures?

AP told that the answer is No. Minor humanities/STEM beef ensues.

BM: Also, many people won't have home environments that won't be conducive to home working

AP: It is possible we'll be in Cambridge but taught in a socially distanced manner.

SAg: What have offer-holders been told?

CP changes his background to a photo of AP.

AP: That's a photo of me!

CP changes his background to something else.

AP: I have asked College.

LB: I think College have said they will treat the predicted grades as public exams grades, and they'll deal with the problem of too many students making their offers as and when it comes to it.

ZC: What about those who miss their offers?

CP: Only about 10 miss every year.

AP: Just need to press College that if they have to whittle down the student body, that they are transparent about it and what criteria they use.

BM: Could they ask some people to defer their offers?

AP: That's a good idea, especially if people make their offer.

BM: Even if they miss their offer, as the system being used is inherently unfair.

CP changes his background again to another photo of AP, this time in the wrong orientation.

d) Society Admin

MG arrives at 17:39.

SAG: Have to confirm the creation of a few new societies: Chess by Nick Sweeney, Psychology by Lucy Pilling and Zeus Administrators by David Adeboye.

ZC: What are the Zeus Administrators?

SAG: Used to be an official group of people who maintained various College associated websites.

JP: College also now have access to these websites.

AP: What would be the expenditures of these societies be, e.g. Chess may need to purchase boards etc.?

SAG: In the short term, nothing. They may have costs next term, but none of them should be high-spending societies, so we should be able to cover whatever it is they need until the next Budget.

Creation of all 3 societies approved unanimously.

3. Any Other Business

WD: College have furloughed some staff.

Ap: Will ask College about that.

OR: What has happened to items left in kitchens?

AP: Non-perishable items given to foodbanks; perishable items thrown away to prevent vermin. Pots and pans etc. have been left.

HJ: College has said everything that's in accommodation has been left

TC: There's meant to be a by-election I believe for my role this term.

AP: I know - there's your role and Gym Reps I believe. Will sort before end of term.

JM: Downing have used spare budget to purchase sustainable sanitary products – how would we feel about doing similar?

Brief interlude at 17:44 as the meeting is relaunched – the perils of the Basic package.

ZC: Would be happy to use my budget on it as I have plenty left

WD: I'm going to send an email out soon once I've heard from College about what societies' spending plans are – basically we should be OK as we'll likely have a massive underspend.

ZC: Are there are other option apart from Mooncups?

OR: Yes, would be good as some people can't use them.

JM: Yeah - we've had good demand for Mooncups, but they can be scary.

BG: If we've got loads of money, can also use it to fund stuff like language courses?

WD: Yeah that's a cool idea. My only concern is I'm reluctant to do things that should be the College's responsibility.

ZC: Have you heard anything about support for student without laptops etc.?

WD: I haven't heard anything about that

AP: I know some staff are using College laptops, so should be able to get some to students who need them as well.

OR: Also, I guess we won't be able to do stash and stuff.

ZC: Would be nice as would make people feel more connected.

AP: Logistics may be tricky though.

Some miscellaneous conversation to end, with topics including AP's baking endeavours, ZC's houseplant collection and WD's haircutting skills.

AP thanked the members of the committee for a helpful and productive meeting.

The meeting closed at 17:56.