JCSU Executive Committee Meeting
May 17th 2021 at the Cricket Pavillion

Present (18): the President (Jacob Powell, in the Chair), the Vice-President (Estelle Cho Lin Wing), the Treasurer (Matthew Chan), the Secretary (Lewis Westwood Flood), the Ents Officers (Cian Fielden & Ben Mallard), the Access Officer (Robyn Briggs), the Male Welfare Officer (Angus Harron), the Female Welfare Officer (Eva Timlin), the Women’s and Non-Binary Officer (Mojola Akinyemi), the LGBT+ Officer (Jack Ward), the International Students’ Officer (Tara Khanna), the Environmental & Ethical Affairs Officer (Ellie Doran), the Freshers’ Officers (Bella Manfredi & Maddie Mitchell), the Ethnic & Religious Minorities Officer (Imran Mulla), the Mental Health & Disabilities Officer (Immie Parsley), and the Communications Officer (Aurelio Petrucci).

Apologies (0)
Absent (1): the Services Officer (Will Zeng),

Observers Present (1): Zak Coleman (Undergraduate College Council Representative)

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

- College have indicated they may extend leases at the end of term for a couple of days for free, as part of their wider plan to hold several celebratory events on June 26th. Ents Officers working with College on events around that period, alongside Freshers’ Officers at looking to organise College marriages.
- College remain one of, if not the most, lenient regarding restrictions, and have remained committed to sticking with government reopening so far.
- The ‘Report+Support’ system has gone live, and all students are encouraged to report any form of harassment, assault, or discrimination (including microaggressions) either anonymously or with contact details.
- Pressure continues to ensure that the flag consultation occurs in good time, and the questions are fairly structured to allow for student involvement.
- Work continues on the China Centre, especially freedom of speech re: the Uyghur genocide and Hong Kong, with Imran having done fantastic work in organising a separate talk on the former.
- The Miniature Painting Society was formally registered as a JCSU Society, and funding issues relating to it are being worked through with its President.
- Counselling provision will change next year, details of which will be circulated by the welfare officers and College soon, and JCSU will continue work to ensure a representative team of college counsellors. The College is also considering the hiring of a ‘Mental Health Nurse’ to provide immediate mental health support where counsellors have a slower turnaround.
Minutes
Meeting opened at 19:20

At Jacob’s invitation, the Committee did their introductions in person for the first time. And ate pizza.

1.0 - Approval of the Draft Minutes from the 3rd May 2021

The Committee APPROVED the draft minutes as the official record.

2.0 - COVID-19

2.1 - General Updates

- Jacob: The College continues to follow the government’s policy, and having spoken to other JCRs it’s pretty clear that College has one of the most lenient policies (if not the most) of any college. No onerous admin, Rule of 6 and 30. Main focus of College is on the Asymptomatic Testing Programme. Again, better than many Colleges in terms of uptake, but the number still less than the ideal 90%+. Not exactly ideal that the scanning doesn’t work on Safari, but you can get the app which works. Also students should consider LFD testing, especially before they do something big, just to be extra safe. College also looking at a big 26th June celebration, and we will discuss our plan for that on the same day. Big event, with Sonita’s backing, being planned by JCMS. College do seem to care, which is nice.

- Aurelio: How many formals are there going to be a week, and are they looking to increase it given demand? Jacob: Three a week at the moment, Wednesday’s will have grads in upper hall so lower hall will be free for UGs. Demand is still high. Manciple is hoping for 5 a week next year at the moment.

- Aurelio: Given all the variants, and the government’s caution over unopening from the 21st June if push comes to shove, what is our plan? Jacob: I mean if that happens, and noting freshers’ week was under more restrictions, we could easily keep people in groups of 30 across multiple stages. If the 21st is cancelled I will literally cry, but we will plan for both (with a focus on normality).

- Ellie: Leases end on the 26th June, what’s happening with that? Jacob: College are looking to extend, for free, by a couple of days to help those whose exams end on 25th, for instance. In relation to general extensions, college are very happy that (if people pay) you can extend.

- Bella: Do all leases, including freshers’, end on the 25th/26th? Jacob: Yep, pretty sure all leases end on the same day.

- Vacation rate should be ending, hopefully.

- Immie: If a number of people are staying, it might be worth continuing JCSU work? Jacob: Yep. Aurelio: Catering too.

- Jacob: So to close on this, we are in a really great place re: COVID rules.
3.0 - Student Affairs Update

- Jacob: Student affairs today, with many a JCSU officer. Good, short meeting. Discussed the sexual harassment policy again, and also making the reporting procedure clearer. Obviously, today the University’s Report+Support system went live, which is focused on allowing both anonymous and non-anonymous reporting for anything, however small, both in College and at the University level. We then got onto counselling provision, currently it is one Counsellor. It was formerly Anna, but she is leaving at the end of this year. Next year, we are looking at having three counsellors, formally employed by the UCS with a contract for College. There will be no difference for the student, beyond there being more options. Two or three, still being discussed. I think they should settle for three, but maybe two. Tori noted that it is difficult to line manage Anna when she has no experience in counselling, so moving that up to UCS should simplify the process. College also want to employ a Mental Health Nurse, in addition to the current nurse, with the idea being that they can see students much more quickly than the <2 week turnaround for counsellors. College welfare team checkups on vulnerable students could be more easily achieved via the MH Nurse. Also reduces the burden on student welfare officers, when we aren’t trained and may put too much of a burden on us.

- Aurelio: Has thought been given to representation among the counsellors, especially given our previous discussion around BAME, LGBTQ+, etc. Jacob: Yes, this term having more counsellors from different communities has been a massive help, and been enjoyed by students.

- Zak: What are the current hours on hours? Jacob: So Anna does 20 + 12 hours for the other two combined. I believe, and I think the JCSU position has to be, that this should be the same next year (ie 32 hours in total).

- Aurelio: When we announce this to students, it might be worth including testimonials, especially as I found it useful.

- Immie: On representation, will we have choice over which counsellors we get? That wasn’t the impression I got. Jacob: Obviously if we got three straight men that’s not ideal. Best to deal with that before College commits to anything.

- Angus: What is the timeline for that? Jacob: Committee meeting on this soon, then Council for budget in June and I think July, and we can also feedback in September if needs be. I do think College cares, which is nice to see.

4.0 - College Council Update

- Jacob: Maybe the shortest Council meeting ever, maybe 20 minutes?! Absolutely massive. The biggest item was the flag consultation, and basically that’s happening soon. We need to make sure that students partake in that, and also from the postgrads, and it would be good to have their submissions. Also important to get those views in the papers, whoever writes that. Really important to stress that student views need to be above those of alumni. I need to see the questions before they’re asked, just to be sure.

- Aurelio: I’ve seen the number of options given in the Rustat submissions, surely we could have something similar for this? Jacob: Yes.
- Jacob: Need to get support from Council fellows, rather than officers. Given support for this is stronger among fellows. Lewis: Also people like Julian and Yaron raised it as a freedom of expression issue, which is important.
- Zak: Also the number of camfeesses, etc. [Jack: Queerbridges too!] which express how disgusting this is. Maddie: Also offer holders have been asking if College is homophobic, which is pretty big. Lewis & Robyn: Will affect diversity of intake.
- Zak: On the China Centre - so they’ve published a list of events, including a Hong Kong event which is pretty big. Yet, still no event on the Uyghurs, which is disappointing. To say the least. Still a general feeling that the Uyghur crisis may be fabricated, though that’s not allowed to be raised in Council naturally. Master did say there would be an event, but will there be.
- Mojola: So if he doesn’t believe it’s real, then surely that’s a reason to hold it? Aurelio and Zak: It would be such a national press event if a senior Cambridge fellow denied human rights abuses. Imran: It’s a shame, because he’s all but said that in a meeting and that naturally wasn’t minuted. Jacob: Would love to thank Imran (round of applause here) for his work on this.

5.0 - Post-Exam Ents

Jacob at this point (20:02) moved, and the Committee RESOLVED, to extend the meeting time limit.

- Jacob: So, need to discuss all the various ents we want to do, from support during exam to formal events. What’s been the thinking?
- Ben and Cian: Obviously the Garden Party is a big one, especially given the issue of exam timing. Which naturally leads to the 26th, which already has an event. Also, is it gonna be classical music or? Jacob: No! Lots of JCMS planning.
- Various Officers: Bouncy castles, ice cream, and so on. Is it basically a May Ball for Jesus College students? Jacob: The budget is definitely a lot less than a normal May Ball.
- Cian: Also, the 25th has that Freshers’ thing and probably afters in general.
- Estelle: Are we allowed to hold them? Jacob: Pretty sure, though expect College will pitch it as a ‘Jesus College Extravaganza’
- Ellie: Also Sidney Sussex garden party is held early, so we could make it a whole day thing.
- Immie: Could also have JCMS doing the day and ents doing the night?
- Matthew: Spoken to Megan Robinson from JCMS about their timings, looking at earlier events and then moving into reverarly.
- Ben: Are we gonna want formal wear? A bit May Ball-y.
- Mojola: All these lovely ideas, but budget wise what is the situation? Jacob: College are thinking you buy a ticket for food, and we will want to push them on pricing for bursary students. There is a Working Party on this, very little meat on the bone at the moment. May Ball Committee should be involved, and we can get the ents officers on this if you are both happy to be. Current thinking being a very chill day and then in the evening, drinks, more music, etc. Casino happens in normal May Ball, so working party definitely needs to discuss all of this.
- Ben and Cian: Lots of money, and not that much money to spend without a May Ball? Jacob: College seem to be keen to use their resources for street food. Estelle: May Ball budget comes from ticket sales too.
- Matthew: Money wise we are looking at having spent 15k so far, 48k budget. By end of year 20-24k expected to have been spent, meaning about 20k left over. Issues over end of year budget, but we can figure that out.
- Aurelio: We’ll know by the 7th of June as to the situation re: the 21st.

6.0 - Society Registration

“That the JCSU Executive Committee RESOLVES to associate with the Jesus College Miniature Painting Society as a Club or Society in accordance with Article 3 of the Constitution.”

Details for the society are listed in the first Annex.

Resolved without opposition.

7.0 - Budget Estimate Adjustments

Treasurer

“That the JCSU Executive Committee APPROVES the budget estimate amendments made by the Treasurer to the budget items listed in the second Annex.”

- Extended discussion around ownership of the Miniature Society’s assets, given the cost and the impression that the money was being used for personal purchases. Society needs to have a clear asset ownership structure and Constitution. Committee agreed to strike the budget adjustment for the Jesus College Miniature Painting for this meeting, and for Lewis and Matthew to work with the relevant Society officer(s) to get the arrangements sorted ASAP.

Approved without opposition, following an amendment to remove the estimate adjustment for Jesus College Miniature Painting.

8.0 - JCSU Enterprise Bank Update

Treasurer

“That the JCSU Executive Committee APPROVES the resolutions in the third Annex relating to the HSBC Enterprise Bank Mandate, and authorises the Treasurer to communicate the same to HSBC. The Executive Committee NULLIFIES the resolutions adopted in the Annex of the meeting of March 9th 2021.”

Approved without opposition.

9.0 - Undergraduate Gown Buyback

Treasurer
- Committee broadly agreed to get a proposal written by Matthew. Discussion around ownership. To be brought back in two weeks.

10.0 - Subscriptions to External Organisations

Treasurer

- Matthew: Discussion with Tara about COVID relief in India, and SolidariTee with Jess Molyneux. Discussed with Senior Treasurer, who outlined the restrictions in place on donations.
- Agreed to raise at the Charitable Donations Committee, and explore a fundraising event through college.

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.

11.1 - ERM Issues

- Imran: Is the reporting scheme for all sorts of complaints? Jacob: Yep, including stuff like microaggressions.
- Imran: Also issues about a statement on the University's investments with companies involved with Israeli war crimes.
- Matthew: Is there anything that needs to be actioned on the IHRA definition? Jacob: Just waiting to see if someone raises something at an OGM (which we will do in the week of the 21st of June!)

11.2 - College Marriages

- Bella: Just want to see what is happening with this? Formal? Event? Chapel? Who is organising it? Jacob: Freshers’ and ents? Hopefully in person, because Zoom is awkward as hell.

11.3 - Redundancies

- Zak: Just want us to have a position on this, and be willing to oppose if they move to involuntary.

Meeting closed at 20:38

Annex 1 - Society Registrations
Society Name: Jesus College Miniature Painting Society
President: Michael Betteridge
Vice President: Alexandria Rakowska
Treasurer: Camille De Waele
Description: Society to organize and promote the creative, social and mindful hobby of miniature painting and to make it more accessible and well-known.

Annex 2 - Budget Estimate Adjustments

Waterpolo: +£70
Jesus College Miniature Painting Society: +£250
Gym: +£25.78

Annex 3 - HSBC Mandate Resolutions

A3.1 Primary Resolution
The JCSU Executive Committee RESOLVES:

“1 That a bank account or accounts be continued and the Bank is authorised to act on any Instructions provided they have been given by those persons named in the Specimen Signature section (or authorised by such persons in accordance with the applicable authorisation requirement(s)) as follows: Any 1 listed person solely.

2 That any debt incurred to the Bank under this mandate shall, in the absence of written agreement by the Bank to the contrary, be repayable on demand.

3 That the Secretary is authorised to supply the Bank, as and when necessary, with lists of all persons who are authorised to give instructions on behalf of the Association, and that the Bank may rely on such lists.

4 That the Association accepts the account(s) and banking relationship with the Bank will be governed by and subject to the Business Banking Terms and Conditions (a copy of which has been provided) as amended from time to time, together with any terms and conditions in respect of specific products and services requested by the Association.

5 That these resolutions be communicated to the Bank and remain in force until cancelled by notice in writing to the Bank, signed by the Chairperson or Secretary from time to time acting or claiming to act on behalf of the Association, and the Bank shall be entitled to act on such notice whether the resolutions have been validly cancelled or not.”

A3.2 Item 7.0 from Feb 16th 2021
“That the JCSU Executive Committee RESOLVES to update the business mandate of the JCSU Enterprise bank account with HSBC.”
A3.3  Item 3.0 from Mar 9th 2021

“That the JCSU Executive Committee **APPROVES** Matthew Chan (JCSU Junior Treasurer), Emily Williams (JCSU Senior Treasurer, Alumni and Development Office, Fellow), Rob Shepard (Financial Controller), and Toreanna Friday (Management Accountant) as signatories on the JCSU Enterprise Account.”