



JCSU Executive Committee Meeting

February 23rd 2023 The Bain room

Present (11): the Vice-President (Esther Anthony-Ajileye), the Treasurer (Krish Nanavati), the Secretary (John Jessop), the Female and Non-Binary Welfare officer (Orchid Amira Balgobin), the Women's and Non-Binary officer (Helena Kondak), the Freshers officer (Lizzie Caird), the Freshers officer (Kieran Leete), the LGBTQ+ officer (Ptryk Wisniewski), the Ethnic and Religious Minorities officer (Haajrah Ashraf), the Access officer (Stephen Fajemilusi), the Communications and Computing officer (Dom Swift)

Apologies (9): the President (Nicole Ling Yan Lee), the Male and Non-Binary Welfare officer (Tom Morgan), the Mental Health and Disabilities officer (Alice Yu), the International officer (Songhwi Yoon), the Environmental and Ethical Affairs officer (Ezra Grosz), the Services officer (Jonathan Driver), the Ents officer (Yuval Weiss), the Ents officer (Lyra Christie), the Undergraduate council representative (Issy Kaufman)

Absent (0):

Minutes

Meeting opened at 19:12

Esther (VP) as chair of the meeting

1.0 - Approval of

The Committee **APPROVED** the draft minutes as the official record

2.0 - Actions updates

The Secretary

1. Put up CRSIDs on the JCSU photo board [2.0] (The Comms officer)
 - **Dom** This has been done
2. Purchase posters (and maybe neon sign) to decorate the brewery room [5.0] (The Ents officers)
 - **John** Lyra and Yuval aren't here today so we'll follow up with this at a later date
3. Try and drum up more interest for the OGM [2.0] (The Secretary)
 - **John** I did this and we managed to get 7 people to turn up
4. Start ordering furniture etc. for the JCR [3.0] (The Ethnic and Religious Minorities officer, the Mental Health and Disabilities officer)
 - **Haajrah** We've ordered bean bags and blankets as a preliminary. We're going to wait for the sofas to be switched out in the holiday before we buy anything else
5. Publicise the Blues formal (Thursday 23rd) [3.0] (The Male and Non Binary Welfare officer)
 - **Orchid** We did this and the formal is happening right now

3.0 - Update on SU council

The Vice President

- **Esther** I'm sure you've all seen or heard about the vegan university catering decision. I asked for our decision about this at a meeting a few weeks ago. Basically it was voted that the SU would lobby the university to make all food sold on their sites vegan. This is basically just Arc cafe, Sidgwick site cafe, West hub canteen, and two other places. The main complaint at the moment is that the vegan options are bad, because of this many of the colleges voted in favour so they could lobby for better vegan options rather than 100% vegan. They want to start along the path towards a more plant based university across all sites and colleges. So far all that's technically been agreed is that they'll take it to university council which is made up of staff
- The SU council also voted to support the strikes, but as you may know they've been paused for negotiations to take place
- We voted in support of anti-racism workshops for all freshers. The main issue raised for this item was that the onus shouldn't be on students to educate other students. There are ongoing discussions about this issue and how this will work across the uni and different colleges
- We passed the prayer space motion which I believe mandates getting all colleges to have a prayer space and one in 10 min walk or under from departments

4.0 - Boat club (BC) treasurer report

The Treasurer

- **Krish** Yesterday I met with James Crockford (BC senior treasurer) and Matthew Foyer (BC Jr treasurer), to clear up misconceptions between us and the BC, and discuss issues the previous JCSU had
- A lot of what we asked about was to do with our constitution and their adherence to it which has not been great lately. They pointed out that the previous budgets should all be on the website and the last 2 are missing which is something we need to fix [\[AP\]](#).
- The BC is strange in its reimbursement requests, some are through the form and others are the Boatman charging it directly to finance who charge it to us in lump sums. In the past the impression I was given was that we had to accept these lump sums. We have now clarified this with them and agreed that we do actually have the right to reject these expenses
- **Esther** We need to make it clear that they have to operate the same as other societies with their use of the expense form
- **Krish** They have agreed to give us more receipts and proof of payment on the form. The only exceptions are match fees and race entry fees (this applies to all societies) as they don't give receipts. They also agreed to give a monthly spreadsheet of what the Boatman is spending money on from so we have more transparency there too
- The JCSU budgets them £16K per year and they regularly ask for about 23K, in that respect they're quite good at estimating how much they need because they always spend ~£20K. It says in my handover doc that any money we or other societies don't spend they can have at the end of the year. This happened because the JCSU underspent historically and if we continued to underspend then the college would reduce our budget, the BC said we can solve that problem by using our surplus. That's the current agreement, we have three options from

this: keep it going as is and encourage people to spend more of their allocated budgets (this adds up to a lot). Or we could budget the boat club more and budget other socs less, because they are less likely to spend it (this will look quite bad for us), or we could potentially give more money to JCSU officers who can run events

- **Esther** Haajrah, Song and Alice should be our priorities for that if we increase anyone's budget
- **Krish** That makes sense to me, ERM has £180 as it stands and Alice and Song have both asked for increases as the three of them have significantly less than other officers. We could give all liberation officers a budget increase.
- **Krish** Increasing officers' budgets also has some issues as taking money from other socs for ourselves isn't going to look good even if it's for everyone's benefit technically.
- The BC is currently allocated £16k and has spent £2600 this budget so far, if all socs spend all their budget then the BC will only spend it as 16k, but they will underspend and BC will take the difference, we'll have to be careful with giving people budget next year, especially if they historically underspend so we can properly fund as many socs as possible
- **Krish** This meeting I had was also with the JCSU senior treasurer (Emily), we agreed with the BC treasurers to have termly meetings to make sure everything is in check

5.0 - College Comms photos

The Comms officer

- **Dom** College want more photos of events, and so do I to put on comms channels so if you take any photos please send them my way please do take more
- **Helena** Leah is very kindly going to take photos for week of woman for me so there'll be lots of that
- **Dom** We do need to be careful with getting people's permission to publicise their photos, and also the varying quality of people's phones and such
- **Esther** For various reasons there are people around college who can't be published, so they need to not be in the background of anything, so people need to be actively aware that the photos will go public, and we need to be really good on it

6.0 - Email usage pt.2 (electric boogaloo)

The Comms officer

- **Dom** You can now all send emails to the JCSU lists without permission from me and Nicole, just please make sure it's BCCed and not CCed, as this can cause issues with people replying all, and don't abuse it please
- **John** Is there any way for automatic rules to do handle the BCC and CC issue
- **Dom** I'm not sure about that but I can look

7.0 - Any Other Business [AOB]

- **Esther** The new constitution passed OGM so now we need to hold a referendum, it should pass because it's better, but we need at least a 10% turn out for it to be official so encourage people you know to vote **[AP]**
- One of the big changes is that we'll get a new class act officer which is something which a lot of colleges have, they will join the EDI committee, they'll champion socio-economic issues

around college (this is technically currently under access officer remit), but that's more about prospective students. It will also let us interact more with the SU class act campaign

- **Kieran** I was looking at FB page the other day and saw Jez's message about superhall last term and it said they planned the last one as a trial and wanted to continue it semi-regularly, does anyone know what's happening with this
- **Krish** I've been to a Downing feast, it's an extra pound for an extra course, decorations and really special food
- **Lizzie** I've been to one at tit hall and they had full costume which was fun
- **Esther** Part of the issue with super halls is different definitions between colleges, some do different courses, some have black tie (this could be an issue with inclusivity but we can come back to this later), etc, we did cheese last time, the cost also varies greatly between colleges, we can run it again we just need to ask for it again I imagine [\[AP\]](#)

- **Esther** I asked Simon where the JCSU storage room was, he didn't know initially but we eventually found it in the boaty archway. It was given to housekeeping originally, and somehow we seem to have also started using it to store stuff. The rest of the chicken costume was meant to be there, but it's all empty, it's just bedding at the moment. As far as I know Jez left all the stuff in there last year. Simon said that if we have stuff to store he can find somewhere for it.
- **John** Is there a way to track down down the stuff that was in there
- **Esther** Simon thought the boat club might know about it as they (may?) also have access to it, but we're not sure

- **Lizzie** An update on freshers stuff, we haven't had a meeting with Rachel yet but we've had a few emails, and the freshers group chat is going to happen soon, let us know if you want to be on it
- **Dom** Can you really push the JCSU website on the group chat because no one uses it at the moment
- **Lizzie** Krish and Mia did a getting to know each other doc with people's names and instagrams and subjects, Rachel also suggested putting the JCSU committee intros onto that doc so people can see who we are. We're still waiting to meet with Paul about early freshers
- **Esther** The issue with early freshers is conferencing has the rooms until the day we arrive, so Paul would have to persuade them to give up some time, is access still discussing having a bridging week or that kind of thing?
- **Stephen** Not at the moment, we have been talking about having an offer holders day to get people the chance to walk around college and meet people
- **Esther** If we do that sort of thing again then maybe keep it staggered so it's not too busy with people and their families all on one day
- **Stephen** With bridging week I've spoken Paul, he thinks that instead of a week just do 3 days before so people could still get acquainted to the city, but not have to fork out a full week's rent
- **Esther** College families often just fizzle out after freshers week, it's really parent dependent, at the moment. We could try and encourage more college family socialising later on, like more socials, we could run a college family and/or marriage formals

- **Kierran** Me and lizzie are keen to try and get people to be more active over the year
- **Lizzie** It's all about communicating with people about it and encouraging them to take part
- **Esther** We can't force people to do it because it costs money in many cases, but we should at least encourage it

- **Orchid** Welfare Wednesdays aren't that well attended currently, but the Thursday treats are, if Thursdays become regular is it worth funding both on consecutive days, or should we alternate or something?
- **Helena** I think we should keep Thursday treats to every week, if it alternates people will be unsure when it's happening and attendance will probably drop. Alice is thinking of mixing up the treats like doing smoothies from the roost
- **Lizzie** We know the thursday will always be well attended because it's on the way into college so people always walk past and drop in, whereas Wednesday is not as regular and is more of an event so people might not feel like they have the time
- **Dom** I think it's great to keep both Wednesdays as regular as possible and Thursdays every week

- **Dom** JNET - it's really difficult to find things on. I met with IT this week, basically they rely on people directly reporting issues to them so they can fix each one as it comes up. I'm going to make a way to communicate issues to me to aggregate to IT
- **Esther** Maybe create a Comms form too?
- **Dom** Yes, was thinking something like that
- For events I'm still not sure what the best way to communicate is, there is a live calendar on the JCSU website which we could use, but it'll have to wait until the holidays to look into it **[AP]**
- **Helena** Weren't you going to try to promote different sporting events, like the varsity match this weekend
- **Dom** Yeah I asked captains to send me dates for matches so I can publicise it but no one ever does
- **Kierran** I think Themed formals, FNJ term card, Welfare Wednesdays and Thursday Treats, should all be in one place
- **Dom** Yeah that's exactly the kind of thing that I want to get done

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.

Meeting closed at 20:11

Action List [AP]

1. Talk to previous treasurers Matthew Chan, Tom Brookes [4.0] (The Secretary)
2. Start publicising the constitution referendum [7.0] (The Comms officer)
3. Talk to Alexis regarding opportunities for super formals (The Services Officer? The Ents Officers?)

4. Look at updating JCSU website and getting calendar running [7.0] (The Comms officer, the Secretary)