JCR Meeting  
to be held on 1st March 2016 at 6.30pm in the Bar

Agenda

1. **Meeting Called to Order – 18:43**
2. **Apologies for Absence**

Jon Salmon

Abi Johnson

Tom Barber

Ellen Paterson

**No apologies:**

Sol Lawes

1. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

No discussion points raised, all accepted.

1. **Chair and Exec Reports and Questions**

* Bonding

Exec went on Bonding over Easter – gave general reports (Sam Leather, Hannah Fisher, Stella Alexandrova) of what was discussed on Bonding as well as aims for the year – key themes are transparency and accountability

1. **Discussion Points**

* Is the JCR an academic community?

Alex Brown: exams coming up – shame that JCR doesn’t do that much academic stuff – previously have been lectures etc but as been ‘top-down’ approach from SCR and college – any ideas that people had to have more academic ideas as a JCR

Tom Grant: POI – dissertation presentations, academic parents

Stella Alexandrova: LIMITS (Maths Soc)

Tom Grant: Languages Society

Toby Johnson -: University Challenge

Adam Jarvis: all previous academic societies have failed

Lucy Knight – depends very much on the academic families, depends on Asst. Welfares

Lily Walwyn: Aim for the year

Alex Brown: Since not being an academic parent done more for academic help for Freshers – Lily Walwyn what’s your plan? Dysfunctional at the moment – college subject group?

Lily Walwyn: Welfare structure – Alex Kingdon in charge of parents, discuss closer to the time of opening applications.

Charlie Norton – formalise meetings with them, useful thing to have and being able to ask questions

Lily Walwyn: advertise role as it should be and make the application system different, not just something to do to put on your CV, no concrete plans yet

Sam Leather asked Alex Brown of his vision of the JCR academic community

Alex Brown: 4th year bio for next year – first ever, knows about all the modules available, hard to communicate that to people – hard in Freshers’ week. Inducement rather than infliction of parents – free flow of information between people

Lucy Knight – already self-organised, academic parents – scoff at it but does work well when it works well – build relationships, doesn’t feel enforced

Christina Feeney: see academic parents as a facilitator as creating the thing Alex Brown is looking for. When she was an academic parent tried to get them all together – everyone invited to all of the things – you do need someone to provide the links between new Freshers and current students, and less that they’re the only person and more that they are facilitating the free flow of information

Aman Gupta: Combined Honours – 3 academic parents, has to make more of an effort. Broader, non academic parent push it would be easier for non-categorised degrees to become more academic

Jono Tiffany: not just for helping with summatives – anything other than just about what you study – more interdisciplinary stuff and making people slide better

Sam Leather: utilising the Dowrick to do more weekly things with JCR students – revision sessions etc?

* Livers out facilities

Paige Yates: Can we take to the next JCR Meeting? Meeting with Jim – B-ground music rom – should take to college officers, bring once taken to them

* DSU disaffiliation with the NUS

Covered in Exec Reports

Jono Tiffany – should have been discussed

Tom Grant: should be DSU not JCR

Jono Tiffany / Alex Brown: JCR is most important to us, and we associated with NUS through JCR.

Stella Alexandrova: Would go to us if a motion in assembly, however, it would be a vote where everyone had their own vote

Tom Grant: As a JCR there is very little we can do about it – DSU

Alex Brown: I want to talk about it in college

Tom Grant: should do in your own time, not here

Stella Alexandrova: will tell everyone if there is a referendum and once she finds out more and will let people know

Tom Grant: can discuss now if want

Toby: can it be a motion?

Tom Grant: At this point in time, still a DSU issue

Adam Jarvis: sign petition – therefore a referendum, then can discuss if that happens

1. **Motions**
   * House and food committee

Sam Leather: still in standing orders but hasn’t run for two years now, three years ago it did run but no one turned up – open meeting and it failed, should think of something new and better – Lydia Edwards meeting with catering weekly as well as being on JCR Comm and using that. Pointless committee

Tom Grant: POI – steering agreed that we’d agreed to delete it but minutes couldn’t be found however decided to discuss again

PASSED ON A GENERAL AYE

* + Budget presentation

Alex Brown: Last budget presentation was off Treasurer’s own back – should be officially. Operational things require cash money, discussion in JCR is ill informed cash wise, need to understand what happens. Motion proposes a presentation of the budget by the treasurer in Michaelmas – profits, expenditure, overall turnover breakdown, Buttery, Club/ Society finances. Preferred outcome that you do this in JCR Meeting in Freshers’ week to encourage engagement

AJ: Does this replace the thing that required the Treasurer to present budget in Epiphany?

Alex Brown: Yes

Ben Bauman: Profit and loss on events and buttery – will people care about events from the previous year?

Daisie Langford: JCR Treasurers not all clubs and societies – amendment proposed

Seconded by PY

Alex Brown: DO you mean the JCR as one?

Daisie Langford: JCR Treasurers – Asst., Buttery and JCR

Alex Brown accepted the amendment

Guy Harland: how not to make it boring – can we make it fancy? Pie charts and bags of money, image representation, no tables etc, no more than 20 slides – make it interesting. Proposes amendment: fancy presentation

Lily Walwyn: Does this defeat the point of the previous motion of treasurer presentation from Epiphany after college council approve the budget.

Tom Grant: this motion now moves the thing to the meeting on Freshers week Sunday

Lily Walwyn: not actually in motion

GH: Suggested that we go away and check existing measures?

Christina Feeney: It’s at the end of epiphany because old treasurer writes budget for the new year – short version in Freshers week Sunday – ‘shock factor’ of getting Freshers involved.

Tom Grant: ie instead of moving it have a second presentation on Freshers Sunday

Christina Feeney: 2nd and 3rd years can’t attend the Freshers week meeting

Daisie Langford: Can’t go through unless it passes the JCR Meeting – that was her understanding

Christina Feeney: That was why the presentation was brought in

Adam Jarvis: at the moment if we pass this motion nothing changes, proposes amendment to make it that presentation in Freshers’ week – mandate treasurer to give two presentations a year – one in epiphany after approval by college council and one in Freshers’ week to tell Freshers how much we have

Seconding by Stella Alexandrova

Accepted by Browno

Stella Alexandrova: Clarification for presentations of Freshers – what will it be?

Daisie Langford: Summary of accounts and budget for the past year and a presentation of the same information at both meetings, can bring actuals so far for the year if that’s what people are interested in, but iit can get very bogged down in the details

Alex Brown: Cut it down from previous one, rough ideas, to validate things so people realise what they’re paying for. Why the JCR is a good idea from the practical side

Tom Grant: Idea is to get people involved and have an idea of how much money we have

Jono Tiffany: Does it include special projects – bar and buttery projects?

Tom Grant: Doesn’t include special projects

Jono Tiffany proposes an amendment for motion to include special projects – signpost who to speak to

Christina Feeney: Not our money though?

Daisie Langford: its not

Jono Tiffany: It goes together though and its more accessible

GH: Can apply to special projects finance and they say yes or no, all of money can go to one group or to a mixture – money people can use and is a lot of money on a n annual basis – ‘this isn’t JCR money but is accessible’

Christina Feeney: Is it possible for Daisie Langford to get that info though?

Daisie Langford: Probably able to get so depending on Martin saying yes

Seconded by Durk

Accepted by Browno

Adam Jarvis: Is it scripted? – lists at discretion of the treasurer?

Proposed amendment t make points in motion at the discretion of the treasurer

Seconded: Alex Grover

NOT ACCEPTED by Alex Brown

Alex Brown: having a requirement there in terms of what should be said is important – name and shame for clubs that cant sort their life out – don’t need that for Freshers – wasn’t written for Freshers’ Sunday – can change it if you want – having an ability to have requirements mean things won’t be brushed under the rug

Adam Jarvis: Shouldn’t name and shame – leave as a recommended list but make sure it’s not damaging

Alex Brown Accepted amendment.

Daisie Langford: FinComm – potentially problems with clubs and societies if no-one’s fault but has a plan but don’t want to name and shame and doesn’t affect the JCR

AG: Last term – took out from standing orders that all extra income goes to boat club eg – should that be represented? There may be a gap if that’s not represented?

Daisie Langford: Highlight extreme highs and lows

Alex Brown: that’s the point of the motion

Daisie Langford: any one off expenditure that’s not budgeted for has to be passed through a JCR meeting is >£350

Ben Bauman: Is this motion just for Freshers’ week or both

Tom Grant: No just for Freshers

Alex Brown: Final point – clubs and societies front – signed off by martin – concerning that it goes through college.

Daisie Langford: Its special projects

Alex Brown: Clubs and societies – not sit and laugh at treasurers – if JCR is subbing in individual societies, then needs to be highlighted. Paying off individual clubs – need to pay them off

Emma Maynard: Shouldn’t be in Freshers’ week

Alex Brown: no it shouldn’t

Daisie Langford: How close does intervention need to get? Needs to be at discretion

Tom Grant: summarised

Kat Rowland: Which is Asst Treasurers would be needed?

Tom Grant: Up to discretion of JCR Treasurer

Tom Grant: summed up motion

PASSED BY A GENERAL AYE

1. **Adjournment – 19:37**

Prepared by,

**Tom Grant**Thomas.grant@durham.ac.uk

Removal of House and Food Committee Motion

# Summary

House and Food committee are in the standing orders. These committees have not sat for over two years. JCR Committee meet twice a term and talk about everything that house and food committee would talk about. Therefore these committees should be removed from the standing orders now the Services Officer sits on JCR Committee.

# This JCR notes

* This committee has not met in the past two years
* Much of their responsibilities have now been moved to JCR Committee
* Services Officer now sits on JCR Committee

# This JCR believes

* Unnecessary to have in the standing orders

# This JCR resolves

* Remove from standing orders and merge any duties not moved to JCR Committee to JCR Committee

Proposed by: Sam Leather  
Seconded by: Alex Brown

**Appendix**

**Changes to JCR Committee**

4.4. JCR Committee

1. Be organised and convened at the discretion of the Vice President;

2. Be chaired by the Vice-President;

3. Have the power to research all matters affecting the JCR and have the power to co-opt in order to aid this point;

4. Be responsible for choosing Half Colours, in accordance with Section 14 of the Standing Orders;

5. Coordinate all matters concerning JCR Alumni;

6. Have published minutes of the meeting, which shall be the responsibility of the Secretary;

7. Select from its number a Careers Representative and a JCR Photographer;

**8.** **Discuss changes in living amenities in college**

**9. Review feedback received on house issues through all channels**

**10. Discuss changes in food arrangements in college**

**11. Review feedback received on food issues through all channels**

**12. Consist of:**

(a) The Vice President;

(b) The JCR Chair;

(c) The Secretary;

(d) The Outreach Officer;

**(e) The Services Officer**

(e) The Environment and Fairtrade Officer;

(f) Ten (10) elected members, including a JCR Photographer and a Careers Representative.

**Previous House and Food Committee in Standing Orders**

4.5. House Committee

The House Committee shall:

1. Exist to:

(a) Discuss changes in living amenities in college;

(b) Review feedback received on house issues through all channels.

2. Meet at least once a term;

3. Be chaired and minutes taken by the Services Officer;

4. Consist of:

(a) The Services Officer;

(b) Up to Four

(4) JCR representatives between the JCR and Steering Committee;

(c) Any other representative of the JCR at the discretion of the Services Officer;

(d) An MCR representative;

(e) An SCR representative;

(f) The Assistant Bursar;

(g) The Operations Manager; Page 23 of 27

(h) Any member of one of the Common Rooms with prior invitation from the Services Officer

4.6. Food Committee The Food Committee shall:

1. Exist to:

(a) Discuss changes in food arrangements in college;

(b) Review feedback received on food issues through all channels;

(c) To discuss Joint Formal meals.

2. Meet at least once a term;

3. Be chaired and minutes taken by the Services Officer;

4. Consist of:

(a) The Services Officer;

(b) Up to Four

(4) JCR representatives between the JCR and Steering Committee;

(c) Any other representative of the JCR at the discretion of the Services Officer;

(d) An MCR representative;

(e) An SCR representative;

(f) The Head Chef;

(g) The Food Service Manager;

(h) The Operations Manager;

(i) Any member of one of the Common Rooms with prior invitation from the Services Officer

Budget presentation motion

# Summary

The JCR has significant financial resources which it uses to carry out its role in enhancing the student experience of Trevelyanites. However, the status of the JCR finances is not widely publicised. Without information about the financial status of the JCR and its subdivisions, it is difficult for members to make informed choices about JCR policy.

Therefore, it is proposed to require the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers to present an annual budget report in a Michaelmas Term JCR meeting.

# This JCR Notes

* The average student has no idea of the annual turnover or reserves of the JCR, Clubs and Societies, Events or the Buttery
* The annual turnover is in the region of £150,000
* The JCR had a significant reserves surplus that was spent in the super projects
* Financial matters are overseen by FinComm and motions dealing with finances are approved there, but ultimate responsibility for all matters of the JCR lies upon the membership as a whole
* A similar exercise was recently undertaken by the previous Treasurer and provided useful information

# This JCR Believes

* It would improve transparency if JCR members were informed of the amount of money the organisation handles yearly
* Motions to the JCR with financial implications would be better handled if members had a better grasp on the underlying finances
* Super projects was a good way of spending the surplus accumulated but it would be preferable (especially under DSO regulations) that a surplus of the same nature is not accumulated in future

# This JCR Resolves

* To require all Treasurers to present a high-level yearly budget in Michaelmas term outlining at least the following key information as relevant:
  + Overall turnover breakdown
  + Comparisons with previous year on major income/outgoings
  + Profit/loss on events
  + Profit/loss in the Buttery
  + Any issues with club/society finances that may require intervention from the wider JCR
  + Any major one-off expenses or incomes
* To require all Treasurers to present their intentions for how any surplus or deficit should be managed

Note: it may be preferable that the JCR meeting this budget be presented at is the Freshers Week JCR meeting so that new students have maximum exposure to the information

Proposed by: Alex Brown

Seconded by: Jess Thew