JCR Meeting
to be held on 13th March 2016 at 6.30pm in the Bar

Agenda

1. **Meeting Called to Order**

18:45

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Rae Walker

Angus Paterson

Alex Durk

Guy Harland

Carole Saville

Jono Tiffany

Megha Mittal

Stella Alexandrova

Will Emery

1. **Minutes of the Last Meeting**

No queries / points to be raised

1. **Chair and Exec Reports**

Alex Tansey thanked people for filling in the accommodation fees questionnaire that was emailed round – now being taken up with the university. Meeting on Thursday in town re accommodation fees.

Sam Leather on washing machine – college have no control over these; looking to change things for next year as this year it is not going to happen

Meal ticket pricings going down for next year - £5 for lunch and dinner

Breakfast - £4.25, college look into other college pricings as they shouldn’t be different as it is a university decision not college

* + Budget presentation

FinComm budget – brief overview from current JCR Treasurer (Bridget Shepherd)

JCR Income minus activities:

University grant = minimum we need to function as a JCR to exist, but it would be rubbish

JCR dues are frozen, which is better to be kept consistent and is cheaper compared to other colleges and their policies

Clubs and societies and Buttery essentially run themselves but pay in and out of same pot

MCR pay a bit of things that they use – gone down in this budget because of cancellation of Sky

Gowns balances in and out – with each intake of freshers

Expenditure minus activities:

JCR dues pay for this – we get FinComm budget to support clubs and societies

Free newspapers in Undercroft

TV License, budget to run Freshers, free photocopier plus admin, licensing that has to be paid for bar music and buttery music etc

Damages budget – once the amount goes over a small threshold, JCR gets charged – plea to stop taking crockery out the dining room

Donations to charities

Gown balance out what they were before

EcoCommittee

Activities:

Events is the largest contributor but also mostly pay for themselves too. Small find to pay for events like bar night decorations etc

Gym – gym cards, pool table

Yearbook

Equipment hire

Formals – pay for themselves

Expenditure pie chart – events and formals; this year only the gym has a very large expenditure budget – extra £12000 to fit out the new gym – on top of the £8000 from Superprojects gets most of the way to setting up the new gym – within a year, a new gym with fully JCR owned equipment inside

Next year – that money will be reallocated to somewhere else.

Small tech budget to ensure working tech, any money from hires goes straight back into tech

Toby Johnson asked a question about surplus budget – Bridget provided the information that the surplus budget is £3195 – we need this for college to allow us to do things – superprojects came about from accumulation of all these surpluses – allows for a little bit of leeway

£152000 is the approximate working budget in general

Believed it was the JCR’s right to see this, anyone can ask any questions to see full spreadsheet at any point

Events – Alex Brown asked if events are making money: Bridget responded: Informal Ball made a few hundred pounds, Trevs Night not finally calculated but broke even so that money goes to smaller events pot for duck events etc – Events as a whole are just over break-even which is where events should be

Alex Brown also asked about returns: Response from Bridget - £25000 of reserves, university want us to have around £20 000 – that’s why we had superprojects so we had control and the university didn’t take it

Damages – incoming Treasurer (Daisie Langford) – pleas for port glasses to be returned

1. **Discussion Points**

Any Other Business (AOB)

**Yearbook** – there are no yearbook editors currently – if elected post Easter holidays in Easter term it is still possible for it to still be completed, although tight – Katie Harling-Challis and Ellie Scorah (as previous Yearbook editors) say it will be very hard to get done properly after Easter

Alex Brown asked what we will do as a JCR

Gabriel Beescroft asked what the role involved.

This was explained by the previous positon holders: Katie Harling Challis = explained that they struggled to get people to do it, but expects this year that the program will be better organised. It involves events, trevs, polls, profiles etc – and that the more people buying it the cheaper it will be

Toby Johnson – if it’s all done online then why is an editor needed?

Katie Harling-Challis – explained that you need people to contact college officers and societies etc to check admin etc, as well as offering her and Ellie Scorah’s help and advice and the provision of an electronic proof from last year to give anyone an idea of what was needed

Gabriel Beescroft offered to take on the position, Bridget offered to suspend the standing orders to appoint him in order for it to be done in time

Alex Brown says it’s a bad idea – problem is no one is willing to do it – does it need to be abandoned? Conversation needs to be had – no need to peer pressure people to do it right now

Lily Walwyn suggested an online vote similar to that which was held to see people’s reactions on SKY TV package to gauge people’s opinions on it

Tom Grant to put an online vote up

Paige Yates – suggested putting it to alumni officer – sabbatical role – discussed in exec meeting

Bridget – says its too soon for this year without consultation of Will but doable

Katie Harling-Challis explained that the committee is still important to ensure that people are still in contact with college

Adam Adam Jarvisis questioned how long the vote would take?

Alex Brown and Tom Grant would be able to get it completed before Wednesday

Alex Brown – assuming we want one still then Gabriel Beescroft and Toby Johnson can register interest, then make it happen

Online vote to occur to close on Wednesday; following this someone would be appointed in time if the JCR vote in favour

Gabriel Beescroft requested clarification on the online vote format

Tom Grant explained that the limit for ‘yes’ or ‘no’ depends on how many people will vote

Lily Walwyn brought up the issue of publicising the poll so the JCR were fully aware that it was occurring

Katie Harling-Challis and Ellie Scorah again offered to provide an explanation to anyone interested as well as the online proof

1. **Motions**
	* Eco-formal motion

Peter Buck – attended Eco-formal this term but disappointed in the representation of environmentally conscious themes

Explains that the motion wants to remove animal produce from the formal menu – worries about the environmental impact – wants Eco-formal to be a plant based diet – vegan – would only be one formal of the entire year – would be a positive thing – environmental and not ethically driven

Remove all animal products from menu

Lily Walwyn asked for clarity on the terms used in the motion regarding the monetary concessions and sanctions.

Peter Buck responded by explaining that his best option would be no animal based products at all, but if people don’t want to then they would have to pay more

Hannah Fisher asked for clarity of menu pricing system following this

Peter Buck’s response – altering prices for each of these options but that is the worst case scenario

Christina Feeney asked if Peter Buck had spoken to catering about this

Peter Buck’s response – surely wouldn’t be that difficult to change, as costs to run formal would drop significantly as meat and cheese are most expensive

Christina Feeney still confused, Sam Leather provided further clarity – down to JCR to organise costing, and Environment Rep and services to speak to catering to see if it would be more expensive – in relation to other formals it may be more expensive but ultimately it is up to the JCR

Daisie Langford was concerned about ‘sanction’ phrase – seems very strong and constitutes a moral judgement on behalf of the JCR

Peter Buck explained that he had meant it as a literal term

Adam Adam Jarvisis – proposed an amendment to change the word sanction to disincentive, seconded by Emily Vass, accepted by Peter Buck

Adam Adam Jarvisis – mixture of different menus – how would that be instigated re prices?

Peter Buck – sweeping change; no variation allowed

Sam Leather – not a feasible offer for a Services Officer to offer anyway (re Adam Adam Jarvisis’ question)

Ben Bauman – plant based formal – would this compromise the popularity of a formal?

Peter Buck responded by explaining that he believed it would not be a true environmental formal unless it makes more of an attempt to address the main current environmental issue. Suggested that it could be made an open formal so students from other colleges can apply, which would make Trevs be seen as leading the way as an example

Lydia Edwards – less popular formal means that the JCR will get fined

Peter Buck – make the food really nice as a novelty formal, planned ahead and made people interested in actually trying – meant to be a positive thing as nice food plus good environmental things

Bridget Shepherd – numbers need to drop to 240 people in a formal before £80 fine

Lucy Knight – is an environmental formal an annual event?

Peter Buck – it has been every year he has been in college

Lydia Edwards said that no, it wasn’t – Sam Leather responded to questions about the fullness of the formal, confirming that this year Eco-formal was full.

Alex Tansey suggested rebranding as a dinner such as musicians dinner to really cater for people who care about the issue

Peter Buck did not feel comfortable with leaving Trevs with Eco-formal in the state it is currently in

Freddie Riddell – option of removing meat to drop attendance but then will people go veggie? – we could still fill formal, also re novelty

Gabriel Beescroft – don’t know if it would impact popularity, as he believes people go more for banter than for the food – people would still go and the novelty is again a large pull factor

Sophie Cheal – idea of no meat, whole meal being carbohydrate based – affects healthy people who have a specific diet? High veggie content instead?

Peter Buck explained that he didn’t specify, and that the meal would be plant based

Hannah Fisher – have you spoken to the current and elected Environment reps?

Peter Buck - spoken to food guy on night, not spoken to Environment rep

Sam Leather proposed an amendment – to reverse motion if it fails and loses the JCR lots of money, to then change to a dinner etc and see what happens

Bridget Shepherd seconded

Accepted by Peter

**For: 32**

**Against: 5**

**Abstentions: 15**

Constitutional review

Aman Gupta proposing but not here – Emily Vass to speak for the motion: Steering meeting other day – made constitution match what currently stands; making FinComm report (Treasurer) annually, taking president off ButtComm, making JCR Treasurer on ButtComm as ex-officio

Bridget FinComm Constitutional Review – no longer need events reserves as all in one bank account now – change wording, £1000 now £2000 to fix gym, deleting line for extra profits for Boat Clubs insurance as that is now university funded, rewording of some phrases and made budget report mandatory

Adding International Rep to SocComm

James Rockliff – Technical events coordinator should be on SoccComm, not Technical Manager

Bridget Shepherd seconded

Emily Vass accepted

Adam Adam Jarvisis proposed an amendment to remove Staffing Officer from BuuttComm to insert Media Officer

Bridget Shepherd seconded

Emily Vass Accepted

Alex Brown amendment to leave President on Buttcom until proper Buttery Chair is elected

Christina Feeney seconded

Emily Vass accepted

Daisie Langford provided a Point Of Information – reasoning for JCR treasurer ex officio – prefers treasurer to be on it rather than president as makes more sense

Alex Brown – thinks someone is needed to head the committee as it won’t be him

Discussion for who will be on ButtComm

Adam Adam Jarvisis – removing President permanently from committee but exercise the Presidential right to be on any JCR committee, as this is an exceptional case

Christina Feeney pointed out that there is already a Buttery Treasurer, and she thinks that President is better suited to provide an overarching view of the whole system and committee rather than Treasurer

Tom Grant – President as exceptional circumstances

President still has ability to attend ButtComm meetings (as detailed in their rights as president) but is officially removed from the Committee

Paige Yates proposed an amendment to add Art and DUCK reps to SocComm

Adam Jarvis seconds

Emily Vass accepts

Paige Yates proposed an amendment to remove DSU rep from SocComm

Seconded by Lydia Edwards

Accepted by Emily Vass

Gabriel Beescroft – amendment – to propose Services officer be added to JCR Comm

Ben Bauman seconded

Emily Vass – accepted

Vanessa Bradbury proposed an amendment to add the Outreach officer to SocComm

Bridget Shepherd seconded

Emily Vass accepted

Adam Jarvis – why is Environment rep on JCRComm? Amend to take off JCRComm

Discussion:

JCRComm as helpful forum for them to input their ideas and get ideas of members of jcr that are there to represent the JCR – having Environment rep also provides an emvironmental point of view and response to the issues of JCR

Emily Vass noted its Tiered

Adam Jarvis retracted his amendment

Melissa Aldinger asked if International Rep was officially on JCR Comm.

Emily Vass was open to International Rep being added to JCRComm.

Tom Grant asked if International Rep was wanted to be added to JCRComm, which was questioned by Lydia Edwards as to why International Rep was required to be on JCRComm.

Melissa Aldinger explained that they provides a different perspective on college life

Emily Vass asked if Melissa had ever been to JCRComm as International Rep, to which Mel replied that she had never been invited.

Emily Vass explained that they could be as an ex oficio member – so on a mailing list.

Christina Feeney added that this was the same situation as Outreach Officer and Environment Rep e.g. Outreach Officer is on JCRComm so livers out are represented.

Toby Johnson questioned the size of the committee – how big is it meant to be n order to be representative?

Bethany Sellers added that using the rules applied to Outreach and Environment Rep, it would make sense to add Disabilities Rep as well.

Lucy Knight added that we had to be aware of what minorities were being represented, for nstance wy not LGBT+?

Alex Brown noted that JCRComm is operational level stuff rather than ideological things, also that under a new motion all Tier 1s and 2s all meet once a term

Christina Feeney pointed out that that motion had not actually been written and passed yet – Freddie Ridell still to do this

Alex Brown made the point that it was worth noting that this forum should happen, and we don’t need to add people on or own position to the JCRComm

Ben Bauman stated that a list of positions and people currently on JCRComm as well as those who have just been added should be available

Melissa Aldinger asked if the JCR Welfare Officer, or Assistant Welfare Officers were on JCRComm.

Emily Vass clarified who and what positions are on JCR Committee currently

Hannah Fisher further clarified that we had added services and kept Environment Rep

Lucy Knight pointed out that the ability to invite people required more publicity

Tom Grant noted that this was going to be worked with at JCR Executive Committee bonding on Exec agenda

Lucy Knight further stated that there is no need to fill up committees with lots of people

Adam Jarvis asked for clarification on the resolution about international rep being on JCR Comm – general consensus was a no

Ben Bauman pointed out that the time and place of JCRComm meetings needed to be better publicised to further awareness that the meetings were happening.

Alex Brown noted that JCR Comm have a role in half colours, and asked if it could be confirmed in the standing orders to ensure that the voting members of JCRComm for that were the elected members – and it needs to be made sure that this is known by all members

Adam Jarvis pointed out that people in those positions are on half colours - only 10 elected members, VP and Chair are on the half colours awarding panel. Amendment proposed to make only elected members plus VP and Chair responsible for awarding half colours

Mel seconded

Emily Vass accepts

VOTE; General aye – all done

1. **Adjournment**

19:52

Alex Tansey gave a thank you to current JCR Executive Committee and a good luck to next year’s JCR Executive Committee!

Prepared by,

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

**Constitutional Review**

**This JCR notes:**

* That the standing orders are vital to ensure that the JCR operates smoothly
* That other time, amendments must be made to keep the standing orders up to date

**This JCR Believes:**

* The standing orders should be updated to ensure that the JCR runs smoothly

**This JCR resolves:**

* To amend the standing orders to say the following:

8. JCR Finance

8.1 Expenditure

8.1.1 Any expenditure up to £100 may be authorised by the Treasurer and the President without prior consultation with the JCR;

8.1.2 Non-budgeted expenditure above £100 must be authorised by the JCR Finance Committee; above £350, the JCR must authorise it at a General meeting;

8.1.3   Grants from JCR income may be made to JCR clubs and societies;

8.1.4   Applications for grants shall be considered at JCR Finance Committee meetings;

8.1.5   All financial transactions of the JCR shall be carried out according to the DSO Framework and Appendices.

8.2 Accounts

8.2.1 A general statement of accounts shall be presented, If requested, at each general meeting of the JCR by the Treasurer;

8.2.2 If requested the Treasurer shall present the annual budget during a JCR meeting after College Council in Epiphany term;

8.2.3 End-of-year accounts shall be available for viewing by ant member of the JCR through consultation with the Treasurer;

8.2.4   The President and Treasurer shall review all JCR accounts termly.

8.3 Reserves Policy

8.3.1 Event Profits:

8.3.1.1 A fund of £1,000 should be allocated to cover smaller non-ticketed events throughout the year, such as Bar nights;

~~8.3.1.2   Any additional creates an emergency reserve capped at £3,000;~~

8.3.1.2 ~~Once the reserve is filled,~~ Any ~~additional~~ profits may be allocated into growing any event in size.

8.3.2 Buttery Profits:

8.3.2.1 A maintenance fund capped at £1,500 should be allocated to replace or repair assets where needed;

8.3.2.2 An emergency reserve shall be allocated and capped at £2,000;

8.3.2.3 Once these funds are filled, any additional profits will be put into Special Projects.

8.3.3 Gym Profits:

8.3.2.1 A maintenance fund capped at ~~£1,000~~ £2,000 should be allocated to replace or repair assets where needed;

~~8.3.2.2 Once this fund is filled, any additional profits will pay for the Boat Club’s insurance (expected at around £1,200);~~

8.3.2.2 Any further profits above this will be allocated to a fund to spend on one-off large investments in sport in the JCR.

 8.3.4 General JCR Reserve:

8.3.4.1 There will always be an emergency reserve fund allocated to the JCR for general purposes (e.g. risk mitigation, legal costs etc.), which will be capped at £20,000.

4.2. Social Committee

The Social Committee shall:

1. Discuss and assist in the organisation of JCR social events and their advertisement;

2. Have meetings to which the Social Chair may invite extra members at his/her discretion;

3. Assist at social events as required;

4. Discuss the JCR funding given to college events;

5. Convene meetings of the Committee as necessary as organised by the Social Chair, who shall chair all meetings;

6. Consist of:

(a) The Social Chair;

(b) The President;

(c) The Treasurer;

(d) The Durham Students’ Union Representative;

(e) The International Student’s Representative;

(f) The Technical Manager;

(g) The Music Representative;

(h) The Sabbatical Bar Steward;

(i) The MCR Social Secretary;

(j) The Assistant Social Chair;

(k) Six (6) elected members.

4.9. Buttery Committee

The Buttery Committee shall:

1. Be administered in accordance with Section 15 of the Standing Orders;

2. Consist of:

(a) The Buttery Chair;

(b) A Shop Manager;

(c) A Toastie Bar Manager;

(d) A Staffing Officer;

(e) A Buttery Treasurer;

(f) The Treasurer (ex officio)

~~(g) The President.~~

Proposed by: Aman Gupta

Seconded by: Emily Vass