



TREVELYAN COLLEGE JCR MINUTES

JCR Meeting 2022

06/11/2022 6:30pm in the Bar

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|------|
| Contents | p.1 |
| Present | p.1 |
| Individual Exec reports | p.1 |
| JCR Finances | p. 4 |
| DSU Rep Role | p. 5 |
| Motion: Welfare Awareness Comm | p.6 |
| Motion: Exchange students accommodation | p.6 |
| Suggestions and grievances | p.7 |

PRESENT

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mudit Tulsianey | Vice President |
| Clementina Vong | International Rep |
| Emma Rohe | Welfare Officer |
| George Little | Treasurer |
| Jim Lin | Social Chair |
| Roshni Vachhani | Publicity Officer |
| Sara Westerhuis | Buttery Chair |
| Thomas Hewitt | Chair |
| William Brown | SU Representative |
| Yusuf Alsari | Communities Representative |
| George Scholey | Bar Sabb |
| Akshita Singh | POC Rep |

| | |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| Aparna Sah | POC Rep |
| Angus Yip | Disabilities Rep |
| Dom Zizza | Assistant Welfare Officer |
| Lyn Leung | Music Rep |
| Kush Pandey | Assistant Treasurer |

Apologies:
Dorian Held **President**
Grace Moore **Services Officer**

HUSTS

TH: Welcome. We will not begin with husts for our unfilled Tier 2 positions. This is an opportunity to hear from our candidates and to ask any questions. We will start with Matthew, standing for Assistant Welfare Officer.
Matthew comes to the front and gives his hust.
The next hust is from Rosie, standing for Environment Officer.
Rosie was unfortunately unable to attend, sends apologies and sent a hust beforehand which was read by Thomas.
Next, we have husts for LGBT Rep which is contested. First up we have Alysia. Now, we have Willow.
Willow and Alysia came to the front and gave their husts.
Next we have a hust for Summer Ball Chair, Beatrice.
Beatrice was unfortunately unable to attend, sends apologies and sent a hust beforehand which was read by Thomas.
Next up we have, Lavendar, who is standing for Art Rep.
Lavendar comes to the front and gives their hust.
Our last hust is from Callum, standing for working class rep.
Callum comes to the front and gives his hust.

JCR Meeting

TH: Welcome to today's JCR meeting. For those who don't know, I'm Thomas and I'm the Chair, and as part of my role is to keep JCR exec accountable and ensure your views are heard which is why we have these meetings. Here is the agenda for today. Firstly, I am delighted to invite Kunle, our principal, to introduce himself, say a few words and a chance for you to then ask any questions.

AA: Good evening, thank you very much for your kind invitation. This is a fantastic opportunity to address you. I have been given 5 minutes to address you. I have a few mini brochures for you to read if you would like about what is happening and how to explore without limits. I joined just before covid, so when I accepted this role I didn't know covid was going to happen. For those of you here who were here about 2 years ago, we still had the household system, but now college is

in full swing. When I accepted, I had a lot of ideas for what we want to achieve. We have 6 areas, and one key area is from student support. We want to look at it both proactively and actively. We want to make sure we are prepared throughout the academic year, in terms of proactiveness for those who like dancing or those who like yoga and things like this. We are also looking at careers opportunity, reaching out to alumni to connect and we invite you to hear from them, learn from them and network. We really want to ensure inclusiveness within the college. Our goal as a college is to aspire and inspire you. I want you to really explore. We have a lot of funding, we want to advertise this so that you can apply for the right funding for you so we are running workshops on how to do this. Even though students are doing lots of exciting things, this isn't shared publicly. We have really improved our social media presence to improve everything if you are doing anything interesting blog it, share it with us, we want to help share these. If there are new initiatives you want to start, please do contact us! We operate an open-door policy, please ask us and approach us and we will work with what we can do. Our college and JCR relationship has improved significantly, we now work together and serve you better. Working together, we can be more sustainable and keep moving forward.

Q: Question is about support, what is college planning to do to support students?

A: Part of my role is to reach out to Alumni and ask for support. We are trying to create opportunities, if you are competing with other people you need to stand out. I know livers out are going to be impacted with the living crisis, so we are working on opening the bar daily to have tea and coffee through the day. We have the funding to give support. We don't want anyone to struggle, so please reach out if you need any support or if you know anyone struggling, please let them know they can reach out.

Q: Talks about making college a stem only college?

A: Absolutely not happening. My goal is to promote college diversity and inclusivity with all subjects and everyone.

Q: Talk about what we can do for the next generation, mitigate the impact for cost of living, but average prices is increasing. Can you give an overview for what college is doing to accommodate?

A: As you know college is relatively small, we are working with central to see what we can do.

We currently have 49 rooms for returners. Due to the large incoming number of students, it is going to have 1-2 years to even out. Ideally, would have more returners to help create a community. University is giving priority to first years in accommodation, so we don't get much say. I can't guarantee next year will happen as we are in a back log. But that is my aim.

As a college we are not perfect, is there is a way we can improve let us know. If there is anything you like, blog about it, put it on social media and let us know! We would love to help celebrate your success!

INDIVIDUAL EXEC REPORTS

MT: In recent times, my main focus has been stash. A lot of stash has arrived, so over the next week will be organised and start to be distributed. The next Trevs Talks is happening on Monday here at 6:15pm. There is also a careers talks organised for Tuesday at 7:30pm.

CV: We ran Diwali events a couple weeks ago, so the formal and all the activities after that like the henna and rangoli designs competitions, and we have had a Language café. If you are keen to get involved in language café, still looking for reps. Working with MCR to organise regular

Mahjong games night. Also, if anyone has food recommendations for the lunar new year formal, please let me know!

ER: I have been doing alcohol awareness week, and this week is SHAG week. There is the SHAG pub quiz today after this. POC reps have been doing book club and movie night

GL: Ive been preparing financial report, which will be discussed later on. Working with charity rep about charity formal and events, and music reps and LoTH exec for live on the hill.

GM: Diwali formal a few weeks ago was a great week. Charity formal prep is on the way with charity rep and charity committee. There was a catering meeting this week. Pencil in the Christmas formal for your calendar, 8th December, for a fantastic night

JL: Nothing important to report but Winter Ball is coming – 2nd December. Got a series of events in December, so keep an eye on jcr social media and jcr events. Credits to my assistant social chair, the Edinburgh trip will be in early december so keep your eyes peeled for that

RV: I have been working on keeping all our social media channels up to date, (facebook, Instagram, snapchat), the website, the tv in cobbles, posters around college. Also worked on the online housing campaign and finding area reps.

SW: Not much has happened. Hired a few new people, buttery is doing well, been doing a few events.

TH: I met steering earlier this week for the first time and had some great discussions, preparing for todays meetings, and votes.

WB: Assembly elections where I stood to retake my seat to continue to represent Trevs which I won! Highest turn out, *and then proceeds to give the stats for his elections*. On Thursday, had a meeting with assembly where voted on 3 motions.

Will drops his drink

YA: I have the housing campaign which was a month ago, there was a plan to have a second one which isn't going to happen anymore as enough people showed up to the first one. Will be doing a drop in for a few hours, so come along if you have any questions. Working with charities rep for the charity formal.

GS: Keeping bar safe and drinking responsibility. Have a lot of events and special drinks this week, SHAG quiz drink, breast cancer awareness bar night. Hired a few new people, please be kind to them, they are learning.

Discussion Point 1 – JCR Finances

GL: Just want to share what is currently going on with the finances.

In 2020 we got a sabbatical president, someone who is employed full time to manage the JCR.

This exists in pretty much every college. We are quite a small college, so quite a small JCR.

Here is a very conservative budget. We are not losing that much. It sounds pretty bad but we started the year with 40,000. We have set aside around 13,000 of this for societies, which should be good. The minimum reserve is 20,000, if we go under this, the university will take some drastic action and we don't want that to happen.

Financially, in isolation of this year, we started off very well. We have managed to gain a lot of new members and have a very active community. This year, the finances are being monitored very carefully.

I am currently drawing up plans for next year. When I have a more concrete plan, I will let the JCR know. Obviously there will be changes, but don't worry.

My priorities are ensuring the stability of clubs and societies, so things like finncomm budgets remain as stable as much possible.

Second point, keeping Trevs affordable. We want to keep it as inclusive as everyone. I don't want to put financial troubles on anyone.

Just trying to say basically don't panic too much, this is what is happening and just want to keep you all informed

Q: What is the worst case scenario if we go under 20k?

A: A bit of grey area, absolute worst case scenario, they shut down lots of JCR activities. This is definitely a few years away, so got a bit of time.

Q: Is the 20K for all colleges?

A: Not 100% sure but I think the 20K is same for everyone. But again, hopefully we will be fine

Q: So the 13k for societies, is it taken into account?

A: Yeah, we want to make sure that 13k is for societies to keep them running. Avoid touching them, but yes, this is part of the 40k we started with.

Q: I want to ask for an event point of view, it is getting difficult to work with budget. We might have to rise ticket prices for quality events?

A: Things like that can be discussed. We want to make sure we balance between price and quality.

Q: So do we pay for the JCR salary?

A: Yeah, we do hence why it has been quite rough patch the last few years. There is no way we can continue growing the rate we do, with all the things we do as a JCR like all the events and support and opportunities, with a non sabb president.

Discussion point – DSU Rep Reform

WB: I am the DSU Rep. That position has vastly changed over the past years, the DSU did a reform of how assembly works. Took away college DSU reps representing assembly, and now elect yourself in DSU Assembly. I am currently in both. However it means, while I would love this, I have an assembly job but no exec duties. So need to discuss this, given it has diminished its duties, we could look into diminishing the role into tier 2 or take on more roles and duties within tier 1, or attempt to fight to keep college dsu rep to have a place in dsu, or remain as is and do nothing.

Q: Why do we have to wait until next year to diminish you?

A: I suppose the motivation to wait is because me. The college position and assembly position are occupied by the same person, so I can continue to do the same thing I currently do. If you don't like me continuing on, I sincerely apologise.

Q: Why can't we make it a policy, that whoever is elected in SU and make them the JCR rep.

A: I thought about that, but the SU didn't think they would be occupied by the same person.

Q: Is this done for colleges or SU benefit?

A: Not entirely sure what the benefit this has on colleges is.

Q: Why not just declare war on the SU?

A: We are not strong enough. As much as I would love a battle, not going to win.

Q: If you are a Tier 2, who would you be under?

A: It would be under president. The person I talk to about the most in my role at the moment is the president, so makes sense.

Vote online through an online website that William found

TH: This is quite an important thing. I will keep you informed, which is quite an important part of my role as Chair. You guys as the JCR should make a decision about how you want to be represented.

Motion 1 – Welfare Awareness Committee

ER: Hi, would like to rename welfare awareness committee to welfare campaign committee to better reflect the aim of the committee and to avoid any confusion about what it is we do.

Q: Were there any other names considered?

A: Welfare Events committee but didn't want to confuse with the events committee.

Gavel was banged

TH: The motion has overwhelmingly passed

Motion 2 – Exchange Students Housing Crisis

Motion 2 – This is basically about an open letter drafted by Durham Erasmus Students' Network to the university demanding the reservation of on campus college accommodation for Erasmus students. This is quite a serious, tough situation, as students are living as far as Gilesgate and Newcastle. The motion is asking us to reserve accommodation for exchange students, and sign the open letter.

P: When I went to the ISA ball a few weeks ago to work the event, I talked to a lot of students, particularly Erasmus students. It seems as though Newcastle was a very popular place for them to live because of the lack of options in Durham. Two of them even mentioned that they lived in a tent for several days before finding a place to live.

Q: When do exchange students find out they are coming to Durham?

A: Not 100% sure, but for housing they are told a few months before. So around the same time as incoming 1st years, which is well after most housing options in Durham have gone.

P: I would like to make a point as an ex year abroad student, and trying to find accommodation and applying. Fortunately, I had friends I could reach out to but that is not the case for everyone. Durham is not doing enough, particularly not securing accommodation for these students. It is not the same experience as the rest of us, they are only here for a year, but because of the lack of Durham accommodations they don't really get the college experience if not really here. Don't have the support that they need.

Q: Is this scheme practical? We heard Kunle earlier there are 49 students returners, do we have enough space?

A: I think the approx. number is 20 Erasmus students in Trevs. They weren't all given accommodation. I spoke to one who only found out 2 months ago about Durham, so currently living in Gilesgate and so can't really engage with the college experience.

Gavel was banged

TH: The motion has overwhelmingly passed

Suggestions, Grievances and Questions to the exec

Q: Light has not been fixed, if anything it has gotten worse.

A: Thanks for that comment, will bring that up with Dorian to bring to college in their next meeting.

Q: College parenting scheme, what is happening with that?

A: College parenting scheme is something that we are looking at reviving, this is something that Dorian is currently working on. This was abandoned over covid, and so is something Dorian is currently working on. He will be able to share more in the next JCR Meeting

Q: Why is there no hand held towel in the ladies bar toilets like almost ever?

A: Thanks for that comment, will bring that up with Dorian to bring to college in their next meeting.