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**TREVELYAN COLLEGE JCR MINUTES**

JCR Executive Committee Meeting 2023

07/12/23 18:30

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**PRESENT**

George Little **President**

Thomas Hewitt **Vice President**

Hugo Fung **International Rep**

Alysia Orbell **Welfare Officer**

Matthew Hall **Welfare Officer**

Kush Pandey **Treasurer**

Patricia Moreno-González **Social Chair**

Tennyson Godsell **Publicity Officer**

Isaac Chan  **Clubs & Societies Officer**

James Taylor **Buttery Chair**

Akshita Singh **Chair**

**Apologies**:

Samawiya Asim **Services Officer**

George Scholey **Bar Sabb**

**INDIVIDUAL REPORTS**

AO: Welfaremas is happening. We’ve had various events. Planning ahead for next term.

JT: Buttery happening. Got an all-night Hatfield event coming up. Christmas toasties have been very successful.

TG: Main focus has been on promoting Winter Ball & Edinburgh Trip, and am now working on a ‘Save the Date’ post for next term as requested by Martin. Am I OK to release the dates for Charity Ball and Trevs Night?

GL: Yep, that’s fine.

PMG: Winter Ball happened. Got fairly good feedback and ended up turning a profit which is great. Will start looking at Trevs Night over the holidays.

I’m starting to look at Internatonial Unplugged next term and am hoping to get a bigger audience for it, so I’ll be focusing a lot on promotions. I’m not 100% sure who I should be collaborating with for this?

AS: Probably the Music Reps.

HF: I’ll try to organise a meeting with them. The event will be taking place some time in January.

IC: Chairty Ball is now confirmed and Janice is aware of everything. We’ve been discussing our publicity strateg, have set a target of 100 sign-ups and have started to put posters up. Been in talks with previous photographer for the clubs & societies photographs but waiting to confirm details.

KP: Finances are good. The last TCUP for the forsseable future closed yesterday. Winter Ball was very successful, as was Edinburgh Trip.

TH: Exec stash has been ordered and will arrive over the holidays.

AS: Struggling for quorum with the JCR meeting. TG and I have been discussing elections and promotions for next term.

GL: Wrapping up for the end of term. Various events and formals, all went quite well. In terms of wider uni issues, I’ve had some meetings about changes to catering this year, which seemed productive. The cost of food had gone up loads so the changes are to try and mitigate the overall cost of life for students. We discussed bringing back the pastries for breakfast, the sandwich bar and desserts but not all of these are feasible – it’s largely staffing costs – but we’re looking at various ways we could bring some of these back in some form or another. Another big topic has been the changes to housekeeping next year. Essentially, the university has decided to stop cleaning people’s rooms or provide any cleaning equipment. They will be cleaning communal areas. Rooms will still be inspected every two weeks.

**ELECTION PROMOTIONS (Publicity Officer & Chair)**

TG: So AS and I have been discussing and planning out promotions for next term’s elections with the new scheduling in hopes of resolving our issues with engagement. One main obstacle we’re focusing on is the wider JCR – especially freshers - not understanding how elections and the tier system works, and that anyone can run for any position.

AS: In terms of preliminary timings, nominations for Tier 1 elections will open on January 19th for a week. On January 28th we’ll hold a JCR Meeting with Tier 1 husts. Voting will open for a from January 29th and we’ll have our candidate by February 5th.

For Tier 2 elections, nominations will open around February 9th, with a JCR meeting and Tier 2 husts on February 18th. Voting will then be open from 19th February for a week, so we’ll have Tier 2s elected by February 25th.

MH: Is there a provisional plan if half the exec are missing?

AS: We’ll merge any unfilled Tier 1 positions with the Tier 2 election. Our priority is to fill all Tier 1s and a majority of Tier 2s. The Ball Chair election will take place in Summer Term, and any unfilled positions can also be open for election then.

TG: To try and boost engagement, we’d really like to make an effort to humanize the JCR and boost people’s understanding of us and our roles so they’re more likely to engage with elections. Our current plan is to make small infographics for Instagram and Facebook including:

* A brief introduction of yourself and your role
* A few bullet points of your main responsibilities
* A rough idea of how much time your role takes/busiest times of year
* Highlights of your term as a member of the exec

I’ll put this on Slack, and if everyone could send me their answers before next term starts, that would be great!

AS: We also discussed making more personal content, such as short TikToks/reels/etc. to try and encourage people to stand for these roles. Taking inspiration from TH and the success of the JCR Feedback table in the Cobbles, we’ll have offline promotions in the Cobbles and be running a Q&A desk. Hopefully we can have around 3 people manning it every other day. It’s always helpful to have a one-on-one interaction with people. This would be happening during the nomination period.

TH: What about voting promotions?

AS: Voting promotions will be done by Steering Committee. This will be done on w/c 15th January around dinner time. Once voting opens up, we’ll have online promotions and posters, but short in-person videos would be great. Steering will also have a scan to vote sign in the Cobbles. I will try to talk to all the Tier 1 and 2 candidates and encourage them to promote their roles and elections in person and try to generate a buzz.

TG: Does anyone have any other ideas or feedback on what we’ve planned so far?

TH: Regarding the promotions in the Cobbles, our target audience is generally older years for Tier 1 positions, and the majority of them live out.

AS: We do have online ones on Instagram, TikTok and Facebook happening as well, as we can’t really have any in person promotions outside of college. Also, freshers do often run for positions, and it’s always good to boost understanding and engagement with them.

GL: It definitely does’t hurt. We could also use this boost interest in Tier 2 positions.

KP: Will you do the the same types of promotions for Tier 2 elections?

AS: Yes, we’ll do the same for Tier 2s. In the exec meeting before nominations, I’ll remind you guys to promote them. Do we think this seems feasible?

GL: If we as a JCR and Exec get excited about elections, hopefully it will spread.

AS: As an exec, it’s good to talk to people. If you have any other ideas, feel free to message TG or myself.

**JOINT SUMMER BALL WITH HILD BEDE (President)**

GL: This is very hypothetical, but I thought I’d gage opinions. Hild Bede have been struggling with events and often do them internally. We had a meeting about potentially doing a joint Summer Ball. Over the last couple of Summer Balls, we’ve lost quite a lot of money, and we’ve struggled to get as much engagement as we’d like. Do people think having a bigger-scale event would help get numbers up?

IC: So the numbers increase, but the size of venue stays the same?

TH: What sort of numbers are we looking at?

GL: If we go with Hardwick Hall, they can have 1300 for ENTS and 800 for catering.

KP: How would the finances work?

GL: In terms of initial bookings, it would be probably come under Trevs name. Obviously we want to do wants in our best interest.

PMG: It could make for a great atmosphere.

GL: It would mean increased queues.

PMG: We could probably afford more ENTs to balance this issue.

JT: It logically makes sense for us to do it, but the whole thing with Summer Ball is that its *Trevs* Summer Ball. But then again, the event does have the biggest pull of any we throw.

AS: My main concern would be that Hardwick Hall was chaotic enough with just Trevs.

GL: We’d have to limit the number of tickets, which isn’t ideal, but gives us more safety.

PMG: Exclusivity generally generates more buzz around an event.

GL: Yeah, its part of why Live on the Hill was so popular.

KP; How would we split the profit?

GL: Either 50/50 or proportionally based on tickets, in which case Hild Bede would most likely take more as a larger college. What do we think the Trevs community would make of it?

PMG: There’s not much of a connection between Hild Bede and Trevs.

AS: It would be good to promote inter-collegiate relations.

TH: I just worry it would be swarmed by Hild Bede as a larger college.

GL: We’d hopefully get an even number of tickets.

JT: We’d definitely need to do that. It could start a really good trend for future years, and even if it doesn’t work, it’s not the end of the world.

PMG: I think it would be good.

AS: From a legal perspective, you’d definitely need to ouline all the potential circumstances and contingencies ahead of time.

GL: Definitely. So it sounds like we’re largely positive on this?

TH: How many tickets would we need to sell to make a profit?

GL: It’s hard to say, as a big factor as to how much profit we make is how many people pay extra and sign up for the catered meal (an extra £30 per person last year). We’d probably be looking at having around 700 tickets to sell to Trevs students.

PMG: How would this impact ticket prices?

GL: It’s unlikely to be lower, but hopefully won’t be too much higher either.

TH: What are the sizes of other college balls?

GL: A lot of the larger colleges have a similar capacity and have great events.

MH: Considering the feedback at the last JCR meeting about wanting larger scale events, this seems like a natural solution.

AS: Should we have it as a discussion point in the next JCR meeting?

GL: I don’t think we’d have enough time. I’ll check with the Ball Chair.

JT: Financially it seems to make total sense, there seems to be a much higher chance of profit.

GL: Do you think its worth consulting the wider JCR about it?

AS: Definitely, potentially as an email.

GL: I don’t know if an email would be very engaging.

MH: If you just email it as a proposition and ask for people to send their feedback or opinions.

AS: Not consulting wouldn’t breach the constitution, but transparency is important.

TH: What’s the disadvantage of consulting people? Its quite a brave and controversial move, so we’d need support and honest opinions.

GL: Could we hold something in person?

MH: You won’t get the numbers. It’s exam and re-sit period for some subjects.

AS: I’d just go ahead with it and include it as a discussion point to garner opinion from the wider student body.

PMG: We could informally ask people we know to gage opinion.

AS: If we word it right, I don’t think people would be opposed to it.

PMG: What are Hild Bede’s stance on this?

GL: They also need to discuss it, but their President is very interested.

AS: So GL, you’ll need to talk to our Ball Chair, and then Hild Bede, then maybe draft an email and check with Janice and Martin.

**END OF TERM REVIEW (President)**

GL: This is just a space for general reflections on how this term went.

AS: Maybe we should go round and reflect on what went well this term and what we could improve upon? And maybe any plans for next term?

TH: JCR Committee has gone really well and the new model has been very successful, there’s definitely a renewed sense of purpose. Formal rule changes have been on the whole positive. Trevs Talks still has relatively low engagement but higher than in past years – main difficulty has been recruiting speakers. My main focus for next term will be the JCR Feedback & Satisfaction Report.

GL: Freshers Week went well on the whole. We’ve struggled with engagement but it seems to be improving. I think generally communication could be improved from my end – I’m going to try and start meeting more regularly with you all individually. The parenting scheme is up and running, I’ve been trying to contact parents to see how its going – it has been a bit of a mixed bag in terms of engagement.

KP: Finance is strong. We saved a lot during Freshers Week. Winter Ball and Edinburgh Trip profit was great. Next term, we’ll be making a lot of cuts to the various budgets, as its unnecessary to give so much money when a large portion of it isn’t used. GL and I talked about completely revamping the budget system, so I will focus on enacting that next term.

IC: I think I’m most proud of getting the Tier 2s working well together and with us as an exec. As an improvement, I need to start focusing on clubs and societies more. A lot of our plans are more long-term, but it would be great to start mending the relationship between the JCR and sports societies.

HF: The people who attend the international activities have really enjoyed them but we don’t get loads of engagement. For next term, I think I’d like to focus more on publicity and potentially speak to TG about boosting promotions.

PMG: I’m quite happy with how Winter Ball went, and it was much easier than Trevs Day. I really enjoyed planning events for this term. I need to work on getting documents sorted ahead of time.

TG: It’s been a mixed bag from a publicity perspective. Freshers don’t seem to be engage with promotions like they have in previous years, so I’ve tried looking into more innovative ways of promoting events. The physical timetable on the noticeboard in the Cobbles will hopefully start boosting engagement even further, but we’ll see how people respond to that. Looking forward to next term, I’ve been speaking with GL and TH about developing a framework for promoting events, scheduling when certain information should be releaed, as it was quite hectic for Winter Ball. Hopefully this will help publicity run more smoothly in the years to come.

JT: This term, sales have been on a record high which is amazing.

AS: The freshers love the Buttery.

JT: Events have been going really well. My main concern is wages once the minimum wage changes come into effect next term.

AO: There’s been a lot of campaigns and Welfare Campaigns Committee have been amazing. Engagement has been a mixed bag.

MH: We need to look over what events and campaigns have worked and tailor future plans accordingly.

GL: How has drop-in engagement been compared to previous years?

AO: Since our post explaining them, we’ve had a bit of an increase in engagement.

TH: What about the role of the Livers Out Rep?

AO: They mentioned throwing a pizza night for livers out next term.

AS: At the start of the year, the admin work was very stressful. JCR meeting engagement has been improved, and freshers have felt comfortable enough to ask questions which was great. Managing to get almost every position in the JCR filled was great. My focus now is on promoting elections and generating a buzz. We’ve not had any resignations yet which has been great (\*touch wood\*). Working with you guys as an exec has been amazing too.

**AOB**

GL: Please have a good rest over Christmas. Handover will come quickly next term so think about editing or making your handover notes before tbe summatives start coming in.