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**TREVELYAN COLLEGE JCR MINUTES**

JCR and MCR Joint Executive Committee Meeting

30/04/2025 18:15

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**PRESENT**

**JCR Executive Committee:**

James Koo **President**

Bex Smith **Vice President**

- **Treasurer**

Isabelle Smith **Welfare Officer**

- **Social Chair**

Sarah Margerison **Publicity Officer**

- **Clubs & Societies Officer**

Livia Zuercher **Buttery Chair**

Dan Wattis **Technical Manager**

Sam McMahon **Sabbatical** **Bar Steward**

Andrew Hamilton **JCR Chair**

**Apologies:**

Helena O’Neil **Welfare Officer**

**MCR Executive Committee:**

Dan Scobbiee **President**

Luke Bowd-Griffin **Treasurer**

Sid Geilenkotten **Welfare Representative**

Marcel Grabowski **Social Secretary**

Max Goodwin **Services Representative**

Katie Vishwanath **Music Representative**

Michelle Ortiz **International Officer**

George Scholey **MCR Chair**

**Apologies:**

Alysia Orbell **Vice President**

Alex Mugleston **Secretary**

**DISCUSSION POINT 1: Mutual Understanding Agreement**

*Proposed by: Andrew Hamilton*

**Review of the Mutual Understanding Agreement between the JCR and MCR.**

**AH:** I have been doing a review of documents on the JCR and found some elements of the Mutual Understanding Agreement to be outdated from a procedural standpoint. I have some notes. The first point relates to point 3 of the Agreement (‘The JCR agrees that it will provide a subscription to a newspaper over the vacation periods, forthe use of postgraduates and any other person resident in College. … the full cost of these newspapers will be paid by the MCR’). To my knowledge, this no longer exists.

**DS:** That hasn’t happened for quite some time, for years.

**DW:** Do either **DS** or GS remember this?

**DS**: There used to be newspapers in my first year, but I never knew where they came from.

**AH**: Can we just remove that clause?

**GS** and **DS**: Yes. That is fair.

**AH**: All in agreement. Next point.

**JK:** The Senior DSU Rep?

**AH**: What point is that?

**JK:** 9 (‘It is recognised that the Senior DSU Rep is a position that represents students in both Common Rooms. For this, the JCR will run an election as normal, with a supplementary ballot for the MCR. The Senior DSU Rep will sit on both JCR and MCR Executive Committees in accordance with the Standing Orders of each Common Room’).

**AH:** Obviously, from the JCR, the Senior **DS**U Rep is suspended until further notice from the SU. Effectively taken out of standing orders this year. What is our viewpoint on potentially removing from the Agreement? To simplify it.

**GS:** It’s irrelevant at the moment with the DSU Rep not being a thing so we can just get rid of it.

**DS:** What’s the case with the DSU Rep, sorry? For my ignorance. Is it that we just don’t have one or is it that we’ve removed it?

**AH**: The SU no longer has, in my limited knowledge, no longer has representatives from common rooms.

**DW:** Two years ago, the SU decided that the college representatives were not going to be elected by JCRs as they had been for many years. Decided to have the SU run these elections. In the light of that, most colleges have gotten rid of their DSU Reps because they are elected by the SU. We basically just got rid of them and this Agreement does not reflect that.

**DS:** Fair, reckon we can get rid of this then.

**AH:** Something else, correct me if I’m wrong about the ballot in point 8 (‘It is recognised that the Sabbatical Bar Steward is a College position. For this, the JCR will run an election as normal, with a supplementary ballot for the MCR. The Sabbatical Bar Steward will sit on both JCR and MCR Executive Committees in accordance with the Standing Orders of each Common Room’). Does that still happen or is it just done through or university now?

**GS and DS:** It’s just appointed now.

**AH:** Can we remove that as well?

**GS:** Yes, just remove it and put it on both that it is an ex-officio role.

**JK**: Is it ex-officio for you as well?

**GS:** Yes. Put it on for both and that sorts that out.

**AH:** Appendix section. Questions on pool society motion about resurfacing and income from the pool table. How is income and expenditure split? Making sure it is up-to date.

**GS:** Everything that is gained from the pool table goes to the JCR and then towards resurfacing. We don’t need to split that cost.

**AH:** Do we need to update the appendix…? Stuff abouts newspapers and magazines that we don’t really do anymore.

**DS:** I think we can scratch newspapers and magazines; from any point it is mentioned.

**AH:** I think that’s it updated.

**JK:** I just want to raise three quick-fire points with you guys. The first, at our last meeting we unofficially agreed that any JCR events that don’t have enough JCR exec members to work, MCR exec members would work. Do you guys want to add that as a clause to the MCR memorandum, so it extends beyond us?

**DS:** I think things like that, it would be beneficial to have that done by default.

**JK:** Do you want to also add these joint exec meetings to that as well? Or is it fine as is?

**DS:** I think it’s probably fine for execs in subsequent years to do what they decide works best at the time. I don’t think that has to be too formal.

**JK:** Sure. And then, what is the line between being a JCR year 4 member and a MCR member?

**GS:** Currently, in our standing orders, it is a case of all undergrads in the fourth year of their course, whether it be a year-out or integrated masters, and I believe it extends to those who have retaken year, are automatically an associate member of the MCR. This means they can join in MCR events, but they are not a full member, do not pay dues, and thus cannot vote on any motions apart from the motions we are looking at putting through which would allow them to vote on things that would impact them.

**JK:** You also have the option for them to relinquish JCR membership and buy the MCR levy?

**GS:** Yes, I believe that’s also a point written somewhere in this document….

**DS:** Point 4 – ‘Full MCR members shall not be members of the JCR, except as the JCR decides, and so shall not have the right to attend JCR meetings, to vote in elections or to stand for positions, except as detailed in clause 6’.

**GS:** But can relinquish their MCR membership and pay JCR, I believe it says that.

**DS:** Points 4 and 6 [in the agreement] cover this.

**JK:** Going from MCR to JCR…

**GS:** This works the other way round as well.

**AH:** Do you have any knowledge of that ever happening?

**JK:** I don’t think so.

**DS:** Has what happened recently?

**AH:** MCR member wanting to be a JCR member.

**DS:** No.

**GS:** Moreso happened the other way around.

**JK:** This is more for us to clarify our own documents and etc.

**GS:** I can send you a copy of the standing orders.

**Note for AH: to look at this for the constitutional review.**

**JK:** That’s all from me.

**GS:** Any other points on that document?

**DS:** I saw something, the bit about the funding. The first one – ‘The MCR shall be recognised as a body independent of the JCR. It must therefore receive the University Block Grant for postgraduates’. I think, the way I’ve read this, is that in the past the money has come to the JCR and then they have divvied it out.

**JK:** Is that the comp fee?

**DS:** Yes, that’s how I’m reading that. We know just receive directly from the university. The JCR gets some money, we get some money. In the past it all went to the JCR, and they give it back to the MCR.

**AH:** Clarity: do the JCR and MCR now get separate payments?

**DS and GS:** Yes.

**DS:** I think anything that’s about redistributing grants from the university is not relevant. Such as in the appendix, income university block grand, can be gotten rid of. The second sentence of point one is also not relevant.

**JK:** Agree with that.

**GS:** So just remove the, ‘It must therefore receive the University Block Grant for postgraduates’.

**DS:** Yes, that’s not really an agreement between us. It’s just something that happens.

**JK:** The little point, ‘No variation shall be made on the terms of this document, nor shall its wording be changed without the agreement of the JCR, MCR and College Council’. Are we going to have to take this to college?

**DS:** We’ll at least need to take this to college and ask if they need to approve.

**GS:** I assume we just give them an updated Agreement and then they could approve it.

**DS:** I know that the college council doesn’t exist. Could be even more vague and ask what we do with regard to college.

**DW**: Is that head of sections or the SCR?

**DS:** Unsure.

**GS:** I think it used to be the President, Vice President, Assistant President, Ops. Manager and the Bursar. I think that used to be the college council.

**AH:** What happened to the college council?

**GS:** It was disbanded.

**JK:** The bursar doesn’t exist anymore. It [the council] only exists if we are independent I think, and we are DSO now, so it doesn’t matter.

**GS:** Either way, it doesn’t exist anymore.

**JK:** Pick representatives from both common rooms to draft the document and go to college? Both chairs decided.

**DW:** I want to contribute to this discussion that the Formals Officer has suggested that given formals are technically joint formals, is it worth giving the MCR chance to work at the joint formals?

**DS:** This has been mentioned to me. I think it is a reasonable idea and should be looked at.

**JK:** This lumps in with the working events discussion.

**DS:** There is a joint formal agreement that needs some work anyway, so this can be discussed in that. I would maybe suggest adding to the agreement, that is not mentioned anywhere in it at present, is the gym. There should be some formal, in writing, agreement about what happens with the gym membership fee and use and stuff. The current arrangement is that if an MCR member has paid their levy, they have access to the JCR gym membership price. That currently is confusing for new people because the ecommerce page does not acknowledge the existence of the MCR in any way.

**DW:** Is it worth just updating the ecommerce page to acknowledge this?

**DS:** If both MCR and JCR are happy with this arrangement, then I think this is all that’s needed. I know you operate it…

**JK:** Change that needs to be made for freshers week. In recent times, college have taken over some control of the gym and its income, it goes through them. Part of ‘optional college payments’, which college put through ecommerce for us. Would be a case of either the MCR at the time approaches or I put in my handover notes to remember to change it to include the MCR.

**DS:** That would be good. Can we not just do that now?

**JK:** As in like the ecommerce page?

**DS:** Yes?

*Discussion about optional payments spreadsheet.*

**AH:** Is the issue here that postgraduates are usually already settled in before freshers week?

**GS:** I think the point is that the page says, “JCR members and non-JCR members”.

**JK:** It would just be a case of asking this to be done when these things are submitted in August and making the change.

**DS:** Nice. And another thing that may be worth putting in in regard to shared costs, the stuff about the honours board for MCR President. In the last years, the MCR gets billed for this. This is fair enough but hasn’t happened in a few years. Something that we should be invoiced for going forward.

*Discussions about boards, installation and costs.*

**AH:** Raise another question about clarity around the Joint Formal Agreement. As far as I am aware, we used to approve it in the first JCR meeting but that was changed because of the way the JCR now doesn’t have as much say?

**DW:** The Joint Formals Agreement will be rewritten by the Formals Officer so leave that for them.

**AH:** I was wondering what is the process of the JCR and MCR approving that?

**GS:** It is a case of a full meeting and going through any changes with all three common rooms separately and then it goes through.

**DW:** College Principal needs to be made aware before it goes to the SCR.

**GS:** The point is is that the JCR Formals Officer will go through with any changes, so just leave that for now.

*Discussions about how this will be raised, as per memorandums and standing orders.*

**DW:** Does Trevs Day need talking about? In terms of making sure the MCR is aware of Trevs Day.

**JK:** I am organising in the current absence of a Social Chair. 18th June. In the process of planning.

**LBG:** Do we split costs on Trevs Day?

**JK:** Not historically. You can make a contribution.

**DS:** Have made contributions in the past.

*Discussions on non-ticketed events.*

**AH:** Can we make this clear in the appendix?

**DW:** Maybe have a list of examples.

**LBG:** There are only like five events we split costs on.

**AH:** May be worth noting down those events for future execs?

**GS:** Better to just have it as non-ticketed and ticketed.

**AH:** Only says non-ticketed in the Agreement.

**LBG:** Mentions ticketed somewhere else.

**AH:** What is the IT box?

**DS:** Get rid of this, sounds like a relic of something past.

**AH:** Questions on damage chargers.

DS: If there’s damage, it by defaults gets charged to the JCR.

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**LBG:** Will I get contacted soon about Summer Ball contribution?

**JK:** Still finalising.

**LBG:** Will there be another meeting?

**JK:** Probably a good idea. Questions about MCR roles and when they finish. Nice to meet with new MCR President and Treasurer maybe.