

Keble College JCR General Meeting,
Sunday 4th Week TT13



Officer's reports

President:

- Secretary elections open this week
- Big thanks for everything that's been done so far in this presidency
- Fill in rent survey – closing tomorrow (Monday)

Vice President:

- Bar committee and domestic bursar are wondering how the bar could be personalised
- Competition for a name and pub sign – email will come soon. Prize for best designs (champagne).
- Artist will professionally execute

Treasurer:

- New Keble at Large budget. They are the new access society. Have events in schools in Birmingham and school visits to college.

Academic affairs:

- Keble at Large meeting went really well and have a new budget.
- Careers appointments went well

Environment & Ethics – no report

Welfare:

- Stolen condoms. This is theft – they cost money.
- Some have been pigged to people with notes, which is unacceptable, but no complaints yet.
- Please tell of any details you know and give the condoms back.
- If there are any complaints about the notes the deans will likely get involved. Just put them back in the sports cupboard.
- Next Saturday (Saturday 4th Week) is the welfare fate. Lots of fun stuff. Bar tokens etc. 1-5 next Saturday

Arts & Pubs – no report

Entz – no report

Ousu – no report

Equal ops - no report

Charities:

- Thanks for the open mic attendance

Accommodation:

- Freshers' ballot now on Thursday, sorry for moved date.
- Get proxies in by Wednesday.

Hustings

President

Alex Connolly:

Always wanted to apply. Has been secretary – knows how JCR works, committee, constitution etc. Worked closely with James, seen how he's done it, time management, effectiveness etc.

Policies – James and Sam have set up website. Look to continue that and expand – make that the virtual hub to complement the physical one we're sat in now. At almost every meeting something is brought up about hall – fewer and fewer students are attending. This needs to be an area of concern. Keble is poorly provided for in terms of kitchens, but Warden is very concerned that hall remains a centre of Keble life. Need to make some compromises. Budgets – hall is not as cheap as alternative options. Food prices need to be looked at; hall should be cheap, particularly in the evenings. Time is precious – more flexible meal options eg starter and main, one course etc. Hall is worth protecting. Worked in conference, knows some staff quite well hence well placed for negotiations. JCR ideas are important as well. Will listen attentively and address issues as they come up.

Sean Ford

Anyone in this room could do it, but many don't want to. Will talk about what he'd hope he'd achieve – better than any amount of promotion.

Keble's lack of food facilities. Is making hall cheaper viable? Keble is not making money out of us. But we shouldn't have to go home to be able to cook a meal.

Would seek to get a bike shed/shelter installed.

Not the JCR's job to tell the deans what to do. But fines are too disparate – need to be codified. Keys are too much at £100, equivalent of 33 jagerbombs in Bridge. Actual cost is £10. Means people leave doors unlocked, so is making Keble less safe instead of acting as a deterrent to losing keys.

The JCR members are underrepresented in motions; committee is there to facilitate, not dominate. Induct Freshers into JCR's workings, to make them more comfortable to participate.

Why still a classics section in the library? Why is the male JCR welfare rep placed higher in the constitution than the female welfare rep? Why are Sloane Rob toilets always empty of loo roll?

Keble is not perfect, still work to do.

Slogan: Ford Fiesta.

Questions

- Staying power and commitment to evolve are important attributes – how can we be sure candidates won't leap to more attractive positions when things get tough?

Sean – applied to job because he wants it, ask in a year's time.

Alex – secretary job came up for 2nd bi-election. Went for it, did the role as well as he could. Wanted to apply president, so secretary has given experience.

- Could there be a lunch style dinner, instead of sitting and being served?

Alex – warden and SCR see formal as making Keble unique. Might be something to consider, but instead it should be about trying to reform what we do have.

Sean – formal hall is important. But we need the option to have somewhere we can cook ourselves if we've been unable to book etc. Hall should be left as it is.

- You like formal hall, and SCR turn up late – would either of you be brave enough to make the Warden turn up on time?

Sean – not aware of when he has to turn up? James – quarter past. Should therefore be there at that time, he should uphold his own standards.

Alex – perhaps don't challenge the warden's right, but instead say that we can go in at any time – go in after Warden?

- Where would any kitchens be practically? JCR?

Alex – the Keble kitchen idea often thrown around. College unwilling to address certain aspects – eg where would it go, one kitchen can't cater for all of us so who can use it when, who would keep it clean. Trinity's kitchen is frequently a mess.

Sean – three ways to approach. Use JCR budget and really invest, fully spec out. Only hypothetical; a possibility. Use pre-existing café for portable stoves etc. Or use pre-existing kitchen that Keble owns, eg kitchenettes in Acland. Should be able to use them if they're available. Scouts clean Arco and Acland kitchens – cleanliness not an issue.

- James has been great this year. In light of this, sure both will do a great job. But what will each bring to a role that is distinctive?

Sean – manifesto shows there are series of ideas that haven't been discussed. Bike sheds etc; find the problems and can think of ways to solve them. Brought more to table in manifesto than competitor. How to distinguish from James – hard to answer. Not sure – haven't done job yet, not sure how to do things on a day to day basis. Why not carry on in the same fashion?

Alex – very personable. Needs to represent the whole JCR. Very important that you listen to what the JCR want, and this he would do very well.

- One of the things that gets done by the Pres but doesn't get much press is sitting on the student support committee – one duty is looking through your peers' bank statements, family details etc. Would you be comfortable with that, and how would you approach these matters?

Alex – hard if it is your friends. Little experience, but a professional person. I would detach myself to a certain degree from the fact that you knew that person.

Sean – has had experience of hardship, have been face to face with those who funded his bursary for school. Been on the receiving end, so will know how to deal with it.

Hustings

Take a knee. Basil fell quite in love with OUSU and challenge was to get a photo with the pres of OUSU at the end of Cowley Road. Fallen in love with someone else – Pres Com. All presidents in Oxford, once fortnightly meeting, have a lovely dinner afterwards. Important to establish relationships with other members of colleges – between now and midnight find all other presidents, take photos with presidential peacock, upload to twitter. Points are prizes – David Townsend is 10 points, don't know where he is. Teddy hall and LMH are 10 points. St Catz 10, St Bennets 7 (where is it?).

OUSU Rep

Nicole Chui:

Fresher Law student. OUSU is viewed cynically. Part of reason is that OUSU doesn't promote itself and integrate. RAG shows that it does get some things right. Ideal platform for student voices to be heard eg better recycling. Controversial issues eg Israel - would make sure this was brought to the JCR. Has experience in communicating with higher, more challenging institutions. Chair of Chinese society and Green officer at school – experience of representing minorities, environment etc. Grew in confidence, could successfully represent Keble.

Questions

- Everyone looks at Mike Fed as a pedestal of success – what could he have done better and what has he done well?

Raised awareness about the organization, we know it exists! People often get it confused with the Oxford union...we don't.

- Are you planning on buying your own stash?

If necessary, why not?

Hustings

Stash is a large part of the role, need to look pristine at all times and rock stash. Need to come back wearing as much stash as possible. Tier 1 is anything outside oxford, tier 2 is keble, 3 is Oxford, 4 is OUSU.

Treasurer

Chris Jenkins

Law student. Main objective is to obtain complete transparency over treasury. We need to know where money is being spent. Section on the website to detail where budget gets spent, and a section for people to ask where it's going. Second would be to increase Keble sports, because the current finances don't reflect the colossus that Keble are. Keble football shirts don't match – knocks confidence. Senior treasurer negotiations might be fruitful because this is his current tutor, so there is an already established relationship.

Very efficient, things get done well – have not worked past dinner since being here. Most importantly, previous experience – current Fresher's week treasurer, similar roles as if was JCR treasurer. Keeping track of bank accounts, stash organization – massive job. Negotiating a sponsorship deal as well. This would not be a shot in the dark, an awful lot of experience.

Eshan Shah

PPE fresher. Heard all the policies you're going to hear. Quite like to invest the JCR surplus – last heard it was £20,000 – in terms of real interest rates lost £2000 just by having it in a

current account. There are things that are very liquid, where you can get money easily out. £2000 would be very useful.

Sports kit – bursar and senior members of college would rather teams got sponsorship. Wary that it would be nicked, and they'd have to buy again and again. Lack of kit doesn't look good to say we're so good in numerous sports. Brings a sense of community and can make things more fun, particularly where the team can design their own kit. All the other candidates are cleverer than him, but he is good with numbers and has had experience of 3 years in the financial industry.

Jacob Wedderburn-Day

All the candidates are pretty worthy. Got experience of working with money, done finance in E&M, knows how to use excel etc. Sets apart are larger ideas – beyond the call of duty as a treasurer. Transparency would be at heart of role. Big idea is budget support – first battels came through at end of Michaelmas. Levies have amounted so far to £135.19 – would be useful for Freshers to have an expectation of what they are paying. Therefore publish a list of what people can expect to pay around college in one useful handout, eg levies, costs of meals etc.

Sport – captain of football. First-hand experience of frustration of not being able to claim kit on JCR, so would look into subsidising stash. Would aim to carry on good job of Georgie so far. Also really want to be involved in committee, would be really grateful for the opportunity.

George Saunders

A few qualities make him suitable for the role. Very organized – colour co-ordinated folders, app on phone so won't be late to meetings. Always in charge of organizing tickets for football matches etc. Very trustworthy, no fiddling of accounts. No bias towards certain teams, hates being ripped off (Yorkshire). Will keep levies down, rents.

Georgie's done a great job, not much more to do. Teams don't have kits, subsidise personalised kits. Make it all a bit more affordable for people. Sky HD could be reasonable thing to look into – won't cost much more than standard Sky. Improve transparency. Would also love ideas submitted to how things can be spent more effectively, an online submission form – it's our JCR.

Rishi Chotai

Has wanted to be treasurer since day 1, doing E&M. In charge of accounts in Young Enterprise team. Would ensure the finances and accounts are well set out, best deals on all the stuff we have eg vending machines. Transparency – where money is being spent, why, how to change things. Need to know more about college's financial plans eg rent etc – we need to know how this will change in the future. Would initiate a 3 day reimbursement

guarantee through an online system. Punt bookings – online system. Sponsorship for subsidisation of sports kits.

The large surplus is just losing value, so we should make a big investment in something that could benefit future generations, eg kitchens. Would seek to set up a discount card like St Johns. Has already contacted a no. of businesses and had positive responses eg Hussain's, Duke of Cambridge etc. Transparency, efficiency, sports kits, discount card.

Questions

- Another college managed to invest in Iceland bank – where would you invest safely?

Jacob – not principal concern, but would be very hesitant and careful. No unnecessary risks.

Rishi – meant investment in terms of things that will benefit future members eg last year money was spent on the JCR refurbishment

Eshan – investing in Icelandic about holding in the wrong bank. Would go through a big US company, sufficiently large enough to warrant a governmental bail out should things go wrong. Would put in an ETF, which is essentially the stock market, but these have increased by about 14% over the last year. Would be happy to flesh out a strategy for everyone to look through.

George – no such experience, wouldn't get into it because he'd probably lose it all.

Chris – wouldn't want to gamble, would rather see if there was anything the JCR wanted. A college swimming pool? There's no way we couldn't spend 20K in college. Wouldn't want to be playing stock markets.

- Treasurer's role is all about passion for money, so what is your favourite coin and what does it say about you?

George – the 20p because it's multidimensional

Eshan - £5 because it's the biggest.

Chris – the £2, but instead the penny for the hilarious antics at parties.

Rishi – was going to say £5, but going for £2 which has two colours which is better than one

Jacob – 50ps are cool

- Everyone mentioned football kits, what about kit for the table football team?

Eshan – It's up to the captain

Rishi – Not necessary

George – All for getting Dave some shoes

Chris – All sports teams are equal...but no

- All mentioned transparency, but are there any downsides?

Chris – could waive in exceptional circumstances. Can't imagine any reason to hide identities, unless illicit activity is going on.

George – Transparency is up for discussion in terms of how much is published, but first could be about how much each team gets for eg. Very simple for me.

Jacob – easy ways to account that wouldn't compromise personal feelings via hiding identities.

Rishi – key thing is that everyone knows the size of each budget, not how it's being spent. Asked Georgie for a quick review, not possible.

Eshan – is transparency that important? It's up to college how much each team is given. The JCR will spend money on a lot of stuff that you don't need to know about. Might be better to do a funds available thing, or any big spending things. Not ok to have people's household budgets for eg.

Hustings

There is a 'Treasurer Hunt' in Hayward. Lots of pennies and 2ps. Might be difficult in the dark. They all have marks on them. Whoever has the most!

Charities and Donations

Georgina Ndukwe

First year medic. Would really look forward to contributing to organization with inclusive events in fundraising, to get wider community involved in charitable endeavours. Stuff like the pantomime, open mic nights. Looking forward to learning more about the charitable work we do to remain as the informed college. Also a point of communication via RAG. Also need to ensure that our voices are heard – the causes that we raise money for are the ones that we as individuals care about. Would facilitate that through the vote for the charity. Would strive to ensure that other charities people want to raise money for are considered.

Been a member of several committees at school, a hardship fund at school form which she received money. Events such as teacher spoofs of Strictly Come Dancing. Worked in Romania over summer, really raised awareness of the meaning of poverty. Made her more pro-active in charity work at home, and hopefully at Keble as well. Also organized children in another association for charities in Nigeria. Wealth of experience has encouraged her to think creatively about raising money and therefore would like to explore further in this role.

- Have you got any new ideas for raising money not previously done?

Need to listen to ideas of everyone. One idea already brought; having an independent Keble college scholarship, with 60% funded by the university, some from JCR and some from charities.

- What charities would you personally push for?

The current charity that we support is Cornel's charity. Good that we're already supporting this. But Lighthouse International – raise money for children's homes in Romania. Close to my heart.

- How would you increase the money we already raise?

Aside from the established things we do, more ongoing events, so maybe continuity between the events that currently go on twice a term at the moment.

Hustings

All about collaboration in the JCR, but he pres needs a lesson in humility, and he's offered to have his hair cut depending on how much money is raised.

Raised £103

Arts and Pubs

Lousia Adams, Iona Dixon and Laura Whitehouse

Worked with prev officers on Art's Week this year, so developed a lot of ideas on what to keep and build on. Ideas include continuing festival things throughout the year, more than just one week. Would really make the most of Michaelmas – Artsmass at Christmas. Also keen to get Freshers on board from start, open Fig submissions early and make more than one publication a year if possible. Both Louisa and Laura illustrate. Always also get a guest writer to contribute to Fig to get big names associated with the college and tie this into the Arts week later on.

Group trips – don't always have a lot of time to go to London, so maybe go to a theatre in Oxford eg when Angels in America was on. Particularly when Keble actors are involved. Something similar to the Tab in Oxford, things that are going on. Want to start a Keble film club every week. Might be nice to put on an in-Keble house production during Arts week, and utilise O'Reilly more.

Willing to contribute to the alternative prospectus.

Husting:

As arts and pubs you'll have to be organized and creative. Need to be competent, imaginative and romantic, but also vein. Want to be immortalised – either paint or sculpt current three. Paintings must be made from something other than paint, and sculptures from college materials only.

Academic Affairs

Esther Hodges

Continuity of what we've already got is important. Already involved with outreach. Some people apply to JCR to have stuff on their CVs, but does actually really enjoy working for Keble at Large, done lots of tours etc. From a state school background, so aware of the difficulties that students might have so would like to dispel myth that Oxford is an elitist institution. Lots of school visits to schools with low application rates.

Academic affairs – academic feedback sessions are already in place in 12 colleges. Need to give feedback on how we think our subjects are going. Important to maintain fruitful relations with tutors, so if not successful in getting it past academic committee would maintain efforts.

Matthew Gompels

Two very distinct roles within one. New ideas, but a lot to be said for doing something well consistently over a long period of time. Want to continue work of this year, pushing for academic feedback sessions. Opportunity to work for Keble at Large is important in economic climate, particularly at Oxford. Should really move influence before the 8 weeks. Coming to college can be a daunting experience. Need to diversify what we do, extend outreach into other segments such as tutoring. Really passionate about this.

- Big problem with getting people to actually do access stuff, so how would you make it appealing to freshers?

Esther – get a lot of food to entice people to once fortnightly meetings. Maybe some literature to get it out there too.

Matt – prominence is prime. There is so much to do in Oxford that people are almost swamped. But having something in house run by students is very important, and this is an issue that is close to the heart of a lot of people here.

- Other than Keble at Large, what other skills/experience do you have?

Matt – at school ran a peer mentoring programme for students with the academic potential to attain high grades at a young age but perhaps without the appliance. Taught a lot about the nature of access, which is about breaking the glass ceiling of aspiration – so many could get here but don't have the aspirations/awareness.

Esther – ran something similar at school, was swamped by Grade A students but issue was getting other students involved who weren't necessarily the top.

Hustings

You will need to be a master in the art of persuasion, some come back in 10 minutes and in some form (dance, poem etc) convince us why it'd be a good idea for James to do these meetings naked.

Accomodation

Angus McDonnell

Two main things made him apply to Keble, first proximity to medical school, but secondly was the accommodation. Fell in love with the Liddon rooms, and made him apply. Want to keep those rooms there and good for people now and in the future, and affordable. Always in the bar, so opportunity to be involved in the running of it is really appealing. Good for the role because of good ideas and love of bar.

Ballot is a stressful time, but he is honest, and already signed up to a code of conduct as a medical student. Organized, lots of work. Would endeavour to get Janet to be proactive. The bar lacks a good ale, need to replace flowers.

- Corridor hasn't been cleaned for two weeks?

Technically a house-keeping issues, need to email Lynn Edney. Would go knock on her door.

- Ballot is a fractious time where you discover who your real friends are. How to improve?

Balloting systems from other colleges and see if there's anything to incorporate.

- Are you going to back stab me this week?

Ideally no.

- What would your ale of choice be?

Can't use most of nicest ales due to current systems. Spoke to Matt and a couple of suggestions were possible. Also Gerard's departure might change things

- Some sensitive info in the ballot, how would you make yourself approachable?

As a medical student, have to be confidential, most important thing to him.

Hustings

Would be familiar with all the different buildings in college, so present us with a lyrical rendition of all the buildings in college, and Janet Knight etc.

Motions

Motion 1: ODA Uganda 2013

P: James Davies

S: GiGi Ahmad

Would go towards materials for water tanks, would help lots of children.

- Personal involvement?

Going, and going to be building the things.

- Have you ever built anything before?

No.

Against. 2

For. 67

Abstentions. 1

Motion 2: Charities Motion: Ox Aid to the Balkans

P: Lizzie Culwick

S: GiGi Ahmad

Worked with charity for over a year. Some of the legal requirements are to pay for a social worker, so rely on fundraising for this. Need a different kind of social worker for orphanages for babies – so looking to fund this.

Against 0

Abstention 4

For 34

Motion 3: JCR Bike

P: Fiona Elliott

S: James Newton

- Will the bikes necessarily be gender specific?

No – not painted hot pink or anything, just differing in size. That is how they've been described by the vendor.

- Wouldn't it be better to just use a scrap bike?

Basil bike was one of those, and it hasn't lasted. Makes no sense to be spending £80 every year. Also part of a wider deal including repairs.

- Will there be a basket?

We can look into it.

Against 0

Abstention 2

For 52