Keble College JCR General Meeting MINUTES

HT2014 – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2014 – 6<sup>th</sup> Week

# 1. Apologies of absence:

Rishi Chotai Nicole Chui Matt Gompels

# 2. Officers' Reports:

### President (Sean Ford)

- 1. Rent negations still ongoing hoping for VNI figures soon
- 2. Will be a post about all the major food changes in college and an update on kitchens
- AFS: English, PPE, modern languages and engineering students will be invited in the next week to get involved, watch out for an email from Ali Rogers – feedback on how subject is taught

### Vice President (Chris Allnutt)

- 1. Changes to food brunch started at 10.30 today until 12pm and will do so until the end of this term
- 2. From next Saturday informal supper will be lunch-style so you won't need to sign in just turn up cafeteria-style
- 3. Café will open until 7pm on Tuesdays Thursdays and Fridays jacket potatoes, soups, salads etc. on offer
- 4. Spoke to DB about tumble driers have to change the filters ourselves, clean out the fluff or they break!
- 5. Suggestions box

#### Treasurer (Rishi Chotai) in absence

1. None (standing in as Charities officer)

## Secretary (Katie Davies)

- 1. None
- Academic Affairs (Matt Gompels) in absence
  - 1. None

Welfare (Flo Barnett & Ollie Robinson)

- 1. Self-defence tomorrow 4-6 pm please turn up if interested
- 2. 10 more crème eggs to nominate a friend to be pidged one to cheer them up

## Equal Ops (David Harris)

- 1. LGBTQ month still on going
- 2. Wednesday was universal mental health awareness day
- 3. Rainbow week starting tomorrow will put up a different colour on the noticeboard each day to support this (Monday will be purple and will do the reverse of the flag)
- 4. Flag (applause) will go up on Friday

Accommodation (Angus McDonnell) in absence

1. Bought a pool table

#### OUSU Rep (Nicole Chui)

- 1. NUS argued non-academic debt e.g. library fines can now not be used as a reason not to graduate
- 2. OUSU teaching awards best tutor, lecturer, staff, please vote
- 3. RAG ballot 2014 is open to choose which charities RAG will support this week

Freshers' Week President (Emma Alexander)

- 1. None
- Charities (Georgina Ndukwe) resigned

1. None

Entz (Deanna Greenhalgh, Greg Albery & Severin Limal)

- 1. In conjunction with KAF closing night mini-bop in Baby Love keep KAF flier to get discounted entry for this next Saturday night
- Arts & Pubs (Iona Dixon, Louisa Adams & Laura Whitehouse)
  - 1. KAF!
  - 2. Please come to all the events really fun and exciting week
  - 3. Keep your fliers for more information and discounted entry to Baby Love next Saturday
  - 4. Motion coming up that KAF team wants you to support

#### Environment & Ethics (Jake Palmer)

1. Crisis with the recycling bags – couldn't find JK yesterday (has moved to an office next to the office) so will keep pressurising for change

#### Careers & Alumni (Emma Brand)

1. Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> week entrepreneur event – 10 alumni who have stated their own businesses: talks, staying from drinks and hall will sit with us so really good networking opportunity

### 3. Motions:

#### Motion 1: The Benefactor Fashion Show

Proposer: Georgie Reeves Seconder: Rishi Chotai

This JCR notes that:

- 1. This Tuesday the Benefactor Charity Fashion Show is taking place, an event which is part of Keble Arts week and has Keblites running the show on the committee, modelling in the show itself, and attending the event.
- The equipment required to light and install sound in the town hall is expensive due to its size and that such costs would heavily detract from the profits made for charity from ticket sales. This JCR believes that:

1 It is important to support

1. It is important to support not only this charitable event and our fellow Keblites involved in it, but that it would be a positive contribution to be able to put Keble's name as a sponsor on the material produced during the show alongside other big brand contributors.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

1. Pledge £5 towards the set-up of the event for every Keblite who attends, in order to ensure that the money made from ticket sales goes predominantly to the cause itself, and that we can support the cause in a manner fitting with Keblite involvement. This JCR would seek to cap the funding at a suitable amount of £150 if ticket sales go well and lots of Keblites attend.

#### Issues raised:

- Proposer: trouble with funding RAG trying to minimise the expenditure, most money on ticket sales; sound equipment and lighting for the Town Hall has turned out more expensive than thought; Keble really heavily involved so would be nice to have some financial support
- What charity is it? RAG event, supporting the 4 charities voted by RAG
- How will we know how many Keble will attend? Will have a list of who has bought of tickets; sponsorship so proportional to how much support there is from college
- Is this coming out of the charities budget? Yes

#### VOTES FOR: 52 VOTES AGAINST: 1 ABSENTIONS: 1

THIS MOTION PASSES.

#### 3. Hustings:

#### Female Welfare Officer:

Candidates:

- 1. Katharine Baxter
- If elected aim to improve awareness and uptake of welfare provision in college; improve anonymity of certain things in college
- Difficult to keep track of welfare information at the beginning of freshers bring all information together in a small leaflet distributed at the beginning of each year including contact details for officers/peer supporters and other university/college services
- Provisions for contraceptives and pregnancy tests not especially anonymous improve the distribution of pregnancy tests e.g. collection outside the nurse's office
- Can't buy morning after pill on weekends need to look at refunding this through the JCR
- Improve the awareness of services and understanding of issues of college and elsewhere, great to work with equal opps to promote this and combat the stigma – can all benefit from some of these services, encourage discussion within college and greater involvement
- Involve OUSU counselling service alongside nurse and college doctor within welcome to Keble events
- Introduce cycle safety initiatives during freshers week
- Experience equality and diversity committee at sixth form college, talking to staff and students and organising events would be really useful in this role
- 2. Zoe Larkin
- From Australia so a big change for me Keble's welcoming environment really helped settle in so want to do the same for other Keblites and for new students

- Have a greater presence during freshers week more day time events as this is when people feel the most uncomfortable during this time, having friendly faces make it much easier to settle in
- Lots of issues that affect women and minority groups from budget/time/ideas perspective good to work with equal opps
- Raising awareness of a wider university presence regarding these issues e.g. WomCam events greater publicity for these which Keble alone couldn't afford
- Free STI testing and greater availability of information, don't want people to not get such tests done
- Introduce a college pet e.g. a tortoise, therapeutic
- Ollie and Flo did a great job this year fruit bank, free condoms etc.
- 3. Helen Tatlow
- Not at the meeting sailing
- 3 reasons will take it seriously, important role needs a lot of responsibility, involved in JCR want to make a difference around Keble
- Reduce apathy with welfare, get people involved from freshers' week doing a Q&A session, free food carry on fruit bank different types of food: chocolate, sweets, different nationalities, posters to display information with all the contact details and a 'freshers week bucket list' etc.

#### Questions:

- A lot of the speeches mentioned having more events but given low uptake of JCR run events what would you do to encourage greater participation?
- 3. Important to get freshers more involved from the very start, Q&A sessions during the week, more welfare events e.g. fruit bank from the start; more free food and different themes, more posters as well as emails
- 2. Set up Facebook page to get greater welfare publicity that's not always on Keble noticeboard; extending hours of welfare tea and changing location to an area of college with more visitors
- 1. Having fruit bank at the same time most weeks makes it difficult for people with commitments at the same time each week; Facebook idea is good; greater involvement in freshers week
- Next year is the anniversary of letting women into Keble so one of the things we're doing is to organise an event to celebrate this, what is the most creative idea you have?
- 2. Introducing a female portrait of notable Keblites in Hall; week of feminism talks
- 1. At Hilda's they are having a gender equality festival good to organise something similar incl. speakers, bit like KAF based around history of women coming to Keble
- 3. Incentivising all the boys to dress as females for the day as people will spend more time looking at the boys than the girls; JCR enjoys debating so having debates about feminist issues in the JCR to make people more aware about what feminism is and what it does; female ex-Keblites to come and talk; feminist TED talks
- If you could buy us a pet would it be a tortoise or would you consider a micro pig?
- 3. Goldfish as well, like the idea of sea monkeys, Keble monkeys
- 2. Keble is a democracy so if demand for a micro pig was there then would get one, wouldn't mind taking ultimate responsibility for it

• 1. Micro pig might be cool but difficult to look after out of term, need to think about an animal whose welfare we can look after too – will the college still be here when it dies?

### Hustings Challenge:

• Same for male welfare

### Male Welfare Officer:

- 1. Joel Hide
- Continue the work of Flo and Ollie to keep welfare as friendly approachable force in college
- Continue work of fruit banks, running it in the bar with art soc is a good idea
- Help freshers settle in, greater integration in freshers week to reduce apathy –
  welfare book with all the information, properly introducing welfare reps and their
  role, welfare brunch in the JCR during the week if you miss breakfast and meet other
  freshers to start the day, organise study skills sessions through subject reps to
  support first tutorial assignments
- Greater visibility for LBGTQ services in college should be in place before freshers week

#### Questions:

- What's your view about a college animal?
- Hedgehog would be great but smell quite bad (!!)

#### Hustings Challenge:

- Ollie and Flo run fruit bank but to break with tradition (usually condoms take centre stage in the challenge) have 20 minutes to prepare to cut up and eat a pineapple as fast as you can please be safe, come back with everything you need to complete the challenge at the end of the meeting
- Zoe wins!

#### Equal Opportunities:

- 1. Rachel Hulme
- Continue the work of equal opps by representing all members of college regardless of gender, race, religious belief, background, sexual orientation
- Strengthen role as sometimes it slips through the cracks links with careers e.g. women and LBGTQ incl. springboard campaign for women, with academic and access officer to encourage greater diversity and equal opportunities for prospective students, work with welfare during freshers week e.g. sexual consent workshops not just in freshers week but throughout the year

- OUSU events need to be better publicised e.g. well-being week, LGBTQ month, black history month raising awareness of these
- Continue to put on events around college, linked to current important issues, encourage people to promote ideas and causes they are passionate about – minimum of 1 event a term

#### Questions:

- How would you reduce apathy?
- Encourage people with specific interests to come forward and represent what they want to be done; also more free food
- With the sexual consent workshop arguably those who go are not the type who need the advice, would you make this event compulsory therefore?
- Wouldn't make it compulsory but extend workshops throughout the year, engrain it in mentality from freshers week to make it better attended
- One of the things we might change according to the role of the equal opps officer we are looking to promote the role of representing international students?
- Yes happy to represent them esp. university wide

### Hustings Challenge:

• Reduce apathy – gather a mob of people to protest against something in Keble e.g. Jack field's dangerously tyrannical use of bell ringing in Keble, chants would be appreciated!

### **Charities & Donations Officer:**

- 1. Lydia Ream
- Wanted to get involved with charities since doing Jailbreak earlier this term, got to Amsterdam
- If elected would aim to promote wider involvement on a university wide level incl. RAG initiatives
- Look to put on different events in TT corridor Olympics fun in summer months, take me out or blind dates
- Friendly, organised, approachable member of the community
- Although this is an uncontested position would like to pursue this opportunity and hopefully more permanently with Sarah after TT election

## Questions:

- You proposed staircase Olympics, what events would be included?
- First round to knock out the weakest inflatable obstacle course to find the top 5; next competitive eating or perhaps walking around town to harass people for money to see how much people can collect for charity as in Jailbreak
- What would you do to increase awareness of volunteering?
- Keep increasing publicity, raising awareness during freshers week, hosting evenings with people already involved so people have a good idea of activities before signing up

#### Hustings Challenge:

- Go out into Keble and convince someone to do an activity and raise awareness for that cause and try and raise as much money in sponsorship for this
- Alex Fox and Matt Jamshed have said they are willing to partake in a charity game of Twister in the bar at some point this week

### Freshers' Week President:

- 1. Katie Millard
- Thought the freshers team last year did a really good job but found it stressful so there are some things to improve on
- Academic mentoring being set essays and tutorials in the first week is daunting, formalised system of mentoring, difficult to just rely on college parents, one on one meetings with people doing the same subject, welfare study skills workshops
- Welfare integration formally open space all the time e.g. the bar with events going on during the day, also a good platform for promoting the JCR and getting people involved
- Introduce day time activities e.g. with staircases i.e. challenges/competitions, would be really nice to do something sociable during the daytime
- At Jesus college a second year is responsible for each staircase to hand out a bulletin schedule for the day and have a chat with the freshers etc. good to have the whole of second year welcome students to keep the community spirit
- Better non-clubbing activities best friends aren't necessarily made in a club (!) more diverse schedule of evening activities e.g. pub crawl, film night and sleepover in the o'reilly take into considering different people's idea of how to make friends
   Ben Waters
- Really important that freshers are able to settle in comfortably to the next stage of their lives congratulate Emma for this year's week
- Welfare important family system underemphasised played up a lot before Oxford but once term started family system kind of fizzled out, helpful to have someone not in an official position to speak to with any concerns; collaborate with welfare reps, specific to Keble online guide to cohere all the information to explain life in Keble (current information is more general in terms of the university)
- Activities alcohol has recently received a lot of criticism, people should enjoy freshers week how they like, traditional club nights, good to bring people together between alcohol and non-alcohol drinkers
- Experience organised events, open days, student ambassador and charities events; position takes up a lot of time in TT will be free in 3 weeks so won't be concerned with revision next term

## Questions:

- Non-alcoholic events happening incl. G&Ds, games nights etc., what new events would you put on?
- 2. Do events in the bar, people who wanted to drink are able to and those who don't aren't forced to, bar as a good hub, karaoke night
- 1. Freshers only BOP on the first night, rather than go to Thirst, things like film nights and activities that don't focus only on drinking
- Lots of fuss over last year's fresher week with college, what is the one thing would you fight to keep from length of the week to who is allowed to participate?

- 2. Traditional club nights the image of freshers week, alcohol recently stigmatised people should be allowed to enjoy their first few days as they wish
- 1. Defend people's right to do what they want and go out on club nights but also include a more diverse range of activities
- How would you combat apathetic college parent?
- 1. Need to clarify parent's role in freshers week and similarly for subject reps need to be used properly and unified experience across the fresher group
- 2. Parents don't necessarily feel apathy know how difficult freshers week can be, need to highlight the importance of the role in terms of this experience
- When you finish freshers' week the president's role kind of drops off but still remains a member of the committee what would you do?
- 2. Freshers week president is quite misleading a great opportunity to collaborate with other people being elected tonight, setting up charities events etc. in freshers week then enables involvement later on in the year, would have greater interest in these activities
- 1. After freshers week there's a bit of a panic when it ends, organising more social events to specifically target to freshers to continue making friends, keep collaboration with welfare esp. academic mentoring existing structures are great but need to be better marketed
- Group for which freshers' week is the least fun is for the third years, what would you do to make sure third years have fun too?
- 1. Having the bop at the end of the week is really fun, but getting the whole of the year group to be involved in welcoming the freshers, but in a formalised way
- 2. Encourage third years to be involved too grandparent system

## Hustings Challenge:

 Stash for freshers for a few years has been pretty much the same things, but this can be changed up a little bit – go away for 15 minutes to design a new innovative piece of Keble stash and produce a prototype or if an item of clothing get someone to model it