Keble College JCR General Meeting MINUTES

HT2014 – Sunday 9th March 2014 – 8th Week

1. Apologies of absence:

Laura Whitehouse Nicole Chui Severin Limal Emma Brand

2. Officers' Reports:

President (Sean Ford)

1. Meeting with Tom Rutland OUSU President about rent negotiations, also meeting with MCR President – managed to get 1% off initial figure

Vice President (Chris Allnutt)

- 1. Lodge works should be done a few weeks after the end of term so are moving the pidges back, try to remove stuff by the end of term
- 2. Doing work on the Pusey chimneys over the vac
- 3. Cardboard boxes for storage/packing in the café this week
- 4. Loo roll DB says not provided fro en suite rooms but happy to enquire further about this Treasurer (Rishi Chotai)
 - 1. Getting BT Sport at the start of next term
- Secretary (Katie Davies)

1. None

Academic Affairs (Matt Gompels)

1. AFS running this week – Medics on Monday, engineers, PPEists, English students and modern linguists: important that you come along, need to give better information about how to improve our course

Welfare (Flo Barnett & Ollie Robinson)

1. None

Equal Ops (David Harris)

1. None

Accommodation (Angus McDonnell)

- 1. Pool table now up and running free to use in the JCR
- 2. The old one will hopefully be gone by the end of term, when the provider feels like coming and collecting it

OUSU Rep (Nicole Chui) in absence

1. OUSU meeting on Wednesday – motion to cancel referendum on NUS agreed last June to vote on breaking links with NUS; idea to create a fairer council among JCRs to vote and discuss how JCRs will vote in OUSU, there will be a university-wide campaign for this motion to come

Freshers' Week President (Emma Alexander/Katie Millard)

- 1. Applications still open to be on freshers' week committee, send an email Charities (Lydia Ream)
 - 1. Charity twister might be postponed until next term



Entz (Deanna Greenhalgh, Greg Albery & Severin Limal)

- 1. BOP confirmed for Friday theme supported by the Dean: what you wanted to be when you grew up
- Arts & Pubs (Iona Dixon, Louisa Adams & Laura Whitehouse)
 - 1. Announcement of the winner of KAF sticker competition Alex Fox! (presented with a KAF jumper)

Environment & Ethics (Jake Palmer)

1. Recycling bags – not entirely convinced JK will act on previous meetings, will try and find an accurate view of where this has improved in college

Careers & Alumni (Emma Brand) in absence

1. None

3. Motions:

Motion 1: Clinton Global Initiative University

Proposer: Robin Bhaduri Seconder: Rishi Chotai

This JCR notes that:

1) Robin Bhaduri has been invited to attend and present at the Clinton Global Initiative University in Phoenix, Arizona. As a prerequisite of attending the meeting, Robin has developed his own "Commitment to Action": a specific, and measurable initiative that addresses pressing challenges on campus, in local communities or around the world.

2) Robin's Commitment to Action is to create an education scheme that empowers

underprivileged women in the slums of Mumbai by teaching them how to make arts and crafts and offers them funding to start a business through it. He has already partnered with Smile, a local NGO in Mumbai that has experience in educating underprivileged people in arts and crafts. Robin hopes to empower women by providing access to education, a foreign marketplace, business advice and funding opportunities.

3) The Clinton Global Initiative is a prestigious conference where students, youth organisations, topic experts and celebrities come together to discuss and develop innovative solutions to pressing global challenges. There are also several funding opportunities.

- 4) The costs of going to the conference are substantial.
- 5) Robin has raised £400 from the KA but this is not even half the cost of the trip.

This JCR believes that:

1) It is important to support college members in social conscious enterprise, which will have a positive contribution to the world.

2) It is a fitting use of JCR money to support socially conscious enterprise.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

1) Give £200 to help fund Robin Bhaduri's travel and lodging expenses.

Issues Raised:

 Proposer: invited to Clinton Global Initiative – need to have a commitment to action to address pressing issues: education scheme for underprivileged women to make arts and crafts, which is currently ongoing but want to go to this for advice, funding and getting more publicity; make candleholders, bowls and other crafts, all profits goes back to the community; good for the JCR to promote good deeds; other universities have been funded by their universities but Oxford currently doesn't do this, will look into this; already got £400 from the KA but doesn't cover it so any money from the JCR would be really helpful

- Where are you travelling to for the conference? Phoenix, Arizona
- Where is the social enterprise? Mumbai
- How long is the conference? Just a weekend
- Would you be able to report back to the JCR? Something for the trophy cabinet and will write a report for the archives

VOTES FOR: 47 VOTES AGAINST: 0 ABSENTIONS: 8

THIS MOTION PASSES.

Motion 2: Cuppers funding

Proposer: Elli Gilje Seconder: James Newton

This JCR notes that:

- 1. Sport is a large part of Keble life and we have a strong reputation across a broad spectrum of sports.
- 2. Polo is a sport that is strongly represented at Keble having two members on the Blues squad, the third team captain as well as general members.
- 3. Polo Cuppers is well attended with 10-15 teams playing each year.
- 4. So far members of college have competed in the group stage of Winter Cuppers at their own personal expense, reaching the third place playoff.
- 5. Without funding it puts in jeopardy the teams' ability to compete in the Winter Cuppers playoff and Summer Cuppers events, in which we have strong prospects to do well.

This JCR believes that:

1. JCR member's participation in sporting endeavours for the college in Cuppers should not be limited by financial cost.

This JCR resolves to:

 Implement a Keble College Polo budget of £500, so that JCR players can be reimbursed for the Winter Cuppers entry fee and be able to participate in both the 3rd place playoff and Summer Cuppers.

Issues Raised:

- **Proposer:** want to pay for players to be involved in Cuppers: one member is in the MCR so won't be paid for; have one of the strongest teams in Cuppers so likely to win
- In relation to other sports how much is £500? Budget provided to the JCR for stuff (bops, welfare etc. about £10,000) and a separate budget for sports and the Blues fund separate from the JCR, most are below £500 except for cricket, dancesport and rugby
- How much is the entry fee? £80 per person

- What is the £500 being spent on? All entry fees, 4 players on a team: reimbursed for winter cuppers, and a further cost for the play-offs for this (only one of the players is a JCR member), then 4 players for the summer cuppers
- To clarify, if we were to give the £500 would this be taken out of the sports fund? No sports fund is decided by Ed Peel Senior Treasurer (at the start of the year sends round an email to the whole of the JCR about sports budgets and to negotiate size of budgets) so this money would come out of the JCR budget; happy to talk to Ed about providing a polo budget
- If we do well do we have to keep paying more for further matches? Yes but anything above the £500 would be paid for by the players, if we don't do that well then would pay it back to the JCR
- How many JCR members are in the team? 4 players per team but more players interested on being on the team
- Disagree about the wording on 'JCR believes that', a limit on the amount of funding given? It is their position rather than a binding clause for the JCR
- Would this money reduce the blues fund, a surplus from all the sports? If this passes, will see if this comes out of the sports budget; if he says no then will come out of general spend (limits money for bops, welfare fete) or surplus (limits future spends)
- How many colleges participate? Last year 13-14 teams
- Do most other colleges seek money from their JCRs? Yes, most have been successful as JCRs tend to fund cuppers

Time against:

- We get £10,000 a year for everything, £500 is a lot applications to sports budgets are at the start of the year (nearly 2 bops, 1/20 funding)
- Happy to ask Ed Peel to extend sports budget but if he says no then would limit funding from the general spend and surplus for future and potentially short term budgets
- JCR does not have unlimited funds
- General spend is about £400 (so £100 to be taken from either welfare or entz) or if from the surplus might stop us from doing something large (e.g. bike shelter, kitchens)
- Potential amendment if Rishi can ask Ed Peel regarding the sports budget, if it does then won't affect the JCR but this would also affect sports players regarding the blues fund; Rishi will investigate this anyway so the motion is to be whether the money should come out of the general spend

Speech in proposition:

- Certain things in sports budget e.g. women's rugby gets £300 a year but hasn't played a single match this season, among others
- Not a frivolous spend, a sport for the college as it's a cuppers team event, supporting a college sporting endeavour
- Sport is in no way inaccessible especially at Oxford £20 for a session to get involved and then might be able to join cuppers
- This is not what we are voting on from general spend/surplus to be funded, there was an opportunity at the start of this year to apply for funding from other sports

VOTES FOR: 12 VOTES AGAINST: 25 ABSENTIONS: 17

THIS MOTION FAILS.

Motion 3: Speaker Motion

Proposed by: Sean Ford Seconded by: Katie Davies

This JCR Notes that:

- 1. Despite the constitution saying otherwise it has been normal for the JCR speaker to occupy the office for three terms
- 2. That this is a far more effective system as it allows one person to occupy the job for the same time as a core part of the committee
- 3. Jack Field is ok
- 4. Any change to the standing orders requires a two-thirds majority in one meeting

This JCR Resolves to:

1. Change SO6.1 such that it will now read 'three-termly basis' rather than 'two termly'

Issues Raised:

- **Proposer:** it's been a usual thing for the Speaker to be in place for 3 terms but the constitution says otherwise; is helpful to have a Speaker at the same time as the President
- You've done story time very little? Done hustings one and the Warden's Pyjamas, is difficult to come up with funny stories every week, will try harder
- Is this ok to change the Standing Orders if the incumbent person benefits from it? Yes it is possible but up to the JCR to decide this; few people want to extend the experience of being on the JCR committee anyway
- When would the next election for the Speaker be? First week of Michaelmas
- What happens now if abstentions count for quorum for a 2/3 majority vote? 2/3 of everyone who is voting
- Are you keeping the bell? The bar's bell (despite being mandated to buy a bell), a community bell (!!)

VOTES FOR: 40 VOTES AGAINST: 0 ABSENTIONS: 1

THIS MOTION PASSES.

Motion 4: Exeter Hall Boycott

Submitted by: Sean Ford Seconded by: Rishi Chotai

This JCR Notes:

- 1. Exeter College are currently in the process of a hall boycott in an attempt to reduce extortionate charges levied by the college
- 2. During the time of rent negotiations it is important to remember that even though things may not be perfect at Keble, other colleges get a much worse deal

This JCR resolves to:

- 1. Stand in solidarity with Exeter JCR during this time
- 2. Offer what help it can during their various attempts to reduce the hall levy
- 3. Should a letter be drafter to Exeter from President's Committee, the JCR president shall be mandated to sign it

Issues Raised:

- **Proposer:** Exeter students have to pay a £800 kitchen levy at the start of every year on top of food, do this strike every year when it comes to rent negotiations; doesn't say what we're going to do but talk at PresCom to try to get the College to change this; if anyone has any friends at Exeter try and encourage them use out Hall services
- What kind of support might they ask for e.g. other JCRs to boycott their halls too? Talking about making our hall available to them as guests, but are asking use to sign a letter
- Does that mean if we pass this then Sean has to sign the letter regardless of what it says or if the JCR can read it first? Time-saving method, Sean has been mandated to sign it regardless if it's ridiculous so friendly amendment to change it to 'at his discretion'
- Could we see the letter before? Yes
- How long has this been the case at Exeter? An on-going problem, happened last year too, measure must predate even the current DB there
- How is Exeter justified? Poor college, colleges will say anything about how much it takes to run the college
- Was anything done about it last year in Keble? Not sure

In proposition:

• Even students living out still have to pay the £800 – really important to support them, doesn't do much for us but beneficial to them potentially

VOTES FOR: 39 VOTES AGAINST: 0 ABSENTIONS: 1

THIS MOTION PASSES.

4. Any other Business:

- Gate-gate
- At Domestic Committee on Wednesday, raised a plan for security in college after the Chapel break in as part of AOBs: intend to lock the magic gate between 12-5 at night and maybe the Keble Road entrance; what do we think?
 - Damage to Hussein's business
 - Further to walk to get to the
 - Look to improve the lighting around the college and in front, more dangerous; in terms of security safer to get into college quicker than walk around college than the safety of college alone

- Security of the students issues of lighting and walking alongside the road so need to improve lighting around the front of college
- Still serious that people are getting into college and vandalising property
- \circ $\;$ Not opportunistic thieves but other students in the previous case, but point is that this could happen
- Clarify what happened 2 people came in and took 2 candlesticks from the memorial chapel, came up to several corridors and harassed some students in the early hours, didn't bring the candlestick back very damaged the next day --- issue that non-Keblites got into Keble and very easily moved around
- The main problem about how slow the magic gate is to stop people from tailgating – this is perhaps the bigger issue; people could tailgate at any time doesn't matter what time
- \circ $\,$ Is there CCTV at the magic gate? Is college on the ball about these issues of security
- Was the chapel not locked? The memorial chapel is adjacent to the main chapel
- Might it be easier once the lodge is being rebuilt, can see who is coming in and out quite easily
- Already around 10 people a night staying in Keble on B&B anyway, how do they tell who is a student anyway? Long term lodge security is a topic too long for the meeting
- Rather than locking the magic gate why don't we just replace it instead?
- More disturbance if everyone coming back from nights out all through the lodge, might result in more Deanings
- Some corridors are not behind BBKK doors anyway
- o Lodge door also difficult for disability access? College have thought about it
- What can be done? College not entirely keen to discuss it, so if people are concerned about it then propose to send a letter to the Dean voicing our concerns – see how it goes the first few weeks next term, trial? And make sure people are properly informed when this starts
- Will the bar be open at other times, Mat was considering putting locks for the taps? Will be raised on Wednesday with the DB meeting
- Big thank you to Dave, Emma and Georgina for their work on the JCR Committee
- OUSU doing teaching awards best support staff (porters, hall staff, scouts), tutors and lecturers if they get nominated they get invited to the event anyway
- Quiet week for the suggestion box £3 meal deal and no detail, will try and think of something e.g. in the café