# MT2013 - Sunday 1st December 2013 - 8th Week

## 1. Apologies of absence:

Luka

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## 2. Officers' Reports:

## President (Sean Ford)

- 1. Domestic committee paper about the kitchen see web post about outcomes
- 2. Shorter officer reports will do state of the union at the end of every term
- 3. Well done everyone brilliant first term!

## Vice President (Luka Boeskens)

1. Not here

## Treasurer (Rishi Chotai)

1. None

#### Secretary (Katie Davies)

1. None

## Academic Affairs (Matt Gompels)

1. Access has gone great this term

## Welfare (Flo Barnett & Ollie Robinson)

- 1. Updated welfare emails better at responding
- 2. Text a mince pie on Tuesday along with welfare
- 3. Got pregnancy tests now

## **Equal Ops (David Harris)**

1. None

## Accommodation (Angus McDonnell)

1. None

#### **OUSU Rep (Nicole Chui)**

1. Scrutiny report – sabbatical officers doing more than realised, go OUSU!

#### Charities (Georgina Ndukwe)

- 1. Pantomime on Wednesday at 6pm, doors open at 5.30pm tickets are £3 for students
- 2. Narrated by Dr Archer, running slightly behind, rehearsal on Wednesday morning please come!

## Entz (Sascha Eady, Joel Duddell & Tom Stokoe)

- 1. Christmas Bop on Friday night
- 2. Last meeting (aahhh) hope everyone's had fun, good luck to new team in the next term

## Arts & Pubs (Iona Dixon, Louisa Adams & Laura Whitehouse)

- 1. Poetry anthologies for Syria by Oxfam student group
- 2. Christmas stuff in the bar on Wednesday making Christmas decorations, bop costumes; maybe free mulled wine in the bar after the pantomime

**Environment & Ethics (Fiona Elliott)** 



## 3. Motions:

## **Motion 1: Weekly Meetings**

Proposer: Sean Ford

Seconder: Katie Davies

#### This JCR notes that:

- 1. Following a motion in 4<sup>th</sup> week of Michaelmas term, the JCR has trialled a system of weekly meetings.
- 2. The JCR committee feels that the trial has been largely successful, in increasing attendance and making meetings shorter
- 3. A change to the number of meetings is a constitutional change and therefore is subject to Clause 75

## This JCR resolves to:

1. Change the constitution accordingly:

Clause 23 currently says: 'There shall be four Ordinary JCR Meeting each Full term which, unless otherwise agreed by the JCR Committee, shall take place on Sunday of Weeks 2,4,6 and 8 of Full Term in the JCR. The procedure for such Meetings shall be laid down in SOs Section 2'

Clause 23 will say: 'There shall be eight Ordinary JCR Meeting each Full term which, unless otherwise agreed by the JCR Committee, shall take place on Sunday of Weeks 1,2,3,4,5,6,7 and 8 of Full Term in the JCR. The procedure for such Meetings shall be laid down in **SOs** Section 2'

Clause 40 iii currently says: that a meeting of the JCR committee shall be called by the President 'at least once in all weeks of Full Term not containing an ordinary meeting'

Clause 40 iii will say: 'at least once in weeks 1,3,5 and 7'

## **Issues raised:**

- Proposer: move to a vote
- Constitutional change requires unanimous vote of the JCR or 2/3 majority in 2 consecutive meetings

VOTES FOR: unanimous VOTES AGAINST: 0 ABSENTIONS: 3

#### THIS MOTION PASSES.

#### **Motion 2: The Duration of Brunch**

Proposer: Helena Copley Seconder: Adelaide Vinay

#### This JCR notes that:

- 1. Despite breakfast and lunch lasting a cumulative 2 hours 45 minutes on weekdays, at the weekends brunch only lasts for 1 hour, 11am-12pm.
- 2. Many activities (especially sports) take place over this narrow time-frame.
- 3. Other colleges, including St. Catz and Worcester, run brunch from 10am-1pm at the weekend.

#### This JCR believes that:

1. There is no obvious reason why brunch is so short, and it would be of great convenience if it lasted longer.

#### This JCR therefore resolves to:

1. Mandate the JCR Vice-President to enquire as to why brunch does not last longer, and look into extending the hours (even by a little) if at all possible.

## **Issues raised:**

- Proposer: lots of people keep just missing brunch, odd length during the weekdays, lots of activities, good to find out whether this is feasible with college
- Do we need twice as much time? Not so much people are struggling to finish their meals, people
- Do our kitchen staff get paid for the extra hour? Not sure get the VP to inquire

VOTES FOR: 70 VOTES AGAINST: 0 ABSENTIONS: 5

THIS MOTION PASSES.

## Motion 3: Support the Staff Strike Tuesday 3rd December 2013

Proposed by: Katharine Baxter Seconded by: Benjamin Jones

#### This JCR Notes:

- 1) Workers and lecturers from UCU, Unite and Unison have balloted to take strike action nationally on Tuesday 3rd December due to declining real pay and conditions, after a strike on Thursday 31st October failed to bring about any agreements.
- 2) Many lecturers in Oxford and across the country have had 13% real pay cuts since October 2008, whilst their workloads have been growing. (Source: Cherwell)
- 3) This is one of the largest sustained real pay cuts any profession has taken in the UK since the Second World War. (Source: The Guardian)

#### This JCR Believes:

- 1) Lecturers and students alone should not be expected to fill the funding hole in higher education, whether through pay cuts or higher tuition fees.
- 2) Workers in further and higher education should be paid fairly. That means saying no to zero-hour contracts, the gender-pay gap and sustained real pay cuts.
- 3) As students paying as much as £9,000 p/a and more for our education, it is wrong for us to be taught and supported by overworked and underpaid lecturers and workers.

#### This JCR Resolves:

- 1) To support striking workers (both academic and non-academic) not only at the University of Oxford, but also across the city and country on Tuesday 3rd December.
- 2) To support the student rally in Oxford on Tuesday 3rd December in solidarity with striking workers and lecturers.

#### **Issues raised:**

- Proposer: massive pay cut for lecturers in real terms, haven't been an increase year on year (13% since 2008) if we're expecting to have views on fees respected then staff should be supported too therefore we need to show solidarity
- What do you mean by support? Interpreted it through clause 25 iii, the JCR's *opinion* that we should support this

## Time in opposition:

- JCR for last few years had remained apolitical, tries to represent everyone might well exclude some opinions so we shouldn't support anyone e.g. last year we didn't support student fee rally in London puts a tag on people who might not support it
- Response: doesn't mean we have to go strike, so many other JCRs have supported it too, they support us we should support them
- Motion last year about staff strikes seemed overtly political this is an issue rather than political
- From an access point of view does not affirm yourself to a particular party political alignment, tendency to vote against this by politicising the JCR, this is an issue about giving people an appropriate wage
- Majority of people here don't know too much about the issue to be able to vote for it.
- Voting either way we are making a statement about what stance we are taking on the issue
- We are voting whether we are support it, so by voting against it then we are not taking a view on it – this may have some political connotations to it

VOTES FOR: 34 VOTES AGAINST: 9 ABSENTIONS: 34

THIS MOTION PASSES.

Motion 4: Movember Europe
Proposer: Elliott Rogers

Seconder: Georgina Ndukwe

This JCR notes that:

- 1.) Prostate cancer is the 4th most common cause of cancer death in the UK (2011), accounting for around 7% of all cancer deaths.
- 2.) Prostate cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death among men (2011) in the UK, accounting for 13% of all male deaths from cancer.
- 3.) Several Keble students are currently sporting horrendous moustaches in the hope of raising money and the awareness of prostate and testicular cancer.

## This JCR believes that:

1.) Movember Europe conduct vital work in raising awareness about the symptoms of prostate cancer and testicular cancer and in researching potential treatments, as well as helping in living with cancer and living beyond cancer.

## This JCR therefore resolves to:

1.) Donate £250 £200 to Keble College's team fundraising for Movember Europe.

## **Issues raised:**

• Proposer: nems quem

VOTES FOR: VOTES AGAINST: ABSENTIONS:

THIS MOTION PASSES.

#### Motion 5: Man-date the secretary

Proposer: William Mason Seconder: Alastair Garner

This JCR notes

- 1. That proposing a date as motion is a super romantic gesture, surpassing that of Act 2, Scene 2 in Shakespeare's 'Romeo & Juliet' and;
- 2. Such a gesture should not be met with rejection.

This JCR also notes

1. That Will Mason is single and Katie Davies is single

The JCR therefore resolves to

1. Strongly advise JCR secretary to go on a date with Will Mason at an establishment of his choice

#### **Issues raised:**

- Proposer: bought complete works of Byron this does not justify the romance we have, can cut the tension with a knife – people are getting sick of it, need to resolve this
- Is this constitutional? Yes it is, clause 25 III, JCR can have an opinion
- Tension is so strong Jonty can't leave his room, for the sake of his degree go on this date
- How come Will gets to choose the location? Romantic individual so will make the choice
- JCR Secretary is a position of prestige, what is your ideal date and why? Nice dinner at Brown's, bottle of wine, bring date back to watch an episode of New Girl then walk her home
- Katie, you can do better

#### Time against:

- Please pleas its Christmas, don't let me go, don't force my hand. I did this for the good of the JCr for the good of democracy. Please don't make the joke come back on me. We are friends #friend zone please save me, as her Christmas wish
- It's Christmas, the JCR is a place to inspire love between individuals so think of this please

VOTES FOR: 23 VOTES AGAINST: 45 ABSENTIONS: 23

THIS MOTION FAILS.

## **Motion 6: Arcade games**

Proposer: Alex Clarke Seconder: Tully Kingsbury

#### This JCR notes that

1. The arcade game "point blanc" that we had last year was friggin awesome.

This JCR believes that

2. Such games are essential to the general wellbeing of members of the JCR.

The JCR therefore resolves to

3. Mandate the Treasurer to replace the game over the holidays so it is back for Hilary term.

#### **Issues raised:**

- Proposer: motion is a bit vague not sure who is responsible for the game, last year not replaced after it got broken please come forward for those responsible
- James Newton owns up!
- Why didn't it come back? Had to pay £700 to replace it, in past committee's opinion not value for money to replace it
- Proposer did not realise this scrap this motion

## **Motion 7: A bell for Jack**

Proposer: Helena Copley Seconder: Jack Field

#### This JCR notes that:

- 1. JCR meeting attendance has decreased from the beginning of term.
- 2. Many Keblites are keen to attend JCR meetings, but forget they are happening or alternatively just need a little extra encouragement to leave to comfort of their own rooms.

## This JCR believes that:

- 1. Efforts should be made to increase meeting attendance as it is important that the opinions voiced there represent the full breadth of the student body.
- 2. It would be amusing to see Jack Field walking around with a bell.

## This JCR therefore resolves to:

1. Give Jack Field £10 to buy a handbell and mandate him to walk around college at 7.45pm on a

Sunday ringing said bell and reminding students that "the meeting will commence in a quarter hour".

#### **Issues raised:**

• Proposer: nem quem

VOTES FOR: VOTES AGAINST: ABSENTIONS:

THIS MOTION PASSES.

#### **EMERGENCY MOTION 8: Pool table for the JCR**

Proposer: Angus McDonnell

Seconder: Sean Ford

#### This JCR notes that:

- 1. Keble students currently have to pay to play pool in the JCR.
- 2. The current JCR budget surplus is currently well into 5 figures.
- 3. Pool is a past-time enjoyed by many members of the JCR.
- 4. The JCR committee was recently given permission to leave a pool table in the JCR during conferences, which had been the major stumbling block to buying a pool table for the JCR previously.
- 5. The current table is often broken, with the payment mechanism jamming, preventing people using the table.

## This JCR believes that:

1. Students already pay enough fees and levies that having to pay for pool on top is unnecessary.

## This JCR therefore resolves to:

- 1. Mandate the JCR committee to cancel the current contract for the pool table in the JCR.
- 2. Give the Accommodations and bar officer £620 and mandate him to buy a pool table for the JCR (for pool table see below)
- 3. Mandate the Accommodations and bar officer to set up the pool table in the JCR.

http://www.homeleisuredirect.com/pool tables/slate bed pool tables/dpt elite pool table.html

## **Issues raised:**

- Proposer: pool table needs to be paid for, been allowed to leave it in the JCR over the holidays, massive surplus
- Said no to £700 for a games machine should find out how many people use it
- Can we spend money on free to use it box? Not made, sorry Sam
- JCR does have a lot of money shouldn't have to pay for facilities, pay levies already so should be a free space to use
- Should we say the same thing for table football? Should do the same thing, yes
- Will the amount cost be less than the cost of maintaining it? Majority of problems in current one is less to do with surface but more about the paying mechanism
- Every single term this has come up as a motion, this is the first time we've had permission from college to leave the table in the room

- Concerned that £600 is enough for a decent pool table will the slate be good quality etc.?
   seems from reviews this table is good 2<sup>nd</sup> grade kind of table
- If we are allowed to keep it in the JCR over the holidays would it still be allowed to be used by conference members? DB has allowed to make a wooden cover for the table to use as a table proper
- How does this match up to the one in the bar, is there a point in having two? Have to pay for the one in the bar

VOTES FOR: 86 VOTES AGAINST: 0 ABSENTIONS: 5

THIS MOTION PASSES.

## **EMERGENCY MOTION 9: World's Biggest Crew Date funding**

Proposer: Ben Poster Seconder: Rishi Majithia

#### This JCR Notes that:

- 1. It is vital that the JCR has events celebrating the communal and commensal spirit of Keble.
- 2. The World's Biggest Crewdate is unrivalled in its opportunity for inter and intra year bonding.
- 3. The JCR has a surplus budget of over £15,000 given the latest information.
- 4. Without funding the World's Biggest Crewdate will not occur and everyone involved will suffer from the loss of such an event.
- 5. Mistakes happen and those responsible must pay for the consequences in a sufficient manner.

#### This JCR believes that:

- 1. Rishi Majithia lost around £500 that was due to fund the World's Biggest Crew Date.
- 2. £500 is too large a sum for any single student to repay excepting certain circumstances.
- 3. Those who gave money to attend the World's Biggest Crew Date are not responsible for the loss of money.
- 4. Individuals should take responsibility for their mistakes to the extent that they are able to.

## This JCR therefore resolves to:

- 1. Mandate Rishi Majithia to look for the £500 coffee cup that was lost.
- 2. If the money has not been found by Wednesday midday, then the Treasurer will be mandated to reimburse those people who lost money.
- 3. Failing the discovery of the money by the end of the term, the JCR committee will be mandated to appoint a suitable set of terms, to be approved by the JCR, as reparations from those responsible. This may include but are not limited to fines, forfeits, and weekly challenges.

## **Issues raised:**

Proposer: sincere story genuinely lost the money really sorry for those who lost the money –
 but those should not be punished for losing the money; has been mentioned earlier that JCR has a lot of money in its surplus, happy to pay it back in any other way, WBCD cannot go

- ahead if we can't make up this money; if this didn't get paid back then would have to get a job to pay is back
- Is it constitutional? Clause 25 vi can allocate resources to valid clauses, so had to decide whether this is valid or not, second aim of the JCR is to support social welfare of the JCR so we need to discuss whether this is valid or not
- Why don't we charge everyone £18 to go on the crew date so JCR doesn't have to foot the bill? Unfair on everyone else for someone else's mistake
- Doesn't affect everyone in the JCR, only those willing to go on the crew date? Not everything that is passed is supported by the JCR as a whole
- Genuinely to reimburse the money lost to those individuals, motion written poorly: not to condone the crew date, not to give money direct to this cause
- Principle here is an issue tacking on extra £3 isn't that much, £500 is a lot of money
- Crew dates an issue anyway, but WBCD is a really important thing, not like another crew
  date, idea is really nice and inclusive, friends, Keble altogether (1/3 of JCR, large portion), if
  we don't pass this motion no different from the pool table motion, same amount of money
  for those who play pool which is still a small proportion of members of the JCR
- Rishi is too big to fail WBCD is something many people enjoy, something we will all miss
  out on, still think it should go ahead; very rare case: money lost in college, JCR event all
  invited to so affects the JCR as a whole so £500 for an enjoyable evening is not a high price
  to pay, motion specifically states there are conditions attached to this up to the JCR how
  this is repaid: challenges or small scale repayments, donations as a loan
- Hugely sympathise with Rishi but people have a contention with the fact that this motion as it stands absolves him of not paid back amendment to repay this money over a long period of time, this prevents a precedent being set; this is a good and fun event but need to clarify the term reparations to repayment *amendment proposed keen to discuss* 
  - Rishi took the financial risk for the JCR to do this, no problem for them to pay this money
  - Amendment ask for the money back over a stipulated period of time by the JCR committee
    - JCR is allowed to provide loans
    - Fair enough to expect Rishi to pay some of it, £500 is a lot for an individual JCR has money (large surplus) so plausibly extend the repayment terms and for £250 instead, the point of the JCR is to support social causes, lots of people here are to go on the WBCD taken as a friendly amendment to the amendment
    - Potential risk that no one will take on the WBCD in future years which will be detrimental to future members of the JCR's enjoyment
    - Either way, doesn't take into account the spirit of the motion being punished for an accident (is an exceptional circumstance), took it on themselves
    - Last year committee not comfortable to organise the WBCD, lots of responsibility to take on themselves – have previously voted through lots of money in the past
    - Amendment is fair whether Rishi is sorry or not. Is this fair to say? Should we forgive him?
    - Amendment seen as friendly: Rishi will have to repay £250 at committee's discretion
- Point of order should move this back to next meeting: may disincentive to finding the money, would be happy to reimburse if money not found
  - Does this not intentionally ruin the motion and the crew date meaning that if money is not given the crew date just isn't going to happen

- Encourage people to find other solutions, have to pay £18 this is talking about reimbursing people, if it means lots to people then people might want to pay more, or get those who have lost money pay £15 extra and then potentially get reimbursed next time if the crew date does still go ahead
- If moved then will have the same conversation again next time

In favour: 10Against: 60

- Who are we paying back? How many people are we paying back? need a specific amount to pay back, £500 is an arbitrary amount of money to give 33 people so £495
- Last year we managed to allocate £300 for people to watch the super bowl in the JCR incl. alcohol, how is that different? No terms on that, in total around 40 people turned up
- If JCR had not role in this then still £495, no reason for Rishi to ask the JCR to get this money back for everyone
- Accidents do happen, Rishi has done this voluntarily for the good of a large amount of the JCR
- If anyone gets injured/hospitalised following this and we funded this as a JCR, college might get really angry? Money is not for drink, just for food, not condoning any alcohol or coercive drinking
- In previous years the £15 also spent on restaurant, alcohol and money to charity? Price gone up this year, money solely for food
- Does this not suggest if we pass this motion, we want the crew date to go ahead, need accountability needs to be some kind of penalty, needs to be more ordered structure to deciding the punishment? Rishi has to pay back 50% of the money

## Time against:

 WBCD is a good thing, but should vote against: proposals to get money on other ways have been rejected by organisers, there are other ways, if this gets out to the Cherwell will affect Keble's reputation as a college, likely to anger college and might not get as much funding next year

VOTES FOR: majority VOTES AGAINST: 27 ABSENTIONS: 19

THIS MOTION PASSES.

## 4. Any other Business:

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