



TT2014 – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2014 – 4<sup>th</sup> Week

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## 1. Apologies of absence:

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## 2. Hustings:

### President

Candidates:

#### 1. Michael Low

- Want to be president – committed to make Keble best place it possible can be, use JCR as a means to do so; incorporate freshers into meetings and reaching quorum, talking about what the JCR does and how it can help: facilities, rent etc.; rent one of the most important parts of the job, will do utmost to work to do this
- Make sure college doesn't forget on progress made on the JCR kitchen – need to have a long term view as a whole JCR to have long term change
- Work with welfare officers to ensure freshers aren't daunted by college; make a standard set of fines, negotiate this with college
- Should still be improving disabled access in college, issue with the graded status of college, very important to appeal to all students and see what's possible to incorporate needs
- Open bar during the day – free access to darts, table tennis etc., useful for holding meetings and for study
- Skills to negotiate with college, takes diplomacy – experience in picking out the right arguments
- Want Keble to be the best place it can be – lots of work but want to be the President to achieve this

#### 2. Rosie Petersen

- Sean has done a really good job this year, would like to continue the projects he's been working on: JCR kitchen benefit students, aware that it will take a long time to come into effect: appoint food reps to improve standard of hall food; primarily be democratic – what the JCR wants, looking for input and opinion
- 3 main areas – relations with college: rent negotiations gone really well in the past important to keep putting in the effort, look at college does its accounting conference vs. domestic accounts and fair distribution of resources, prices for accommodation are on average increasing as refurbishment moves, so introduce discounts on rooms disrupted by this; relationship with the dean: issues with blinds at the beginning of the year, give a degree of discrepancy to the junior deans to reduce people getting deaned; work on extending opening hours of the bar in the day, good space and facilities, good place to socialise and work
- Atmosphere of the JCR – lot more transparency of the JCR budget see every meeting have outstanding budgets for people to decide about motions; open JCR up as a

more of a discussion forum, strong issues that don't get addressed if not in motion form; improve some of the JCR facilities to increase use of the space e.g. toaster and coffee machine, make it more inviting

- Improve community feel – felt very welcomed here, want everyone to have same experience e.g. introduce freshers early on, establish meetings as the norm from the start; disabled access around college – disabled applicants and visitors; integration of overseas students (without wanting to stereotype) more events, proactive support

## Questions

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- Disabled access and lift into hall, one other specific initiative to improve this what would it be?

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    - 1) Can't get into the porter's lodge at any time, such a simple barrier
    - 2) same
  - Rent and budget talk, how do you envisage relationship with the treasurer?

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    - 2) cooperation over the past year, not just delegate tasks and make sure both see eye to eye on financial aspects of running the JCR
    - 1) would closely with all the candidates, coordinate with them in negotiations with college
  - If you could change one thing on the JCR constitution what would you change and why?

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    - 1) lot has been changed already, nothing objects massively: gets a bit male specific towards the end
    - 2) one thing that doesn't need to change – writing 50 words on the nomination forms
  - Keble has a reputation as a not necessarily LBGTQ-friendly college, how would you make it more welcoming?

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    - 2) work already started on LBGTQ rep, greater promotion of this role and do weekly or fortnightly meetings
    - 1) discussion recently had about the rep is a good way of developing this role, got the perfect opportunity to make this work
  - Need to be a good leader to be president, Sean has had a lot of faith that other officers will

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    - !0 regularly remind yourself to delegate tasks, committee really strong anyway
    - 2) strong applicants for other positions so far, no problem in cooperating and delegating, not a control freak so would see it easy
  - One practical way to promote increased attendance next year?

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    - 2) target the freshers, make it into a norm from the beginning
    - 1) Work with the freshers week committee to show the importance and role of the JCR
  - Part of being the President is addressing the faults of things, what's the biggest deficiency of this JCR?

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    - 1) tough question, failure to participate in lots of meetings – could have done more, so move to weekly meetings has been useful, make sure everyone's involved and make it have a wider participation of the opinion of members
    - 2) college problem – 5 people having to live in Acland next year, should have taken a greater stance against this to try to change it
  - Neither of you have mentioned Sean's bike shelter mission, will this be taken up? *Actually going to happen by MT*
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- Mentioned there was no freshers here but currently no 3<sup>rd</sup> years, and not throughout the year?
 

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  - o 1) this close to finals no reason – culture of acceptance of not attending meeting is something to tackle but tackling freshers is more effective
  - o 2) worthwhile to incorporate freshers, remind them of the other things JCR does besides in-college things

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- Most important things we've done this year have been done by committee members?
 

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  - o 1) committee members shouldn't have monopoly over what should be done
  - o 2) not less important, can still be worth doing

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- What's your favourite thing about Keble?
 

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  - o 2) the people
  - o 1) the bar

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- If you had to get rid of one committee position what would it be and why?
 

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  - o 1) accommodation, could try and accommodate it into the vp role
  - o 2) arts and pubs a rep role because they are on similar level to sports and IT

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- Both talked about kitchens and food, how do you suppose issues of hall should be fixed t incorporate more meat?
 

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  - o 1) work with the VP to tell college the issues and to show them what's in it for them
  - o 2) spoke to a few people to set up a food rep position to get different opinions from college

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- Exeter college famously boycotted their hall to get better prices, how militant are you willing to go?
 

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  - o 2) would get the opinion of the JCR to make rational decisions
  - o 1) not as bad as what's happening in Exeter, but if there was then we should look into things and try to negotiate first but if it got bad then would go to those measures

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- Views on anonymous voting?
 

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  - o 1) if someone requests it then it should be an option then it should be there as we're meant to be a democratic body
  - o 2) not necessary for most motions, if there was something to be private about then there should be allowances

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- All great leaders need inspiration, which British prime minister do you align yourself most closely with and why?
 

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  - o 1) Tony Blair – devolution for Scotland was good, want to keep Scotland in the UK
  - o 2) Danish politics – Helle Thorning-Schmidt made some great changes to the country

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- What is your biscuit of choice to get you through JCR meetings?
 

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  - o 2) oreos
  - o 1) chocolate digestives, milk and dark

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- Wizard or president?
 

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  - o 2) you can't separate wizard from president, as wizard you could magic yourself into being president
  - o Wizard, everyone would pick a wizard

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- Some JCRs have closer relationships with other JCRs, do you have any interest in association with other colleges?
 

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  - o 1) only if there was interest three
  - o 2) reason why colleges are with other colleges is that they lack the space, but think it's a good idea to socialise and run events with other colleges too

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Hustings Challenge - given 9 eggs, had to go to different JCR kitchens and post pictures on twitter cooking them

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