

JCR Closed Meeting Minutes

27/01/2024 – 5:00 p.m. in the JCR

Committee present: 20

1. Melanie Benedict (MB(P)) – President
2. Mathew Blowers (MB(VP)) – Vice President
3. Saughn Sekhon (SS) – Treasurer
4. Sankalp Kapur (SK) – Secretary
5. Zegang Wu (ZW) – IT
6. Dev Atra (DA) – Freshers
7. Harriet Regan (HR) – Freshers (on Zoom)
8. Abbie Strain (AS) – Welfare
9. Hannah Townson (HT) – Catering and Accommodation (on Zoom)
10. Devan Simon-McBridge (DSB) – Class Act
11. Brendan Mark (BM) – International
12. Meyssa Rais (MR) – International
13. Michelle Brefo (MB) – BAME
14. Thalia Arundell (TA) – BAME
15. Karen Dias (KD) – Access and Academic
16. Eleanor Wolseley (EW) – Disabilities
17. Rikki Hirai (RH) – ENTS
18. Michelle Kudiabor (MK) – ENTS
19. Martha Wood (MW) – Greens
20. Dan Mills (DM) – LGBT+

Absences

1. Caitlin Mason (CM) – Women's
2. Polly Wilson (PW) – Greens
3. Jacob Walsh (JW) – Welfare
4. Harriet Regan (HR) – Left at 5:33 p.m.
5. Rikki Hirai (RH) – Left at 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absences
 - a. Jacob, Caitlin, and Polly are absent
 - b. Harriet and Hannah Online
2. Check ins
 - i. AS: 2.7
 - ii. EW: 1
 - iii. RH: 5
 - iv. DM: 3 until Thursday
 - v. MK: 4 until next Tuesday
 - vi. MW: 4

- vii. HR: 5
- viii. HT: 4
- ix. SK: 1
- x. MB(V): 4
- xi. DSB: 5
- xii. SS: 4
- xiii. MB(P): 3
- xiv. BM: 4
- xv. ZW: 4 for weekdays
- xvi. KD: 3
- xvii. MB: 3
- xviii. TA: 3
- xix. DA: 2
- xx. MR: 4

3. Presidential Update

- a. Been ill
- b. GB meeting on Thursday (mentioned in last week's meeting)
 - i. Before the meeting – the report given:
 1. the JCR now has all its members, and the handover has been smooth
 2. Goal has been to be involved with the JCR, MCR, and staff members more often
 3. Staff stash sale will happen soon (date TB, time between 12 and 1 pm)
 4. Accommodation ballot for next month, no complaints so far
 5. Continued welfare activities, showing cohesion between the years
 6. BOP successful
 7. Sports day on 10/02/24

4. Committee Updates

- a. RH and MK:
 - i. Not many updates
 - ii. Made the BOP voting ballot. Instagram poll, announcing results next week.
 - iii. Email from some Cambridge student storage company – “if you advertise us we can do a deal for BOP” Meeting next week.
 - iv. Will speak to MR and BM for international students. Magd students could get a 20% discount
- b. MW
 - i. Plant sale tomorrow 3-4pm
 - ii. Plants have arrived, stored in a room
 - iii. Just need tables for the evnt
 - iv. Food bank/collection will be in the works after the Plant sale. Will be done for a food bank.
- c. MB(V)
 - i. Organized meeting
 - ii. Hoping for more stuff soon
- d. DSM:
 - i. On Tuesday, sharing a class act forum for students in Cambridge.
 - ii. Have come up with things to say in the forum

- iii. Hopefully organize some cross college events soon
- e. HT
 - i. Meeting with Mark Slater on Monday to talk about breakfast and Halfway-Hall
 - ii. Got an email for storage
 - iii. MB(P): Magdalene jazz band to play at the start of halfway hall?
 - 1. Depends on cost but sounds good
- f. SS:
 - i. Need to speak to the bank
 - ii. Got an email from Varsity about JCR budget for an article
 - iii. Our budget is not public
 - iv. Will provide lump sum but not breakdown
 - v. MB(P): Maybe speak to Helen and amal secretary Steven if this information is allowed to be shared
- g. RM and BM
 - i. Movie night last week, bigger turnout than expected
 - ii. No plans for the coming week
 - iii. Going to have an event for Chinese New Year
 - 1. Might organize with the Lunar New Year formal. Maybe pres?
 - 2. Will look into the menu and name for the formal, seems to be confusion about the cultures involved.
 - 3. HT: Menu cannot be changed
- h. ZW
 - i. Not much, just uploading minutes and moderating emails
 - ii. MB(P): We need to update JCR website (committee pictures)
- i. SK:
 - i. Updating noticeboard outside Plodge
 - ii. Progress on IG Meet the Committee JCR
 - iii. MB(P): archive
- j. KD
 - i. Planning for the shadowing scheme, coming up soon
 - ii. Involves Jack's trip, quiz night, etc
- k. MB and TA
 - i. Trip coming up soon to watch theatre
 - ii. Thinking of doing a BAME formal
 - iii. BAME workshop the coming weekend
 - iv. MB(P): If an official theme is needed, this can be organized for Easter as Lent is all booked
 - v. HT: Themed formals need to communicated about at the start of each term
- l. DA
 - i. Not done much
 - ii. Thinking of doing a marriage formal, will be in touch with ENTS about specifics
- m. AS
 - i. Hot chocolate is super popular. This particular one is considered a trial run, to inform on cost for the future
 - ii. Products

- iii. Apprentice watch-alongs starting on Thursday
- iv. Knitting, earlier on Thursdays
- v. Meditation instructor booked, Wednesday evenings
- vi. Are we bringing back Film Club? Some second years want to revive it but they have missed the amal bid. Now considering to include it under welfare, and have costs limited to some snacks
- vii. Will speak to MB(P) about hot water bottles and blankets soon
- viii. Catriona wondering if people would be interested in the sports centre for a gym induction. Capacity up to 20-25. Induction would be free but membership would be of cost. Need to see how to coordinate costs and logistics
- ix. Tea at 3 is ongoing. Sports taster sessions are ongoing, happening at the sports centre. Going to have different people working with this coming in for Tea every week
- x. MB(P): Would be good to have more activity-based welfare events. Events that can appeal to the wider community.
 - 1. AS: Speed-dating activity
- xi. Welfare calendar has been put in the social room of the library
- n. EW
 - i. Library said they can put out earbuds in the library (these are from exam term)
 - ii. Might organize a movie night
 - iii. MB(P): A lot of red ropes in college toilets are tied up instead of touching the floor. Needs to be addressed with the students as this makes toilets inaccessible.
 - iv. MB(P): Also want to brainstorm about forums to raise problems, doubts, and suggestion since people like the anonymity of Magdfess.
 - 1. EW: Currently have a google form, no responses yet
- o. DM
 - i. Been in contact with the officers from Trinity and Sidney to see the play and afterwards there will be a bar mixer in either Sidney or some other bar
 - ii. MB(P): Ask college if the flag can be hung up for the whole month
- p. General from MB(P):
 - i. Would like officers to make graphics for recurring events
- 5. Sport's Day
 - a. Statement
 - i. Need volunteers to help write the statement to be signed by both colleges. Would like people who were affected last year to be in the know/ volunteer with this. Hopefully can be done by the end of the week. Don't want captains to sign it because it may take too long for all the captains from both colleges to sign it on time. Want all the JCR to sign it (could be lumped as 'The JCR')
 - ii. To compensate for the lack of captain signatures, there can be a line stating that this statement must be relayed to all the captains
 - b. Could get JCR members first aid trained as a part of the risk assessment
 - c. JCR can be turned into a cozy space or a space for people to relax if they don't want to go out
 - i. Can put on games or movies
 - ii. Can leave the bar open for people to use if they wish
 - iii. Can also turn the JCR into a quiet space if bar is opened and more active
 - d. AS: Want to organize a just-dance competition

6. Any Other Business

- a. MB(P): May Ball fireworks
 - i. Email received from someone reporting a problem with the use of fireworks and is suggesting not to use it
 - ii. We can ask them to speak to next year's Mayball organizer about this
- b. HR : Helen needs timetable by end of Lent. Understands availability is difficult but still needs some idea
 - i. MB(P): Would like officer to get back to the fresher reps within a week about potential ideas and events etc.
- c. MR: Can we have some safety checks on the leg press machine in Benson Gym?