



St John's College Junior Common Room

GM1, TT25 Agenda

Monday, 5th May 2025

jcr-secretary@sjc.ox.ac.uk

1. Minutes from the previous meeting

Minutes available [here](#).

2. Matters arising from the minutes

3. Reports from Officers

Laurence:

- Dinner with Sidney Sussex JCR Pres – organising a swap for next year after disaster of 2023 organised for Trinity of next year
 - o Possible collaboration with their arts magazine
- Met with physics tutors over idea of forum with students
- Inflation for John's rents lower this year than last year (potentially) - further meetings next week to confirm increase of c. 2% (better than 4.5% last year)

Oscar:

- Business as usual

Joe:

- Freshers' week planning in progress

Zohaib:

- Punt club all set up – pls email if you haven't received one
- "Rory please check your emails"
 - Rory: "it's Arj not me"

Dom Secs:

- Upcoming guest dinner wk 3 Friday
- Garden Party wk 4
- Reaching out to sponsors – Marc Jacobs and Gucci reached out to!
- Airbeds are in Kendrew now

Welfare:

- Wedding planning in progress

Entz:

- One more BOP of this term – Mia's last before leaving for year abroad
- Planning Garden Party – looking at sustainable options
- End of year celebration post up – being held at the Perch

Izzy:

- Dolphin gallery set up for this term

Josh:

- Eco “celebratory materials” ordered
- Form coming out this week – aiming to deliver materials before next week
- “Hope you’ve had a thoroughly enjoyable Monday”

Kaya:

- Posted on Facebook – multi-college formal Friday Wk 3 at Keble

Amelia:

- Steering Committee on Wednesday – please get in touch
- Outreach meeting upcoming

Leanne:

- Period order soon
- Combined JCR/MCR/SCR upcoming

Jerome:

- Three upcoming events – alumni talk this Thursday, week after MCR panel/talk on Masters, following week careers event from the Careers Service

Elliot: None

Rory:

- Sports Dinner this Friday – at max capacity

Andras:

- Punt club working

4. Charities Nominations

Please find the link to proposed charities [here](#).

Euan (The Porch):

- Leads homeless outreach society and have learnt a lot about how homeless provision works in oxford
- Greatest impact given by the Porch
- Provide almost anything anyone could need 3x a day 5x a week
- Operating costs 250,000 per annum – money very important
- Only two salaried members of staff, meaning money goes exclusively to end user directly (compared to larger organisations)

No other charity was represented by a speaker.

The JCR found no reason to have any concerns about the charities nominated.

Voting on which charity to support will be attached here and in the email sending out minutes.

5. Ratifications

No rep roles were ratified.

6. Ratification of the new Returning Officer

Alex Mylet:

- Will do the role if no one else steps forward.
- I am familiar with the constitution (“read through it a couple of times”)

Seeing no objections, Alex Mylet was elected as RO to thunderous applause

7. Ball Committee Update

- Burritos and Nyetimber been contacted
- Meeting with Domestic Bursar in the works
- Job applications (social media, specific roles) opening soon

Libby: Will everyone be kicked out of their rooms on the night of the ball even if they have access requirements?

- This hasn't been discussed yet but will be brought up tomorrow

Mel: What are the rough plans so far? (Date, costs, size, how many quads)

- No budget determined so far so working with prev. Budget (c. £400,000)
- All quads if possible, different theme in each

- Overall theme not determined
- No clear date – probably week 9 Trinity '26

Alex: Will we be able to apply for vac res to stay?

Laurence: Hopefully but will require some “wrangling” given concerns with exam disruption.

6. Agenda items

A) The “JCR Auditors” Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Zohaib Bhatti

Seconded: Laurence Cooke

This JCR notes that:

- “External scrutiny: accounts must be checked but trustees may choose either independent examination or audit by a registered auditor, unless the charity’s governing document specifies one or the other. In exceptional circumstances, the Commission has the power to require an audit.” [1]
- The role of JCR Auditor has been unfilled since 2022.
- A motion was passed in TT 2024 to update the Constitution to clarify what the role entailed and replace confusing terminology, but nothing really came of it, since we still didn’t have an Auditor for 2024.
- I do not have access to bank statements from before 2024.
- The relevant section of the Constitution is attached here: [JCR-Constitution.docx](#)

[1] <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/charity-reporting-and-accounting-the-essentials-november-2016-cc15d/charity-reporting-and-accounting-the-essentials-november-2016-cc15d--2>

This JCR believes that:

- The JCR should do its best to ensure its accounts for the 2025 year are independently examined to ensure this continues in future years.
- The matter of outstanding years should be discussed at a later point, and handled separately to the 2025 year to prevent delays of a potential 2025 audit.

This JCR resolves to:

- a. **Ratify a JCR Auditor at the JCR's earliest convenience.**
- b. Delete Standing Order Table 7 Clause 13, "The current JCR Auditors should remain in place alongside the new external Auditors to audit the accounts for any outstanding previous expenditure, to complete the audit up to the start of this academic year 2023-4. Upon the presentation of a report on this past expenditure, these positions shall be discontinued and this clause shall be deleted.

Requirements for a JCR Auditor

2. Where the JCR Auditor position is unfilled, the JCR General Committee shall appoint willing and capable examiners to ensure that the position is filled.
 - a. Anyone who served as an Officer or Rep since the last independent examination or has a conflict of interest which may jeopardise impartial and independent examination is ineligible for appointment.
 - b. The JCR Auditor should be MCR members whenever possible, ideally with no previous membership of the JCR, or otherwise suitably independent individuals as outlined by Charities Commission Directions and guidance for examiners (CC32), Direction 2.

Zohaib:

- We need someone to help scrutinise the budget

Jerome:

- Would it be worth asking other JCRs how their auditors work?

Laurence:

- I will ask PresCom (proceeded to pull up PresCom Messenger Group and received no response)

B) The "TT 2025 Budget Reallocation" Financial Motion

Proposer: Zohaib Bhatti

Seconded: Laurence Cooke

This JCR notes that:

- We didn't have a Facilities Rep when I made the budget
- Arts Week went over by a bit
- I'm actually bookkeeping our paper subscriptions
- Barely anyone is touching the Financial Motions budget and it'll probably stay that way

The budget is attached here: [2025 Budget](#)

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Make the following changes to budget areas.

Budget Area	Change
Facilities Rep	+£100
Newspaper Subs	+£373.50
Financial Motions	-£643.14
Arts Week	+£169.64
SUM	£0

Friendly amendments encouraged.

Zohaib: No facilities rep when budget was made and arts week went slightly over + bookkeeping subscription.

Andras: Is there a repairs budget?

Zohaib: Yes

Andras: Submit to repairs budget

Joe: how much is left in financial motions?

Zohaib: most of it

Joe: Needed to purchase polaroid camera for Freshers Week

C) The “Support Fiddler on the Roof” Financial Motion

Proposer: Jerome Pailing

Seconded: Nicole Palka

This JCR notes that:

- a. The Eglesfield Musical Society (EMS) is putting on a performance of Fiddler on the Roof (21st-24th May, The Queen’s College Gardens).
- b. There are 3 members of the St John’s JCR involved in the production

This JCR believes that:

- b. EMS states that it is committed to (i) prioritising student participation (ii) delivering a high-quality yet accessible production.
- c. It is a big production with lots of intricate lighting etc, so it requires a large budget
- d. There are many people involved in the show, who are all requesting money from their own JCRs

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- c. Give £200 to Eglesfield Music Society from the Kendrew Arts Fund

Jerome:

- Includes two John’s students with large cast
- All asking for money to make sure it can happen

D) The ‘fund CRUSH’ Financial Motion

Proposer: Georgina Cooper

Seconder: Juliet Taub

This JCR notes that:

- Georgina Cooper, a member of the St John’s JCR, is part of the cast of Hannah Eggleton’s *CRUSH* in the role of Miss Evans at the North Wall Arts Centre, a local professional theatre venue, between 3rd and 7th June 2025, TTWK6.
- As a student production and training opportunity, *CRUSH* relies on support from University and College grants to be able to be staged in the first place.

- This is a purely unprofitable venture. All ticket sales go back into the University pot which will support the longevity of arts at the College and the University.
- All funding will go towards the large venue costs, the construction of our set and costumes, our marketing and advertisement, and any further production costs that may arise.

This JCR believes that:

- It is important to support student drama and help bring entertainment to a student audience; the production is a celebration of theatre, the joy of community, and strength in being brought together in spite of and through trying times.
- In such an academically focused environment, it is imperative to support extra-curricular artistic endeavours and creativity to afford students a holistic university experience.
- Pursuits beyond our studies should also be encouraged so that JCR members can commit to projects and hobbies solely for the purpose of enjoyment.
- It is important to find a balance between work and hobbies, and that the JCR should support the pursuit of this balance for its members.
- Offering student theatre productions to university students is important in fostering a rounded, multi-curricular education during our university experience.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Donate £200 from the Kendrew Arts Fund to *Crush*

Georgina: Play by RSC-award winning director involving two Johns students

E) The “Welfare Reps” Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Anya Macaulay

Seconded: Ishen Dodhia

This JCR notes that:

Welfare events require a large amount of set up/pack up

This JCR believes that:

Due to the volume of work and the fact that not all welfare officers are consistently available, friends of the welfare officers are always involved in the set up and pack up for events.

They receive no benefit from this (ballot points, etc.) in the same way the welfare officers do, but consistently help out.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

Add welfare reps, who would hold a similar role to the entz reps and receive similar compensation for their time and efforts.

Laurence: Need a role description for welfare reps so we can add it to the constitution

Anya: Will bring a role description at next meeting – we need the reps before the next meeting as there will be welfare events before then and the “reps” will need to be rewarded.

Laurence: That’s fine. Bring a formal role description to the next meeting so we can formally add this to the constitution.

7. Any other business