



St John's College Junior Common Room

GM2, TT25 Agenda

Monday, 19th 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 (President):

- Rents and Charges increase has been confirmed – a lower increase than the previous year (2.7% on rent)
- Veg and vegan food frozen and meat increasing by c. 3%
- Lowest rent of any college and third lowest food charges
- First SU Conference of Common Rooms held - “moderately interesting”
 - o Motion on international student fees being capped
 - o Motion on supreme court ruling on sex and gender – supported supporting students involved

Oscar (Secretary):

- Attended Student Equality Forum - next one is being held on Tuesday of Week 3 in MT25 (28 October)
- Please come along to get more JCR voices involved

Joe (Vice-President):

- Focusing on Freshers' Week planning
- Email has been sent out to those who have applied
- Going to meet with Snr Dean and Academic Office soon

Zohaib (Treasurer):

- “Doing my job innit”

Dom Secs:

- Guest Dinner on Friday went well
- Need to improve the payment for pres/posts - no signal and easily forgotten
 - o Laurence: could we make it a pre-emptive system where you show proof of payment on arrival
- Garden Party on Saturday – could potentially be raining so working on contingencies
- Food Feedback soon
- Wristbands for Garden Party – will be posted when you can collect them

Welfare:

- Weddings went well
- Planned trip for strawberry picking soon
- Karaoke on Saturday this week (Garden Party)

Entz:

- Garden Party on Saturday
- Perch in Week 8

Rory (Sport):

- Sports Dinner a success

Leanne: (Women and Minority Gender):

- Self defence class tomorrow
- Networking event upcoming
- Period products in the JCR
- Garden party planned for Week 7, but thinking of open to other colleges to increase attendance
 - o Access to Youni – but need to check with Jnr Deans first

Amelia: (Access and Admissions):

- “Desperately needs to lock in”
- Attended access steering meeting – please sign up
- More content coming – message Amelia to get involved

Jerome (External Affairs):

- Successful career talk
- Next week wednesday – talk from Career’s Service

Josh S. (Environment and Ethics):

- Eco-celebratory materials available – email if you want

Andras (IT):

- Lots of broken laptops – glad form is working now though
- Ordered new ethernet cables and adapters (USBC, HDMI adapters)

Elliot:

- Attended educational policy committee
- Pushing for online resources for study support, not just in-person meetings
- Materials will be sent out soon

Izzy (Arts):

- Dolphin Gallery working well – was an issue as someone had tried to hang things in the Gallery improperly
- Otherwise, main query is exhibition stuff

Kaya:

- Also attended SEF forum – please do turn up or relay issues to me

Alex (RO):

- By-election for president open
- New motion for how MT position is filled for Dom Sec/Entz

4. Ratifications

No rep roles were ratified

5. Agenda items

A) *The “Surface Tension Exhibition” Financial Motion*

Proposer: Isabel Gregory

Seconded: Georgina Cooper

This JCR notes that:

- a. This is an exhibition which is set to be held in the Barn at St Johns from 25th October - 16th November and its title is ‘Surface Tension: Photography, Truth, Materiality.’
- b. The exhibition consists of a photographic collection in which the photographs themselves draw attention to their materiality and status as a physical object. This exhibition is a central part of the Photo Oxford Festival which is an internationally recognised festival of photography which takes place biannually.
- c. This is run by a registered charity which uses photography to connect people, facilitate storytelling and explore identity.
- d. Because this is such a renowned festival, it’s an honour that one of its main focal points is taking place at Johns.
- e. Along with Geoffrey Batchen and Katy Barron, I have been invited to co-curate the exhibition which will be an incredible learning experience. One of the first things I have learnt is the importance of funding.

- f. With most of the charity's money going on the photographs themselves, this leaves very little for things such as labelling, framing, printing catalogues and the exhibition opening.

This JCR believes that:

- a. I believe that the JCR should contribute to the exhibition because firstly I (a John's student) have a key role. This will be my first time curating an exhibition and I'm incredibly lucky that it will be such a high profile one.
- b. Working alongside famous art historians and photographers is an amazing opportunity and I would love to be able to do it with the highest standard and professionalism that we can.
- c. Furthermore, the exhibition will positively impact the whole of college - it will be open to all students and members of the community and will bring St John's into the center of a famous academically driven festival. With it being based in John's and with a student as curator, it will be difficult to get funding from any other college.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- a. Give £300 to 'Surface Tension Exhibition' from the Kendrew Arts Fund
- b. Require a written report from the Proposer, to be uploaded to the News section on the JCR website

Izzy:

- Festival in October
- Exhibition being held in John's by a charity
- Money goes to obtaining photos and other vital parts of the exhibition

Joe:

- "seems reasonable"

B) *The "Ruskin Degree Show" Financial Motion*

Proposer: Connor Manship

Seconder: Sol Woodroffe

This JCR notes that:

1. The Ruskin Degree Show is an annual exhibition that serves as the final examination for Fine Art students. This year's show will run from 20th to 25th June in the faculty building in Cowley, and will be open to the public.
2. The exhibition will feature work by Connor Manship, a third-year Fine Art student at St John's College.
3. Funding is needed to cover the printing of the Degree Show publication, which is a University-mandated requirement but receives no University funding.
4. The exhibition is entirely non-profit, and no artworks will be sold.
5. Additional funding is being sought from other colleges, alongside three terms of dedicated fundraising efforts.

This JCR believes that:

1. This funding will be essential to support both the publication and the opening of the Degree Show.
2. The JCR should support the creative work of Ruskin School of Art students, particularly given the limited institutional support currently available.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

1. Contribute £200 from the Kendrew Arts Fund to support the Ruskin Degree Show.

Connor:

- Less than asked for last year
- Have been fundraising but need supplementary money

C) *The "Last 3 Bikes!" Financial Motion*

Proposer: Benjamin Smith

Seconder: Zohaib Bhatti

This JCR notes that:

- After having gone missing for a while, the 3 missing JCR bikes have been found. The remaining 7 bikes have been repaired and are now functioning properly.
- The last 3 bikes are currently not functional to the point where they are safe to ride, and many of the fixes required are beyond my capabilities to fix.
- The JCR bikes rep budget has been used up replacing all the equipment, and repairing the other bikes.

This JCR believes that:

- It is highly important to get the bikes back to being fully operational so that in future years we don't have to spend the ridiculous amounts on repairs that I have this year.
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- Therefore, we should fund the repairs on the bikes, and add a little more to the bike rep budgets so I can continue to keep the bikes in good condition!

This JCR therefore resolves to:

Give £200 to JCR Bike Rep Budget

Ben:

- When I started as Bike Rep, few bikes were functioning
- Recently found three missing bikes, unlocked in GQ
- No budget left to repair these last three bikes

Zohaib:

- Friendly amendment to just give Ben the money instead of it coming from FMB (accepted)

D) ***The “Purchase copies of Folly Magazine” Financial Motion***

Proposer: Laurence Cooke

Seconded: Amy Lawson

This JCR notes that:

- a. *Folly* is a new Oxford-based student magazine that focuses on long-form creative works.
- b. You can see their new website [here](#) and Instagram [here](#).
- c. Many of the editorial staff on *Folly* are very well-respected in the Oxford student journalism scene. Some have previously worked with *Cherwell* and *The Isis*.

This JCR believes that:

- a. It is important to support new student publications in Oxford, especially those which are just starting out and need funding.
- b. *Folly* could be a good future avenue for budding St John's writers and artists to publish.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- a. Order £60 worth of copies of this term's edition of *Folly* to the JCR (10 editions) from the Financial Motions Budget.

Laurence:

- New publication
- Trying to self-fund but looking to sell to JCRs
- Nice to see if people enjoyed this from a sample – no obligation to buy again
- Would be good opportunity for students to get involved

Joe:

- Are there any John's students involved?

Laurence:

- No, but this isn't why we buy hem

Joe:

- Why do they cost £6?

Laurence:

- High overheads

E) *The "Dom Sec & Entz Officer Year Abroad" Constitutional Motion*

Proposer: Alex Mylet

Seconded: Laurence Cooke

This JCR notes that:

- a. Under the current constitution, it appears that one Entz Officer or Dom Sec resigns (including by going on a year abroad), a by-election should be held for the role.
- b. Last year, this did not happen, and Entz was successfully run by the single remaining Entz Officer.
- c. One of the incumbent Entz Officers is going on a year abroad.
- d. The remaining Entz Officer indicated they are happy running Entz by themselves next term.
- e. As such, the current by-elections being run do not include an Entz Officer role.
- f. Such an arrangement is not provided for by the constitution.

This JCR believes that:

- a. The remaining Entz Officer (or Dom Sec) should be able to make a choice on what happens when their fellow Officer goes on a year abroad.
- b. The by-election being run should be constitutional.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

6. Amend §23a. of the constitution to replace “two people, and if one resigns, a by-election shall be held for the role.” with “two people, and if one or both resign, the procedure in Standing Order Table 3B shall be followed.”
7. Add Standing Order Table 3B §5-6, at the end of the end of Standing Order Table 3B, as follows:

“5. If a role is filled by filled two people running as a pair (under §23 and Standing Order Table 3A §2b.), and either 1c. or 1e. occur or 1d. occurs with both Officers not in residence for the following academic year, then a by-election is held for the role.

8. Candidates for the replacement must run as pairs.
9. The Officer(s) still in office remain in office until the time at which the new Officers start holding office under §19.

10. If, for such a role, 1d. occurs with one Officer remaining in residence for the following academic year, then the Returning Officer shall ask the remaining Officer which of the following they wish to occur, and shall hold a by-election (or not) as requested:

11. A by-election is held, to be filled by one person, to join the remaining Officer.

b. A by-election is held for the role as a pair (as in §5. of this table).

c. No by-election is held: the remaining Officer holds the role by themselves for that Michaelmas.”

Alex:

- If one Entz Officer/Dom Sec leaves, both officers are supposed to resign from the role
- I am keeping this rule except in circumstances where one is going on a year abroad, leaving open options for extent of elections

Joe:

- What happens to Battels incentive for Dom Sec/Entz if they resign

Laurence:

- Send off Committee membership start of each term – role for next president in Michaelmas

12. Any other business

Laurence:

- By-election for my role coming up – please get in touch if anyone is interested

Zohaib:

- What do you get as President for one term?

Laurence:

- 100 pounds on bod card (same as exec)
- No changes to rent payment as they will only serve one term

Joe:

- Is it a busy term?

Laurence:

- No, but involves weekly meetings, admin, and SU work
- Some people have been getting scam emails from me – please check with me before replying