



St John's College JCR

TT26, GM4 Minutes

Monday 15 June 2026

jcr-secretary@sjc.ox.ac.uk

The Vice-President acted as Chair in this meeting as the Chair was not present.

1. Minutes from the previous meeting

Minutes available [here](#).

2. Matters arising from the minutes

None.

3. Reports from the Officers

President (Jerome): Have held handover meetings with Sanjay. College's poor communications about the bike cull have been noted. There are now new guidelines for guest rooms in college.

Ruth: The culled bikes are in storage—go to Porters' Lodge to retrieve them.

Vice-President (Ruth): Have meeting tomorrow with Domestic Bursar, events team, and other College staff to iron out some final details before end of term.

Secretary (Mia): Nothing to report.

Treasurer (Andras): Have had a meeting with Jerome and Sanjay. Punt Club is still running, thanks to Burak. One of them ends Saturday, the other continues through summer. Officers, please submit reimbursements as soon as possible—it is in everyone's best interest. Try to reimburse different events separately to simplify things.

Maxim: Which punt is available over summer?

Andras: Magdalen A.

Academic Affairs (Maxim): Had a meeting with the College Archivist.

Arts (Naomi): Nothing to report.

Access (Inaya): Sent first set of proposals for revamped role to Jerome, will also discuss with Sanjay.

Charities (Euan): Nothing to report.

Domestic Officers: Did the food forum, the results are on the JCR Facebook. Guest dinner went well. Running out of money but Andras is doing reallocation to fix this. Airbeds are going well.

Entz: Schrödinger's Bop went well. Perch is currently being sorted.

Environment and Ethics (Isaac): Trashing materials have been delivered. Very poor attendance for the climate documentary screening.

Equality and Diversity (Lia): Continuing with BAME Society, we have a social on Wednesday with free smoothies!

IT (Fred): Difficult to reschedule Punt Club bookings if it's done last minute. Some IT loan scheme things may be broken, currently checking things.

Publicity (Sam): Nothing to report.

Sports (Emily): Everything is going well.

Welfare: Everything is going well.

Womens:** (Role vacant)

Returning Officer (Alex): Hustings for Women**s Officer will be at 5pm on Wednesday.

4. Ratifications

No Rep roles were ratified.

5. Agenda items

A. The “2026 June Mini-Budget” Financial Motion

Proposer: Andras Bard

Seconded: Jerome Pailing

This JCR notes that:

- a. Since the latest budget was passed, new information has come to the Treasurer’s attention, requiring minor adjustments to allocations.

This JCR believes that:

- b. The Domestic Officers do not have enough budget to continue running guest dinners to the end of the year.
- c. The International Students Fund has overrun its budget slightly, which needs to be covered.
- d. The President does not have enough budget to continue attending PresComs.
- e. The Student Arts Fund does not have enough budget to fund the expected amount of arts projects next term.
- f. The Garden Party has a lot of budget left over.
- g. The Punt Club has a lot of budget left over after lots of MCR signups.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- h. Increase the allocation to the Domestic Officers by £534.06.
Decrease the allocation to the Garden Party by £534.06.
- i. Increase the allocation to the Intl Students Fund by £23.53.
Decrease the allocation to the Garden Party by £23.53.
- j. Increase the allocation to the President by £70.
Decrease the allocation to the Punt Club by £70.
- k. Increase the allocation to the Student Arts Fund by £400.
Decrease the allocation to the Punt Club by £400.

Andras: Some areas where spending has been less than budgeted, some where it’s been more. Need top-ups for those areas running out of money.

Anya: More is still needed for the Garden Party as Sisters of Funk still need to send their invoice.

Andras: Friendly amend £834.06 to £534.06.

B. The “*Let the People Pick the Charities*” Constitutional Motion

Proposer: Euan Warner

Seconded: Andras Bard

This JCR notes that:

- a. The JCR currently has a Charity Budget, into which one third of the JCR Charity Donation levy is paid.
- b. Charities Motions currently allow the JCR to mandate specific charitable donations from the Charities Fund, but are very seldom submitted.
- c. The present system depends on individual Charities Motions being submitted and voted on at a Termly Charities Meeting.
- d. This can limit the number of charities considered by the whole JCR and can make the distribution of charity levy money dependent on who is able to submit and attend motions.
- e. A two-stage polling system organised by the charities officer allows JCR members first to nominate charities, and then to choose which charities should receive the JCR’s charity levy money.

This JCR believes that:

- f. The JCR’s charity levy should be distributed in a way that is democratic, accessible, and reflective of the preferences of the wider JCR membership.
- g. JCR members should be able to nominate charities for consideration without needing to draft a full Charities Motion.
- h. A final poll between nominated charities would give all full members a clearer and more direct say in where charity levy money is donated.
- i. Dividing the money between the top three charities balances democratic choice with the desire to support more than one cause.
- j. Allocating 50% to the charity receiving the most votes, 30% to the charity receiving the second-most votes, and 20% to the charity receiving the third-most votes is a clear and fair method of distribution.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- k. Amend the Constitution as follows:
 - i. Remove Part Two §48d, “Charities Motions, mandating specific expenditure of up to £300 from the JCR Charities Fund on charities. These may only be brought at the second Ordinary General Meeting of each term (the ‘Termly Charities Meeting’);”
 - ii. Replace Part Two §7:
“Should the total sum of Charities Motions in a given meeting exceed the available funds in the Charities Budget, each motion which is passed shall receive a donation, scaled down in proportion to what

each requested to exhaust the remaining funds, while leaving a buffer for an Emergency Charities Motion.”

with:

“The portion of the Charity Budget available for ordinary charitable donations, excluding any Charity Account reserves, shall be distributed according to Charities Polls held once per year, during Hilary term, following the procedure set out in Standing Order Table Ten.”

- iii. Remove, in Part Two §54b., the words “Charities Motions”.
- l. Amend the Standing Orders of the Constitution as follows:
 - i. Replace, in Standing Order Table One §17g:

“Passing of Charities Motions Nem Con (in a Termly Charities Meeting only)”

with:

“Announcement of Charities Poll results, where applicable”.
 - ii. Remove Standing Order Table One §29-31, and the subheading “Orders Regarding Charities Motions Nem Con”.
 - iii. Replace Standing Order Table Ten §2-3 with

“Orders Regarding Charities Polls

 - 2. Each Hilary term, the Charities Officer, in cooperation with the Treasurer shall run a two-stage Charities Poll process.
 - 3. The first poll shall invite full members of the JCR to nominate charities to receive money from the Charity Budget. The Charities Officer shall publicise this poll to the JCR and keep it open for a reasonable period of time.
 - 4. The Charities Officer shall compile the nominated charities into a shortlist for the second poll. A charity may only be included in the second poll if it is a registered charity in the UK and if the Charities Officer and Treasurer are satisfied that donating to it would be compatible with the JCR’s charitable purposes and legal obligations.
 - 5. The second poll shall be open to all full members of the JCR and shall ask members to vote for their preferred charities from the shortlist.
 - 6. Following the close of the second poll, the three charities receiving the greatest number of votes shall receive the portion of the Charity Budget available for ordinary charitable donations in that term. The charity receiving the greatest number of votes shall receive 50%, the charity receiving the second-greatest number of votes shall receive 30%, and the charity receiving the third-greatest number of votes shall receive 20%.
 - 7. If there is a tie affecting which charities are to receive donations, or affecting the order in which donations are to be allocated, the tied

charities shall share equally the combined percentage allocation of the relevant places.

8. The Charities Officer shall announce the results of the Charities Poll to the JCR as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.
 9. The Treasurer shall make the donations in accordance with the results of the Charities Poll and shall keep records of these donations as required by this Constitution.”
- iv. Add, in Standing Order Table Two §2q, at the end,
“V. Advertise and administer the Charities Polls, including the nominations poll and the final poll, in cooperation with the Treasurer.”
 - v. Replace, in Standing Order Table One §51c., “charities motion” with “Emergency Charities Motion”.
- m. Mandate the Secretary to make any necessary consequential changes to numbering and cross-references arising from this motion (in particular, in Part Two §2b.).

Andras: Changing this section of the Constitution to be more realistic in terms of how charities things are actually done.

Alex: Friendly amending the motion to clarify a few issues. [The original motion text can be viewed in the meeting agenda, [here](#).]

Andras: Accepting the amendment on Euan’s behalf, as he accepted all these provisions by email. Will be paying the nominated charities after voting based on what the Constitution then says.

6. Any other business

None.