

JCR Meeting #4 Minutes

20th January 2019

Summary

Quorum was reached. Minutes from the previous meeting were ratified. A motion over suspending JCR membership was passed. Valentina Sulis was voted unanimously for COC – Advocacy Officer. Husts were held for JCR President, JCR Treasurer, Tech Officer, Formals' Officer and Shop – Treasurer.

Apologies

- Ann-Cathrin Klöckner
- Robert Smith
- Anders Strommen
- Paige Cruikshank

Quorum reached

Ratify minutes of previous meeting

- The previous minutes were duly ratified.

Officer Reports

- Clara Ohayon (CO – JCR President)
 - Taking over role of chair for current elections
- Ed Gallagher (EG – JCR Treasurer)
 - Issue has been resolved with the HMRC and we settled from £10,000 to £400
- Oliver Goshow (OG – Sports and Societies Officer)
 - Gym signup for the term has been posted
 - Varsities upcoming
 - Men's Football A against Collingwood A on Wednesday.
 - Men's Rugby A against Hatfield A on Friday.
 - Women's Football A against Hatfield A following Wednesday.
- Sarah Schenko (SS – Senior Welfare Officer)
 - Contact hours are running as normal
 - Welfare room has been revamped
 - International Awareness Week starts on the Monday with a pub quiz tomorrow night
- Alex Longman (AL – JCR Chair)
 - *Nothing to report – JCR President currently Chair*
- Billie Duch Gimenez (BG – Shop Chair)
 - Card machine at the shop is still not running – CIS issue
- Matthew O'Brien (MO – JCR Secretary)
 - Bogroll first for term has been created
- Ryan Collins (RC – Tech Chair)
 - New amplifier in the music room
- Rachel Jacob (RJ – Formals Officer)
 - Table submissions for the 80's formal are open
- Rachael Griffiths (RG – Social Officer)
 - *Nothing to report*
- Ed Cook (EC – Union Officer)
 - Student Union assembly on 30th of January
- Arabeth Lecuyer (AR – Postgraduate Representative)
 - Trying to push for leftovers to go to livers out

- Crystal Monis (CM – Community Officer)
 - Interviewed for new International Rep
 - Positioning going up today – Advocacy Officer
 - Next Saturday is livers out brunch

Motions

- Motion to suspend JCR Membership for individuals remaining on the JCR Debtors' List for over a year
- Question: How long will they remain suspended? Matt O'Brien
 - Can work out a deal with them if they are having difficulties. Just want them to contact us. *Answered by Ed Gallagher (Treasurer)*
- Question: What do we do if they do not contact us? Joshua Short
 - More of a mechanism to get contacted rather than having to reach out. *Answered by Ed Gallagher (Treasurer)*
- Motion has been duly passed on a general aye

Elections

- COC – Advocacy & Campaigns Officer
 - Candidates
 1. Valentina Sulis (1st year physics)
- *Election taken on a general aye*

Hustings

- Exec – JCR President
 - Questions from Clara Ohayon (Current President)
 1. As president you will be sitting on prescomm (presidents committee), do you have any university wide goals that you would like to push as a student representative?
 2. You will often find yourself having to fight for things that are heavily opposed by college staff, how will you go about defending the interests of the JCR in this situation?
 3. To what extent do you think the president's role should be a welfare role?
 4. People in leadership positions in Durham are expected to be role models. Do you think you are a good role model?
 5. What do you think your greatest strength / weakness is?
 6. What do you think is one thing former presidents have neglected that you would focus on?
 7. If you could be president of any other college, which college would it be and why?
 - Questions from the floor
 8. Where do you think you radically differ from the other candidates? (Nick PG)
 9. Increasing JCR engagement is talked about constantly, though little has changed and the JCR meetings still struggle to find quorum. Beside emails and social media, how can we change the cycle? (Joshua Short)
 10. You are responsible alongside the Treasurer, though the treasurer is a non-sabbatical role. How will you make sure the JCR is doing okay financially? *Ed Gallagher*
 11. President life can be stressful. What will you do to relieve pressure? *Johan Seidenfaden*
 12. We have heard little about the Student Union. What would you do with the SU and how can it be utilised? *Clara Gally*

13. As president what could you do to engage different religious groups together? *Tanhim Murshid*

14. What are you going to do to have a broad relationship with the college staff? *Grace Kunzler*

Sofia Dotta (3 rd year liberal arts)	Q1.	The issue of college fees. - Liaising with other colleges with the ripped off protest. - Having university wide support from different colleges. - Try to get national news press, which would pressure the university. More study spaces.
	Q2.	Communication. Standing our ground for our interests. Maintain a solid communication with them college administration.
	Q3.	President's role must be welfare orientated. Must be able to provide correct support. I have done significant welfare training. Though there is more that I want to do such as, sitting on welfare meeting, do more campaigns, and get more sponsorship. Welfare runs on a low budget, and they provide a lot of benefits to college.
	Q4.	Not a huge fan of the notion of role model as no one is perfect. I would aspire to be someone that someone can look up to and is reachable. When you think of role model it may seem that they are unattainable. However, I would make sure I am approachable.
	Q5.	Strength: I get emotionally invested with my heart and soul. I am determined to get things done. Weakness: Same as the strength in that one can get burnt out by these things.
	Q6.	Greater involvement in welfare. Being a point of contact to people and giving more support to the welfare committee. Especially, if people are struggling or need a chat.
	Q7.	Trevelyan – good bar and they receive too much hate. Though they are trivialised, they are a good college.
	Q8.	Have been a member of welfare and have received full training. I have the ability to deal with all situations and signpost people to different areas of support. It was also a representative role – as she sat on union-comm and stood up for the JCR and union.

	Q9.	<p>Why people are disengaged is because of misinformation about how the JCR works – there is so much information when you start.</p> <p>I would have one document that is short and summarises how the societies, JCR, committees etc work. This would give visibility, to the various events. It is important to have this summarised and concise.</p> <p>I would also introduce short summaries of JCR meeting.</p>
	Q10.	<p>Have done the budgeting with the treasurer for Fresher’s week.</p> <p>If the treasurer needs help, she will help take on work given it is a non-sabbatical role.</p>
	Q11.	<p>Socialise. Though being aware that you do need down time. A big part of the role is the social aspect and one can be tired from the role. I would also read and try out meditation.</p>
	Q12.	<p>I was on Union Committee. I attended assemblies and would have a close relationship with the Union and DSU President</p> <p>Utilisation: For example lobbying university for better infrastructure and campaigning with DSU on the ripped off campaigns.</p>
	Q13.	<p>Listening to people of various religions about discussing the various ways we incorporate and discuss religion. Work closely with people that are keen to organise events.</p>
	Q14.	<p>For the Union side of things. Share ideas with them and reformulate ideas. This applies to the SU and college staff.</p>
Oliver Goschow (3 rd year law)	Q1.	<p>Unity. A lot less livers out that come back to live in college.</p> <p>Create a campaign to get people to come live back in college = more people getting involved in college. Maybe a discount for livers out to come back (3rd years).</p>
	Q2.	<p>I have stood up to college and university over many disciplinary issues as Sports and Societies Officer. One of the reasons why college has been so obstructive is that the relationship has broken. Discuss next year at the start of term what we can and can’t do. More communication.</p>
	Q3.	<p>President should have a big welfare presence and is first point of contact. The President is likely to be the only one that is living in the entire time</p>

	and you therefore must be as welfare trained as possible.
Q4.	Captaining the table tennis and basketball team. I am a good role model. A role model should be on the same level as everyone else. Further, they should help you achieve goals.
Q5.	Strength: Perseverance – I don't give up, I get through it. May be up late to sort it out, though it is worth sticking to it and persisting. Weakness: I may take too much on.
Q6.	The perspective that college staff doesn't allow us to do things. We need a fresh start. Started badly with them and if we have a poor attitude to college staff then they will act similarly.
Q7.	Collingwood: They have best the best facilities and a lot of money and facilities to expand on.
Q8.	My background – have lived in a lot of countries. Have been in many different schools, which gives him the experience and ideas for JCR President.
Q9.	More collaboration between different societies and communities. We have the same events annually – there is nothing new that draws you back I college. If the different societies work together – such as DJ society and worked together. That could lead to people coming back more. As Sports and Societies Officer – together with journalists have tried to revamp the social media.
Q10.	Has been a finance officer and on the Treasury Committee of Team Durham. I would talk to the treasurer and see how their workload is going and see if you can help them. Communication is everything.
Q11.	Make use of the college facilities. Continue being involved with sports. It comes down to time management play hard work hard.
Q12.	I would try and have a close relationship with the DSU president and Exec. Use and liaise with them to talk to university staff and also things that we want. They are also a good source of help for the ripped off campaign.
Q13.	Would work with the various societies (Jewish soc etc). See what type of events they would like. Use sports and societies to engage people more.
Q14.	Relationship with college staff and start communicating with them. Have a meeting with

		them before term starts and discuss the future of JCR.
Alex Longman (3 rd year economics)	Q1.	Ripped off campaign support. Possibly put in rent strikes. The ripped-off campaign has been going for years. Opposing the uni's alcohol policy. It is obstructive; it just means people do it in their houses. University is not the best body to deal with. I have had considerable experience dealing with college and university staff.
	Q2.	I have had numerous debates with Aidan's Principal and staff over the PG mailing list and had bar-comm meetings. I am well versed to deal with college staff though they can be obstructive. The key is persistence even when College does not reply properly to Exec emails. Having a strong relationship with admin and persistence.
	Q3.	The President is the first point of contact. Make a day of an open door policy and be there for people.
	Q4.	Not be as much of an unattainable goal, but to be a leader. I have leadership experience by being a bar supervisor and Chair of the Exec. As such, I am used to having younger people look up to me.
	Q5.	Strength: Not matter how much effort. I will always get the job done. Weakness: Same as strength – I may go too far.
	Q6.	Want to post summaries of the exec meeting minutes. So everyone has an idea of what is happening I the JCR exec. Increase transparency of the JCR.
	Q7.	Jon Snow – they have a lot of problems, moving from Stockton. Would enjoy the challenge.
	Q8.	With the problems with College Staff. Good track record of standing up to college staff. Stood up about the PG mailing list and working at the bar. That sets me apart. The JCR president is not a college staff, but is actually a member of the JCR.
	Q9.	Have put in a lot of work as Chair. Helped to have the largest JCRC meeting. Though have had problems. The issue is the transparency. It is not us and them for the less committed members. Wider ranger of events that appeal to the more people. Don't have as many repetitive events.
	Q10.	Use office hours to take work off the treasurer. I have a economics background and will be an

		accountant. Communicate more with the treasurer.
	Q11.	I am sociable. The trick is to socialise and to relax other people by chatting to them.
	Q12.	The SU is a valuable resource. Coordinate campaigns with the DSU and other colleges' campaigns and see what they are doing. Have a reading week. Work with the union officer and the committee.
	Q13.	Interact with people from different groups (like about college). Work with various societies such as international society. Bring religion into these events where they can talk about their various customs and religions and it can be engaging and get atheists involved.
	Q14.	Have a good relationship. If you have opposing views then have clear communication with them. Listening to the other party and compromise.

Exec – Tech Chair

- Questions from Ryan Collins (Tech Chair)
 1. You have just spent a whole week setting up for Summer Ball and the Operations Team are going around doing their Health & Safety Checks. They claim that the stage you have constructed does not meet their safety requirements and must be taken down. The event will be starting in less than 6 hours. You are aware of the legislation and you know that the stage is, in fact, perfectly safe. What do you do?
 2. The tech budget has grown considerably within recent years, but with this has come the increased risk of overspending, and spending on unnecessary items. How will you ensure that the purchases of Technology Committee are not frivolous, and that we remain with enough cash to cover maintenance/replacement of existing stock?
- Questions from the floor
 3. How would say no to various things? *Liu Qiao*
 4. How would you deal with who the priority is with equipment? Liason with music and tech? *Anonymous*
 5. How do we stop the issue of the Winterball stage dismantling again? *Joshua Short*

Connor Duffy (2 nd yr Computer Science)	Q1.	Would discuss with VM to use their stage as there's have been used previously.
	Q2.	Tech currently has significant equipment. Once we have the equipment then the expenditure is related to maintenance.
	Q3.	It is dependent on the situation. Sometimes college must make emergency hires from us. It is important to maintain our relationship with them. You just be

		strong and say no to requests that are unreasonable as it is unlikely they will make a big deal out of it.
	Q4.	We could make it a joint spreadsheet. When we decide to hire out equipment, we could make it clear when equipment will be available.
	Q5.	Making sure people don't put drinks on stage. Ensuring people use high vis vests.
David Kutner (2 nd yr Computer Science)	Q1.	We can get VM's stage. The colleges and uni are happy with us taking it. Get in touch with Van Mildert. We have the paper work and it a part of the setup so we can work with that.
	Q2.	This huge sound system is great, but is not that great. It is more useful because we can rent it out to other colleges. I would ask for purchases why do we need this thing and does it make sense to acquire it. We don't need that much more for sound system and speaker systems. Therefore, it may be cheaper to rent it out overall.
	Q3.	Make sure you have a paper trail and it is clear as to what happens if they don't hold up their end of the deal, if its returned damaged or late etc. We already have a contract.
	Q4.	With the paper trail and making sure there is an agreement over who is to do what and how much notice is to be given. For example how much equipment the music room will need for things.
	Q5.	We had people there to take down the stage and had people that were sober to help out.

Exec – JCR Treasurer

- Questions from Ed Gallagher (Current Treasurer)
 1. Being treasurer involves working closely with staff. This may leads to conflict. How will your relationship with college staff be?
 2. What's been my worst quality as treasurer and how would you improve on it?
- Questions from the floor
No questions

Thaddaeus Toh (1 st year law)	Q1.	It will be fine. I have a knack for compromising and discussing with staff and being diplomatic.
	Q2.	EG is an impeccable treasurer.

Exec – Formals' Officer

- Questions from Rachel Jacobs (Current Formals')
 1. On the run up to a formal you get super busy so how will you manage juggling this and work?

- Questions from the floor
No questions

Nada Abdelrahim (1 st year anthropology)	Q1.	I will set aside time for each formal and I have experience in doing so. I will work on the bulk of formal work during summer as she has free time.
---	-----	---

Shop - Treasurer

- Questions from Raphaëlle Monet (Current Shop Treasurer)
 1. You discover the shop is making a loss what do you do?
 2. One of your toastie worker texts you saying she hasn't received any money in her bank account even though, she is on the payroll, and you've done the according paperwork, what do you do?
 3. How much do you love the shop?
- Questions from the floor
No questions

Vlad Leonov (1 st year Biology student)	Q1.	I would look into inventory and reduce working hours.
	Q2.	I would look at the bank account and make sure that she has been paid
	Q3.	A lot

AOB

1. Nothing to discuss