

JCR MEETING MINUTES #4

Apologies.

- Eliana Coschingnano, Mika McAuley Christopher, Reece Roberts, and Calum Maclean all apologised for not being able to attend the meeting.

Ratify Minutes from Previous Meeting.

- The JCR agreed to ratify the minutes from the previous meeting.

Officer Reports.

- Luke Hollander (JCR President)
 - Luke is working on Disciplinary Reports with college.
- Riaz Rafique (Bar Steward)
 - Please bring the pitchers back to the Bar.
 - Please apply for Bar Steward if you are interested.
- Jade Westhead (Socials Officer)
 - Thanks to everyone who came to Refreshers Events.
 - Sate the Date: 12th June (Refreshers).
- Clara Gallay (Union Officer)
 - Clara is going to the NUS conference. The motions that Clara will take will be decided next Thursday. The main motion that Durham will take forward is about housing and tenancy agreements with landlords.
- Arabeth Lecuyer (Senior Welfare Officer)
 - International Welfare Week went well.
 - If you want to get involved in Mental Health Week campaign, get in touch.
- Oliver Goschow (Sports and Societies Officer)
 - The Aidan's social media take-over went well.
 - 4 Aidan's teams have made it into the York Varsity.
- Stefano Cattaneo (Tech Chair)
 - The JCR Laptop now has the Adobe suite. Get in touch if you wish to make use of it.
- Clara Ohayon (Shop Chair)
 - On the 10th February, there is a blind dating event. Please come along to find your true love.
- Brodie Wood (JCR Treasurer)
 - Small Projects Funding: Robert Smith for DUCK Expedition.
 - FinComm had a successful social.
 - The Bar-Shop scandal. The Bar bought 7000£ worth of VK and wine through the Shop. The Bar is refunding the Shop.
- Izzy Francis (Formals Officer)
 - Valentine's Formal is coming up, please book soon if you want a space.
- Eliana Coschignano (Communities Officer) (David standing in on Eliana's behalf)
 - Visits for the Carehome are starting up again soon.

- You would go down once a week to talk to the residents or play your instruments for the residents.
- Ben George (JCR Secretary)
 - The Badger: The New Year Edition is OUT NOW! Available online (on the Badger's website) and at the back of the JCR Meeting.

Motions.

- Motion to Make Pool Tables Free.
 - Questions.
 - Katerina Theodoridis - How much is the levy at the moment, would it have to be raised?
 - Luke Hollander – No.
 - The Motion was taken on a general aye.
- Motion to Ratify Pub Quiz Society.
 - Questions.
 - Luke Hollander – How often are you planning to have quizzes?
 - Josh Shaw – Most likely fortnightly.
 - Ed Cook – Where will the money go?
 - Josh Shaw – The money will be the prize.
 - The Motion was taken on a general aye.
- Motion to Ratify Coffee, Cake and Consent.
 - Frank – How often will events be held?
 - Felix Culas – Felix will judge interest levels, but most likely on a fortnightly basis.
 - The Motion was taken on a general aye.

Hustings.

- JCR President.
 - Questions from Luke Hollander (JCR President).
 - Arguably the biggest part of the role is liaising with college staff on behalf of the JCR, how will you go about this.
 - St Aidan's is supposed to have a referendum on their DSO status. What is your stance on the DSO framework and would you separate if you could?
 - How would you ensure that JCR levies is spent fairly and that students know where their money goes.
 - How well do you handle criticism?
 - What is my (Luke Hollander's) greatest weakness?
 - This is a time of great change in the university. What is the single greatest threat facing the JCR?
 - When you are President, things will go wrong, suddenly. Describe a time when everything went wrong and you needed to solve a problem quickly.
 - Questions from the floor.

- Alex McGovern – Freshers Week. It is mid-week, you feel awful and you are not coping. Your senior Frep has been out two nights in a row. What do you end up doing and why?
- Lizzie Baron – You have all spoken at length about how your Exec roles have helped, how have your other responsibilities helped you?
- Zac – With new data records, how you would handle the fact that the university keeps information?
- Molly Briscoe – How would you maintain your work-life balance?

<p>Arabeth Lecuyer (3rd Psychology)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arabeth agrees that this is the biggest part of the role. Disciplinary can disengage people. It is best to explain to staff that this is the case and keep communication channels flowing. • We need to have a DSO for democratic reasons. On a legal level, Arabeth is not sure whether the JCR Exec would be comfortable being the board of trustees if we left. Arabeth would provide lots of information about DSO, so that students could make an informed decision. • It would be great to let students know as often as possible that they have value for money. Arabeth would continue to make as much free as possible such as the Pool tables. Arabeth would also introduce a Hardships fund so that students could have money back from the levies if needed. • Ultimately the role of JCR President is to uphold the views of the JCR. If you get criticisms, it probably means you are not doing your job properly. Arabeth would take the criticism on board. • Arabeth has no complaints with Luke on the Welfare front. But at the start of the year, Luke did not stick up to College Staff as much as he could have. • The greatest threat is living costs. The cost this year was raised in line with inflation, but it should have been frozen. Students are unable to do other things outside of their degrees because they are spending all of their money on college. Arabeth would introduce a Hardship fund to help with this. • Welfare is often manageable but all of a sudden will become a huge priority. Arabeth always ensures that she has done her work
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	<p>well in advance so that she can cope with disasters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before this even happens, Arabeth would make sure that she trusted everyone on the Exec and the Frep team so that if anything did happen, Arabeth could delegate. Arabeth would also make sure that she has Welfare support. • Arabeth has a lot of welfare experience. Arabeth also asked Luke if he could teach her cash training. Arabeth has also introduced Team Welfare this year – organisation has been an important skill. Being round college is important, which Brodie feels as though she has done. • Arabeth would research the issue and ask her Treasurer to make sure that they can do a good job on it. • Arabeth’s experience with Welfare has meant that Arabeth has had to be on call at all times of the day. If you love your job, it is does not become as much of an issue.
Brodie Wood (3 rd Economics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arabeth did a great job with the Football points and we should continue this level of communication. We also need to stand up for ourselves and challenge college staff on their decisions as well as work with them. • We need to have a referendum. Regardless of Brodie’s own view, it is important for students to have a say. Grey’s Treasurer sent Brodie a care package explaining it, and Brodie would discuss this with students at a later date. • Brodie would like to reform the way we do our finances in so many ways, including sports and societies budgets. Brodie would want to report the financial reports from college councils because students deserve to know where their money goes. There are lots of complaints about where money goes and it would be helpful for students to know where their money goes. Brodie would also want to release more reserves to fund changes such as the domes in the JCR. • Brodie would do her best to change and adapt to the JCR’s opinions. Brodie would be first and foremost there to serve the JCR.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If there is anything that being Treasurer has taught me, it is not knowing when to give up. What would be difficult for Brodie would be knowing when to stop and look after herself. [Luke Hollander stopped the question because he meant HIS greatest weakness]. Luke is too messy in the office. At the start of the year, Luke was not as great with finances as he is now. Luke came very passionately to the job, but the more boring day-to-day stuff took a while for Luke to pick up.• Accommodation fees are so high. But the greatest threat is Durham Does. People applying to live back in college is decreasing. A few years ago it was 90 students, now only 25. Our JCR is turning into a hall of residence for first years.• Brodie once struggled with Cashing Up and had to spend a long time doing it. Sometimes things can fall apart, but you just need to enjoy it and go with the problems.• Brodie thinks this happened with Alice Dee. Brodie would ask my Senior Frep is they were feeling up for going out and if they weren't, Brodie would find the strength to do it. If Brodie felt so bad that Brodie was unable to do my duties, Brodie would keep communicating as a top priority.• As Brodie said in her hust, it is what Brodie did outside of the office that she has really enjoyed. Brodie feels as though she has got to grips with the technical side of the JCR. With Welfare, Freshers' Week really puts you through it. JCR President would also be a learning curve as it is.• This has been a recent issue that has been a problem recently. Brodie keeps paper records of all refunds. Other issue is keeping cash payments. Brodie wants to reform the way we do finances to help ensure that we can sort this out.• Brodie struggles to know when to stop. If Brodie could, she would stop doing her degree and just be Treasurer. Brodie really respects how Luke has handled it this year. It is important to ENJOY what you are doing.
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	<p>The moment the JCR becomes a bore, you are doing the job wrong.</p>
<p>Clara Ohayon (3rd PPE)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clara promises to be as professional as possible. Clara would talk to College Staff as an equal to an equal. College Staff are here for their students. • DSO has given us a helpful framework from which to work. It gives JCR Treasurer an easier time. It is important to have a referendum, as a point of pressure on DSO. • It is good that we let students know where JCR levies go on Open Days. Clara thinks that tangeable items (such as furniture) would be an easy way of letting students know they have value for money. • Criticism need not be viewed as a negative. Clara would evaluate criticism and would decide whether it was valid or not and act accordingly. • Clara thinks that Luke’s greatest weakness is also what makes him the best president. Luke is very friendly and supportive which can be a negative because Freshers may feel intimidated to turn to Luke with important issues. • There has been a huge increase in students which has an impact on existing infrastructures. Clara would ensure that there were enough work spaces etc. for students. • During Freshers’ Week, our coke machine broke. In that type of scenario, you just need to ensure that you know what to do. During an event, we had to make 100 toasties and 100 nachos. One person had had too much to drink and so was unable to continue doing the job. Clara and one other shop member just had to take on the extra pressure and go with it. It is important to love your friends no matter what. • It is about communication, but Clara will also make sure that Clara am sensible. If neither Clara nor the Senior Frep were able to go out, Clara would be in contact with PresComm and other responsible members and see if anyone could help me out.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shop Chair has helped a great deal with management. With Welfare, Clara is very willing to learn and keen to. • The Shop keeps all of its documentation. The Van Mildert shop were closed last year. Scanning paper copies so that there is also a data copy is important. • In the 2nd term of Clara's first year, Clara was very busy with a number of college roles. The more busy Clara is, the more she is efficient. Clara would use the Shop to destress. It is important to remember that as the JCR President, you can choose WHEN you work.
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- Tech Chair

- Questions from Stefano Cattaneo (Tech Chair).

- Scenario: You have just spent a whole week doing Summer Ball and Operations are not happy with the stage because of safety requirements. You know the legislation and know it is safe, what do you do?
 - Tech Budget has increased in recent years. How would you ensure that Tech spending is not frivolous?
 - You've just loaned a large amount of equipment from another college. The other college is late to return it and has not apologised. There is also a broken item. What do you do?

Ryan Collins (3 rd Computer Science)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the past, we have got in touch with the supplier and made them confirm to Operations that it is safe. Ryan would also get in touch with Mildert, if we need to hire theirs. The priority would be to keep the stage. • At the moment, it about looking at what we NEED. There is a lot of Tech that we can just hire from other colleges or external suppliers. We should only buy items if we absolutely NEED them. • Ryan would charge the other college for the cost of the repair. With the lateness of it, it would depend how late it was and the circumstances.
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- Formals Officer.

- Questions from Izzy Francis (Formals Officer)

- According to the Standing Orders, what are the responsibilities of the Formals Officer.
 - It is the last day before a Formal and you are not doing very well, what do you do?

- Questions from the floor

- Jade Westhead – What you do to improve on what Izzy has done this year?
- Jade Harding – After Valentine’s Formal, should we have one late license formal or two normal formals.

Rachel Jacobs (2 nd Economics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel duly listed off the responsibilities. • Use as many communication channels as possible. Keep pushing on Facebook especially. • Encouraging more participation from the wider JCR body would be good. Taking into consideration ideas for Formals etc. • Rachel enjoys the Late license formals because it means that people stay later at formals. Formals are more fun if you are ‘buzzed.’
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- JCR Treasurer.
 - Questions from Brodie Wood (JCR Treasurer)
 - In your own words, what are the key responsibilities of JCR Treasurer?
 - Treasurer is one of the more demanding roles of the Exec, how would you cope with this?
 - You are also Chair of FinComm, how do you manage your members but also make sure that they are doing their jobs?
 - Questions from the floor.
 - Jade Westhead – How would you cope if a committee member of FinComm is overspending?

Anders Hoe Strommen (1 st Business Management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To keep control of all the assets you own. If the Budget is not spent in a sensible way, it is doing the JCR a disservice. • Anders would make lists and take it one job at a time. • You can delegate tasks, but not responsibility. You can tell your committee members that you believe in them and are proud of their work. • You need to stay on top of your committee on a day-to-day basis. It would be necessary to sit the committee member down and go through what is expected of them.
Robert Smith (1 st Engineering)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To make sure that all members of the JCR benefit from the Budget. To look to sustainability of being Treasurer and looking after the Budget in that regard.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the moment, Robert is involved in a lot. Robert would prioritise being Treasurer. • General management on the FinComm Facebook group is key. • Communication is key. It would be important to ask why they need more funding, and if you find out that they don't – tell them to stop spending money.
Tom Menges (1 st Economics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To look after the Budget AND to make sure that the Budget is working in favour of the students. • If you love your work it is not work. • First of all, trust your committee members to be able to do their jobs. You can also check up on them. Transparency is key. • The JCR's structure is important in this regard. You can ask other members of the committee, ask the President, ask the Exec whether they agree with you and if they do, ask the person in question to stop.

- Shop Treasurer
 - Questions from Brodie Wood and Clara Ohayon.
 - CO – How much time do you think the Shop will take out of your week and how will you cope with your work load?
 - BW – You would be a member of FinComm, how would you help make decisions to help wider Aidan's life?
 - CO – What would you do if you found out that the Shop was making a profit or a loss?
 - Questions from the floor?
 - Tom Menges – What would you do if the Shop did not have enough customers?
 - How much would you charge for 2 pieces of garlic bread and cheese?

Franek Pauwels (1 st Physics)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Shop will take as long as it takes. Franek will adapt according. • Franek has previous experience at school with budgeting for events. Franek will ask previous FinComm members for advice. • Franek would first of all get in touch with the JCR Treasurer. If it was a
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	<p>loss, Franek would determine why they were making a loss. If it was a profit, Franek would suggest ways to put that money back into the JCR.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franek would set up more events in the JCR. Franek would encourage his rowing friends to come to the Shop. Franek would ensure that the Shop had good social media presence? • £1. It is unfair for it to be more than this.
Raphaelle Manet (1 st Psychology)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raphaelle has few contact ideas and is desperate for something to do. • Raphaelle would treat it as a learning curve. Raphaelle would ask lots of questions. • If the Shop was making a profit, Raphaelle would decrease profits. If the Shop was making a loss, Raphaelle would identify the problem. • Raphaelle would set up more events in the JCR to make sure that people are in the JCR. • 60p for the bread and one charge for the cheese.

Announcement

- Sofia Dotta – Open Day Applications are now open. You would need to be free from 17th-21st of March. It is a really fun experience and a great way to work out whether Frepping is for you.
- Luke Hollander – Former President ATA is engaged and they are expecting a child!

AOB.

- Lizzie Baron – Are ATA and his wife actually pregnant?
 - Alex Longman – Yes.

Exec Q&A.

- This will take place after the JCR Meeting.