

JCR Meeting Minutes I (Sunday 07th October 2018)

Apologies

- Erin Barrett, Ankita Mediratta, Rob Smith

Officer Reports

- JCR President – Clara Ohayon
 - Meet the parents mismanaged by DSU. Her overarching goals are to represent students and making sure they get their money's worth.
- Socials Chair – Rachael Griffith
 - Thanks for coming to Newcastle night.
- Shop Chair - Billie
 - Shop opening at 8:30. Free soft drinks for last day. Catering officer going up today. Great way to get involved.
- Sports and Societies Officer – Oliver Goschow.
 - Nothing much from me. If you want a gym membership, come see me!
- Senior Welfare Officer – Sarah Schenk
 - Nothing much to say. Contact hours 6-7pm. First year welfare rep up for grabs.
- Union Officer – Ed Cook
 - Not a lot from the Union. Any complaints about university, come to Ed and he will put it to the student Union. Housing campaign coming up.
- Treasurer – Ed Gallagher
 - Lost 35k pounds last year. Trying to break even this year.
- Tech Chair – Ryan Collins
 - From a tech side, freshers week was great. Feel free to hire tech whenever you want to.
- Formals Officer – Rachel Jacob
 - Formel coming up, submissions are open. There have been many submissions already, so it will sell out.
- Communities Officer – Crystal Moniz
 - Community hits was a great success, will count the money later.

Motions

- Motion to Ratify Budget:
 - Ed Gallagher: We could go from an initial £7000 loss to a £600 profit without damage charges. We're spending a lot of money on formals, sports and more.

- Clara Ohayon: Last year we had over £100,000 in reserves but we spent a lot of that money. This year we have around £55,000. Will need to be reasonable spenders this year to ensure continued existence of JCR.
- Fresher: What's the reason for the high loss last year?
- Ed Gallagher: Sports teams, damages as well as long-term investments such as the tennis court with a cost of around £15,000.
- Clara Ohayon: The university also forgot that we get VAT benefits, so overcharged us. But the damages charges in particular are a major reason for a much of the losses.
- Motion to Ratify Aidan's DJ Society:
 - Nick Perret Green: What would the money be spent on?
 - Oliver Goschow: It would be spent on smaller stuff such as wires. We've got a JCR controller and I'd be willing to bring my own as well.
 - Passed on a general aye.
- Motion to Ratify RPG Society:
 - Joshua Short: What would the money be spent on?
 - Elisa Andrews: It would be spent on tools running the games, such as books or dice.
 - Passed on a general aye.
- Motion to Ratify Yoga Society:
 - Nick Perret Green: Where would the money go?
 - Rose Harman: Money would be spent on equipment.
 - Passed on a general aye.
- Motion to Ratify Untalented Society:
 - Max Kirk: What do you intend to actually do?
 - Gwenno Thomas: Doing things talented people do, just worse.
 - Franek Pauwels: Where is the money going?
 - Gwenno: To support the less talented. Equipment for some activities.
 - Joshua Short: Won't you exclude people with talent?
 - Gwenno: It's a safe space for untalented people.
 - Elisa Andrews: What if you become talented?
 - Gwenno: You have to leave.
 - Motion was duly passed.
- Motion to Adjust the Small Projects Applications Procedure:
 - Nick Perret Green: How has it been spent each term?
 - Ed Gallagher: If it's not spent it carries on to the next term. But usually always spent.
 - David Kutner: Can you clarify what happens if someone wants to spend more than £250.
 - Alex Longman: That would need to go through a motion.
 - Ed G: Any JCR member can apply for up to £250, then goes through FinComm.
 - Nick: What has been bought previously?
 - Ed: The candy floss machine and quite frequently sports equipment.
 - Franek: Will it change the budget?
 - Ed: No

- Motion passed on a general aye.
- Motion to Restructure Welfare Committee:
 - Beth Molloy: Does that mean ordinary members need to rerun for a harder to get position?
 - Sarah Schenk: Yes
 - Fresher: One media member and other ordinary members?
 - Alex: There's a variety of different members such as LGBT+ or mature students officers.
 - Connor Duffy: Would they still do normal hours?
 - Sarah: Only officers have contact hours, not ordinary members.
 - David Kutner: Do they just help with campaigns?
 - Sarah: Yea, but we're doing more events this year, so need people to help out with that.
 - Motion has been duly passed.

Hustings

- Socials Committee/Finance Committee – Socials Treasurer
Questions from Rachael Griffiths, the Social Chair.
 - What specific experience would make you suitable?
 - How will you balance committee and degree?
 - A few years ago the socials chair wanted to spent too much money, how will you stop her?
 - What's 8*7+5?

David Attwood, Postgraduate Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Most relevant experience would be summer school. In charge of budgeting for extra curricular activities. Pretty similar to the current role. ○ Quite extensive experience in working hard. Worked hard as undergrad. Excellent time management skills. ○ Building good relationship is important. Communication is key for that kind of thing. Need to know where boundaries are. Would ask rest of committee to see what their view is. ○ 61
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- The election will go live on Monday at midday.

Elections:

- Communities – First Year Rep:
 - Megan Easthem was elected on a general aye.
- Formals – First Year Rep:
 - Kasia Procter was elected on a general aye.
- Shop – First Year Catering Officer
Questions from Billie Duch Giménez, the Shop Chair:
 - If you were a toastie, what would you be and why?
 - What relevant experience do you have?
 - If you had to name a toastie as a pun, what would it be?

- Why do you want this position?

Catherine Pittalis, 1 st Year Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ham and Cheese ○ Was on yearbook committee in school. Had to deal with peoples demands. ○ I have to pass. ○ The shop is the heart of the JCR. She wants to get to know everyone. Loves food.
Vlad Leonov, 1 st Year Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Likes rye bread, plus avocados and mushrooms. ○ Helped with setting up tech at the house of his parents. Cooked his own food the past two years. ○ I need to pass. ○ I have never been involved in the community, so this is a nice way to do so.
Harry Pawlak, 1 st Year Combined Honours in Social Sciences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chocolate and soft caramel toastie. I am sweet but salty. ○ Makes a lot of toasties for himself. Worked at Waitrose the past two years therefore has relevant expertise. ○ Camembert and bacon would be I camembert (cannot bear) Alex Longman. ○ Good way to meet lots of different people
Tim Zheng, 1 st Year Computer Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BLT with lots of bacon because he is Canadian. ○ Mostly ran basketball tournaments at high school. Cooked for himself during the weekends. ○ I need to pass. ○ Wants to get involved and get to know everyone.

Harry was duly elected.

- Socials – First Year Rep:
 - Harry Bowden was elected on a general aye.
- Union – First Year Rep
 - Questions from Ed Cook, the Union Officer:
 - Why do you want this role?
 - How would you persuade an apathetic voter to vote?

- Would you vote to keep or get rid of the SU building?
- What does democracy mean today?
- What's the biggest issue of Durham students today?

<p>Max Davis, 1st Year History</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ To become involved in the community in some way. To represent the student body in an engaging and effective manner. ○ Democracy is the most important tool individuals can wield to ensure that advantage is not taken of us. ○ Would vote to keep because it is an essential place to gather and without it there is no way to coordinate student action. ○ Question may be pointed toward himself. Democracy in its purest form is a group of people voting on how government should treat them or how money should be spent. In recent years it has become too convoluted. ○ Proper budgeting and it's difficult to get through changes. System is too complicated.
<p>Henry Kilding, 1st Year History</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Thinks honesty is the best way around here. Wants to cut down on bureaucracy. ○ Make it clear to everyone. Explain everything. Voting system is too complicated. People are made to feel like it's a general election for such a small thing. ○ It has got a bit of history and charm. Needs to be kept, especially as Durham is being modernized. ○ Democracy on university basis is sticking together as a community. Need to stay in communal area. Need to stop bureaucrats at the top of the university. ○ Housing too complicated. On top of finances and exams, students should not be stressed about housing.
<p>Amir, 1st Year Law</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ He enjoyed the Aidan's society for this week. Wants to fight for the student body that has supported him the past week.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Begged everyone to come to the JCR meeting to vote for him. ○ Unable to give an answer without more facts. ○ Democracy is the right within every individual of society to elect. Democracy is the right of people to elect representatives to better their lives. ○ Biggest problem is the logistics of communication. He received his introduction letter a week before coming to Aidan's. Clearer and concise manner of communication is needed.
Solomon Whittle, 1 st Year Geography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Feels like he'd be quite approachable and fight like a hyena. Make lives easier. ○ Put a little laughter in there. ○ Would keep SU because it is an example of brutalist architecture. ○ Did not throw our word democracy today. ○ Update communication between colleges, teachers and students.

Solomon was duly elected.

- Welfare – First Year Rep:
 - Questions from Sarah Schenk, the Senior Welfare Officer:
 - What would this role mean to you?
 - What qualities and experiences do you have for this role?
 - Are there any prominent issues you noticed during freshers and possible solutions?
 - Did you attend the consent workshops?
 - How do you feel about recent NHS cuts for disabled people?
 - There are a lot of minority people, how to deal with them?

Tanhim Murshid, 1 st Year Theology and Religion with Foundation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Last week cultivated the community here at Aidan's. But internationals had a lack of interaction, should be more included. Should have a more healthy environment to include internationals, with activities targeted towards them. ○ I have contact with mental health issues in my family, and I cared for them. Immediate experience helps
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	<p>with developing empathy and learning to deal with stuff. I'm a good cuddler. That experience has taught me compassion and respect for people's problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A small percentage of people feeling isolated and like they do not fit in. There need to be some avenues for people to come in and engage. I've been using the interfaith room and feel like it could be an integral room to engage with one another. ○ Yes ○ We live in a bubble. Once we finish university we go back to the community. Could give tools for living outside university. Need to give back to community ○ It's important not to see people of colour as different and the same goes for other minorities
Rose Harmon, 1 st Year Law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I love being here, and it would mean super much to me. I want to listen to people and be there for others. ○ After A levels I went to India, and became a yoga instructor. I feel like that helped me understand people, like if they need to talk or some mechanisms to help them deal with problems. I'm a good cuddler. ○ Despite not knowing each other, fresher's week has been incredible. We should create more happier places in college just to sit in and enjoy. Nature is a big part of being happy and we need to do more, such as walks or nature trails. ○ Nope, slept through it. ○ The amount of people with a disability not good. Terrible. ○ Minority workshops, opening floors to people of all colours or races. Can share what we love about each other.
Zoja Milovancevic, 1 st Year PPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ I feel that a lot of things we feel don't have a place to be spread, people just keep it in. Welfare's job is to see if others have a problem, I

	<p>think its skill based but it's a skill I want to show. I love helping people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ In terms of experience my most important one was working in a mental health clinic. It involved lots of paperwork, but I also had opportunities to talk to the people there. I learned to approach people in sensitive situations. We need to raise more awareness of mental health.○ I've noticed when people came in, I've noticed them during the settling in, everything is very overwhelming. I'd make a stand for freshers to come talk to members of welfare to let them share emotions with someone.○ No, we need more teambuilding during freshers week.○ I think people with disabilities are the most open community. Why wouldn't we get them involved? We need to check what we can do for them. If we them comfortable, we can then see what they need and want.○ When dealing with minorities, we require a personal approach. One on one contact is important. They will then have an easier time to talk to you without judgement.
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Tanhim was duly elected.

AOB

Nothing.