

# ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE JCR MEETING MINUTES

**Date and Time:** 11/03/23 at 5pm in the Rushmore  
Room

## **Present:**

President (SP), VP (PL), Treasurer (HB), Communications (TWA), Racial Equalities (ROO), Environmental and Ethical (ER), LGBT+ (BA), LGBT+ (LJ)

## **Apologies for Absence:**

Religious Equalities (DP), International (SS), International (KFC), Gender Equalities (KV), Welfare (MM), Welfare (RS), Access (BM), Entz (SG), Environment and Ethical (AC)

## **Absence without Apologies:**

Entz (AH), Freshers Rep (SH), Freshers Rep (LNI), Catering (TW)

## **News and Updates**

- Hope everyone had a great International Women's Day on Wednesday and continues to celebrate Women's History Month, where this year's theme is 'embracing equality'.
- Happy Neurodiversity Celebration week! We hope everyone gets involved in the range of events Catz is holding to celebrate.
- Thanks to the 2022-23 and 2023-24 JCR officers who have helped this weekend with the Ballot process.
- The JCR and Old House booking system has now been changed in order to make the system easier and more automated. The new link can be found [here](#).

## **Issues Raised**

### Protocol in voting at CamSU elections

- PL(VP) asked the committee to consider how we determine which SU motions are controversial enough to warrant a college-wide vote and how the VP should

- be handling the voting process in order to achieve maximum transparency.
- SP (President) noted that the tight time frame of SU votes makes it hard to have a college-wide consultation on all motions but in future more JCR committee contribution to the voting process should be encouraged.
    - Of course, as BA (LGBTQ+) pointed out, PL (VP) is still entitled to use her discretion when voting.
  - The committee has the intention to in future better summarize and report the main going-ons of the SU to the JCR body.

#### Creating a LGBTQ+ specific anonymous reporting form

- BA (LGBTQ+) and LJ (LGBTQ+) raised concerns over the lack of a form for LGBTQ+ specific queries on the JCR website site as well as some lack of clarity on how to access the current forms.
  - A more specific form would provide respondents with the security of knowing that someone with experience in the issue they are raising is reviewing their responses.
- SP (President) proposed, to the agreement of the rest of the committee, that we implement a more general anonymous reporting form in addition to the LGBTQ+, Racial Discrimination and Sexual Misconduct anonymous reporting forms on the website.
- TWA(Comms) has now rejigged the site to make the anonymous reporting forms easier to access. They are now in the [welfare and liberation section](#) of the website.

#### Discussing upcoming JCR By-elections

- PL (VP) and SP (President) have plans to run the by-elections in week 2 of Easter term.
- ER (Environmental and Ethical) has been chosen as the secondary returning officer.
- Positions still up for election are:
  - Academic, Sports and Societies, Charities, Accommodations and Facilities

#### EDI Meeting Update

- ROO (Racial Equalities) relayed information from an equality, diversity and inclusion meeting with college staff to the committee.
  - The projects that College are currently working on are:
    - Neurodiversity week

- There is a possibility of having a neurodiversity tutor in Catz.
- There are plans to work with [Ambitions about Autism](#) in order to better support neurodiverse finalists who are stepping into the world of work
- There are also plans to have staff training on supporting neurodiverse students
- Legacies of enslavement
  - The plaque in the chapel
    - CH (college librarian) is currently researching the background of this plaque and ROO (Racial Equalities) plans to update the JCR on his progress and findings.
- Name changes on Upay
  - LJ (LGBTQ+) confirmed that names can now be changed on Upay and the method of doing this has been streamlined.
- Concerns about accessibility in freshers week
  - Has been brought up to LNI (Freshers Rep) and SH (Freshers Rep)

### Green week

- ER (Environmental and Ethical) plans to keep the green week events mostly at a university-wide level and to host a green-themed tea at 3.
  - There are also plans for a pots, pans and cutlery swap as well as a formal wear swap where finalists would donate their unneeded formal clothing.

### Leaving the SU

- Although we do spend a notable amount of the JCR budget on our SU subscription, the committee has decided to remain in the SU at this point in time.
- Remaining in the SU allows us a level of influence over the actual voting process but if there is a significant amount of disagreement within the JCR body about our SU membership we are happy to revisit the issue in future.

## **Issues Not Raised**

- Restocking of welfare products
  - This has previously been mentioned to the Welfare officers.

If you have any suggestions or feedback you'd like to give the JCR, please get in touch by emailing [JCR Vice Pres](#) or using the [Meeting Suggestions Form](#).

*TWA, 2023-2024 JCR Communications and IT Officer*