

ST CATHARINE'S COLLEGE JCR

JCR Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: Saturday 5th February at 4pm in a St Chad's Flat

[Please note the meeting was due to take place in the Upper Octagon but due to its unavailability, all attendees were directed to a St Chad's flat]

Present: President (AV), VP (SS), Communications (DL), BAME (SO), Welfare (AM & AB), Academic (CD), Access (ES), Catering (HP), Ents (AW), International (AT)

Apologies for Absence: Treasurer (KP), Environment and Ethical (AD), Charities (NW), Catering (JD),

Absence without Apologies: Accommodation (LM), Disabilities (AA), Environment and Ethical (AO), Fresher reps (DT & EG), Ents (VM), International (JK), LGBT+ (MT & IW), Sports and Societies (RM), Women's and NB (GS)

Matters arising from the minutes of last meeting

News and Updates

Charities Selected for Donation

- Following last week's vote, the top three charities for donating the JCR charities fund were Alzheimer's UK, Cancer Research UK and Save the Children. The donation fund will be split evenly three ways.

GB Meeting

- It was concluded that officers may run in pairs in the upcoming election if the reasons why are written in their nomination forms. This includes why they believe they will benefit from running in a pair as opposed to by themselves.
- Covid has currently peaked in college with 45 cases reported last week. The College is keen to keep running events whilst encouraging use of LFT's and masks despite local authorities having cancelled their events. College is happy to

review mask policy in the upcoming weeks if cases begin to decline.

- The Winter Ball proposal has been approved.
- A reminder that there will be building works at St Chad's next year.

EDI Working Group Focus Groups

- The Chaplain has been considering introducing focus groups for minority groups to encourage the community feeling of inclusion within Catz itself.
- This will include different members of staff and students.
- This is still an initial idea that will likely be implemented in the future.

Issues Raised

Dean Punishments

- Following an issue raised highlighting the use of fines where there has been no property damage as being an access issue for those from disadvantaged backgrounds and more widely an issue as students are low income individuals, the committee voted unanimously to begin a lobbying process with College to get this changed.
- The committee wishes to get a clearer understanding of what punishments are deemed fineable and which result in community service - and the committee will lobby to get rid of fines.
- The current College rules and what is punishable can be found here: <https://www.caths.cam.ac.uk/students/rules-behaviour-student-members>
- In the meantime, students are reminded to follow protocol when organising events. If you wish to organise a gathering of more than 8 persons (at Island Site) or 12 persons (at St Chad's) you must ask permission from the Dean. [Email the Dean](#) asking for permission to host the gathering, then a form will be sent for you to fill out.

Open Letter - Tzipi Hotovely

- The Cambridge Union has invited Tzipi Hotovely as a speaker, who is an Israeli Government Official with a known record of racist political views supporting oppression among other controversies. Although the members of the committee present do not agree with her views, we decided we were not in a position to make a representative vote on the matter and will deliberate before calling a vote next week.

- In the meantime, students can read and sign the open letter for themselves which can be found here: <https://forms.gle/MLwU1BrqRUxgh9pp6>

Committee Election Timetable and Voting Platform

- The committee election timetable will be sent to the JCR either tomorrow or Monday with Nominations opening on Wednesday 9th February. For those wishing to run as a pair, you must clearly state why you will be running as a pair and the committee will confirm whether the reason is valid at the 19th February committee meeting.
- Nominations will close at noon on the 18th February, and manifestos sent out later the same day.
- Campaigning will start on the 20th February and Hustings will take place on Tuesday 22nd February.
- Hustings will most likely be taking place in person in the McGrath centre.
- Voting will open at noon on Wednesday 23rd February and close on Friday 25th February and results announced later that day.
- Following a 24 hour complaints period, the new committee will be handed over to on Saturday 26th February.
- Any changes to this will be reflected in the timetable to be sent out.
- Voting will take place on the new CamSU voting platform.
- The idea to make Welfare officer roles genderless was too late notice for constitutional amendments to be made therefore it has been passed onto the EDI working group as something that will be incorporated into the committee vote for the 2023-24 election.

Issues Not Raised

- Please collect any remaining stash from the JCR storeroom next to pidge. You will need to ask the porters for the key.
- AD (Ethical and Environmental) has raised the caddies issue to the Green working group
- Period products should now be back at main site! If you spot a bathroom without them then please let GS (Women's and NB) know
- MT and IW (LGBTQ+) are on the case for getting LGBTea back and are also meeting with the Corpus LGBT officer to work on some collaborative events this month
- Details of expected disruption caused by the building works can be found here: <https://www.caths.cam.ac.uk/major-building-projects/status/week-ahead>
- If your issue has not been raised here, please see the JCR Tracker

(https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1is7NLM-Xm77Lf0liRlrO1ARRdY_tGb_MMC98XhzFxx0/edit?usp=sharing)

Any Other Business

College Condoms

- These will be on the way post Valentine's Day priced at £1 each.
- All proceeds will go to charity
- There are ideas to incorporate their sale as part of a STD Awareness/Sex Education Themed Bop.

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

DL, 2021-2022 JCR Comms Officer