

## Minutes

For the meeting on 12th October 2023, 3pm in the Stephen Hawking Room.  
Ryan Ko and Safy Oshoala chaired the meeting.

### Present:

Ryan Ko (Co-President) Safy Oshoala (Co-President) Reema Pujari (VP) Chris Ryan (VP)  
Michael Hargreaves (Treasurer) Ellen Thomas (Welfare) Ella Weaver (Green and Ethics)  
Hannah Dixon (Womens and NB) Harvey Challinor (Webmaster) Jack Heron (Ents) Reuben  
Baldwin (DSO) Alex Price (Class Act) Mila Edensor (LGBTQ+) Faye Blackshaw (LGBTQ+) Izzy  
Solomon (Secretary)

### Apologies:

Angelo Smith (Welfare) Lucas Wolman (Green and Ethics) Zeeshan Hossain (BME) Audrey  
Chow (International) Téa Endeladze (Frep) Anya Penderis (Frep) Anjali Darling (Frep) Jack  
Millar (Ents) Ethan (Ents) Gabriel Hollis (Ents) Lucia Laffan (Access)

### Overview of Points of Discussion:

- [1. Welcome Lisa. Head of Wellbeing \(Raised by Presidents\)](#)
- [2. Introductions for Lisa's sake \(Raised by Presidents\)](#)
- [3. Well done on Freshers week \(Raised by Presidents\)](#)
- [4. Clarissa's memorial service \(Raised by Presidents\)](#)
- [5. Plaque for Clarissa? \(Raised by Presidents\)](#)
- [6. New Prescriptions scheme \(Raised by Presidents\)](#)
- [7. Benn Bursary \(Raised by Presidents\)](#)
- [8. Financial overview and 2023/24 budget \(Raised by Treasurer\)](#)
- [9. Banking dispute resolved - researching sustainable options for moving the bank account w/  
Green+Ethics. input welcome! \(Raised by Treasurer\)](#)
- [10. Use of mailing lists \(Raised by Webmaster\)](#)
- [11. Lisa's presentations \(Raised by Welfare\)](#)
- [12. Upcoming roadshow in positive behaviours \(Raised by Women + NB\)](#)
- [13. Meeting with Glen about locking system - new lock access if approved \(Raised by Women +  
NB\)](#)
- [14. Anti-spiking update - pilot at Caius, data to present to STC for college instead of JCR  
funding \(Raised by Women + NB\)](#)
- [15. DRAG \(Disciplinary Reform Action Group\) meeting \(Raised by Women+NB\)](#)
- [16. International Student rent \(Raised by International\)](#)
- [17. Screening Service info dissemination \(Raised by DSO\)](#)
- [18. Library Meeting on Monday \(Raised by Secretary\)](#)

### Any other business:

[Israel/Palestine \(raised by Presidents\)](#)

[Bike scheme \(Raised by Class Act\)](#)

[Frep elections, freshers and planning ahead \(Raised by Vice-Presidents\)](#)

[Arts advisory group \(Raised by LGBTQ+\)](#)

[LGBTQ+ Swap \(Raised by LGBTQ+\)](#)

[Superhall \(Raised by Ents+\)](#)

[Various updates \(Raised by Green+Ethics\)](#)

[BME updates \(Raised by Presidents\)](#)

### Points of Discussion:

#### 1. Welcome Lisa, Head of Wellbeing (Raised by Presidents)

- Introduced Lisa and told the committee that they to do lots of collaboration with the well-being team
- Lisa will be doing a presentation

#### 2. Introductions for Lisa's sake (Raised by Presidents)

- All present JCR committee present introduced themselves

#### 3. Well done on Freshers week (Raised by Presidents)

- A big well done to everyone for their contributions to freshers week, especially Chris and Reema!

#### 4. Clarissa's memorial service (Raised by Presidents)

- Clarissa's family have expressed their thanks for the memorial, it went well

#### 5. Plaque for Clarissa? (Raised by Presidents)

- There is currently a rule in college against plaques
- Her mother and previous JCR presidents would like a plaque
- Unfortunately there is nothing in our power as JCR to do anything about this at the minute

#### 6. New Prescriptions scheme (Raised by Presidents)

- An 18 month trial was completed at Christs College
- We want to implement a similar idea. It was cost between £800-1300, depending on what ideas we actualise
- It will work as an addition to the reimbursement form. It will allow any undergrad to cover up to 5 prescriptions. We will operate this over winter and easter. It won't run over the long vacation (so make sure you use your allocation in term time!)
- The trial will end on the 30th of June
- We need to liaise with welfare to decide how it is best to announce this to the JCR
- For anyone utilising the gender expression fund, they are able to also pull from this prescription fund. So money from both funds could be used to cover prescriptions for instance.

- Lisa told the JCR committee that the welfare team can support us and help out while we roll out this scheme
- An important element of this scheme is that all you need is a receipt. Nobody needs to know what your prescription is for, it is all confidential..

#### 7. Benn Bursary (Raised by Presidents)

- Safy is going to send an email out once we hear from Rosie that everything is finalised with dates.
- The deadline looks to be the 15th of November (may alter slightly)
- All of the information will be accessible to students online, but sending this email will be helpful, as we want to make it very obvious/easier for students

#### 8. Financial overview and 2023/24 budget (Raised by Treasurer)

- Printed copies of the budget passed around to JCR members.
- Treasurer discussed the plan for the year
- In summary we received a £4,200 grant increase, but funding requests have gone up.
- 34% up for welfare, 18% up for gowns, the period and gender expression scheme seem to be at a similar level
- The general point is that we have money available, but try to be frugal if you can, as the deficit for the year is £8,000 if everyone spends it all
- We received £10,000 more in society requests, meaning that a lot of societies have a lot of cutbacks. What was allocated to each society was decided based on 3 things. The quality of documents submitted (ie detail), Expected appeal- size of cohorts who will attend and previous attendance numbers for existing societies and the Allocation was adjusted in line with how much societies spent last year
- If all the money is fully claimed, we will have a £8,500 deficit. We only have £13,000 in reserves, but societies and the JCR don't use all their money. Hopefully the deficit should be about £3000.
- A key reason the deficit will be so large is due to the prescription scheme. In the future we hope to be able to get the college to contribute to the scheme, to lessen the costs.

#### 9. Banking dispute resolved - researching sustainable options for moving the bank account w/ Green+Ethics, input welcome! (Raised by Treasurer)

- Managed to resolve things with the barclays account
- Glen is receptive to changing banks
- Looking at more sustainable banking

#### 10. Use of mailing lists (Raised by Webmaster)

- New mailing lists have been made
- Trinhall-jcr is the old one
- College has made - Trinhall-undergraduates and an MCR one
- We as students stick to the old one, not the undergrad one. So everything stays the same for us.

#### 11. Lisa's presentations (Raised by Welfare)

- Lisa explained how the wellbeing team looks this year. We have Lisa as Head of Wellbeing, Jo continuing to work as the college nurse across sites and Carol as Wellbeing Advisor- Carol will be doing a lot of triage and signposting.
- Some students will be seen more regularly, but often a one off session will be best. Another resource at the university or elsewhere will be more helpful and they can be referred to this service.
- The University Student Support Services, the Harassment and Violence support service, now has racism support.
- Lots of students have been referred to the new screening program, still waiting to see what response time and quality etc is like as it is very new.
- Student advice service- good for advice outside of trinity hall
- The wellbeing team is doing a lot of prevention work within college. Their 5 ways to well-being that are going to be focused on are: connect, be active, take notice, keep learning and give.
- Roadshows will continue to run. They will be fortnightly. On the 18th is one on physical activity, which will give students a chance to have a go at a new sport. On the 25th the focus is on a kind, caring and inclusive community. 1st November is managing stress. The 15th is on safety in the dark.
- Students will soon hear about volunteering in the garden at wychfield.
- A Money workshop is also in the words. It will be for students from any year. It will cover money worries, cost of living. It was asked if students benefit from the workshop, and when should it be delivered? - JCR members suggested it take place before the Benn bursary deadline. Hannah asked if it was possible to have support on how to finance a master's degree/how to budget for this etc. Chris recommended Class Act is a part of these talks.
- Taking breaks, exercising, sleeping and eating in a regular way has positive benefits on your studies. The Wellbeing team wants workshops that give students a chance to take a break, and show students that it is positive to their studies to not always be working.
- Arts and wellbeing. Plan: get students together and staff and fellows together for an activity run by a member of the college. Eg Shell will run a dance class, the gardeners will do wreath making. It will give opportunities to get staff together to do arts and crafts.
- Wellbeing wants to use the Cafe more to make connections - loneliness is a big issue around the UK, and they already have students who are lonely and are trying to think of creative ways to tackle it. Want to utilise spaces to create those opportunities. Want a little 'talk to someone new' place in the cafe. A happy to meet new people social event would be useful. They really want students at any year to feel they can still make friends, and brainstormed a 'buddy bench'-esque idea
- Positive psychology initiative - three things that went well today, showing gratitude, or acts of kindness. Want it to become part of the community, part of Trinity hall.
- Developing academic skills - met with James to see if there are projects for donors to get involved with. Students should be equipped with skills to manage being a student. Many don't have a good work-life balance because they can't identify key readings or have

poor note taking etc. Better study skills would mean that they had more time to look after themselves. Involves getting Dos, tutors etc involved. It's the one skill that we don't teach here, so some time and resources should be pooled here.

- Garden volunteering starts next week, 4 a week. There will be more pet plants. Also pet therapy in November.
- There is the potential to join up with other colleges for workshops. Are students interested in this? The consensus was that it was more a self motivated thing and that there is difficulty with long term commitments. A workshop a week would work, but just set the expectation that students can just go to one if they want. This would get more people involved. Lisa will reconsider this with the feedback we've given her.
- Possible training and workshops. There is a huge induction programme for those working at the SU. Similarly it would be helpful for the college JCR to be well-trained when they collect feedback from students. It would be good to arrive with a strong idea of how to respond to things. The college will benefit from students' views, so we need to be able to collect them effectively. There are various training and workshops, e.g. essential skills for supporting students and each other, equality, diversity and inclusivity etc. It was agreed by JCR members that doing online training outside of term time is the best call, as it is when people have the time to commit to this.

#### 12. Upcoming roadshow in positive behaviours (Raised by Women + NB)

- Will be running a roadshow on positive behaviours with Lisa

#### 13. Meeting with Glen about locking system - new lock access if approved (Raised by Women + NB)

- We can't change the locks. It would cost the college too much
- The ASO will recommend this for the master plan
- Some 'easier fix' ideas were given, such as Cardholders inside by the door, to make it harder to lock yourself out or on the handle
- A new development is that the college can at a lock and see which camcard has accessed it. This will help when/if theft occurs. This information would only be accessed in the case of an incident. Is more for if a member of staff misuses their card, or if a card is cloned

#### 14. Anti-spiking update - pilot at Caius, data to present to STC for college instead of JCR funding (Raised by Women + NB)

- It has been discussed with the women's campaign to try to avoid the JCR to pay out for resources. Hannah is sending over the receipts for what the college has bought to support this change.
- A New form is coming out to gauge the level of spiking in cambridge
- Hopefully these steps will in time lead to spending for supplies coming for college not the JCR

#### 15. DRAG (Disciplinary Reform Action Group) meeting (Raised by Women+NB)

- Hopefully there will soon be a list of demands to all college disciplinary procedures

- The SU is going to make a document with an outline of what to do with various problem reports.
- Last term the JCR was promised a meeting with the head of the JMC - we need to contact the new senior tutor to get this timetabled in
- SU consent training has been done by Hannah, she would be happy to give a talk on this topic to second and third years.

16. International Student rent (Raised by International)

- Not present at meeting

17. Screening Service info dissemination (Raised by DSO)

- Will keep tabs on how the new screening service is going and make an information pack.

18. Library Meeting on Monday (Raised by Secretary)

- JCR members were asked if there was anything they wanted to raise in this meeting. Clarification was wanted on the computer room and what the plan is. Ideally, we don't want to reduce the amount of screens available to students in the computer room.

Any other business:

Israel/Palestine (raised by Presidents)

- Welfare has sent a message out
- Want to send a message about not being anti-semitic/islamophobic etc
- A member of the JCR wants £50-£60 to host event for students affected, this was approved

Bike scheme (Raised by Class Act)

- Bikes are useful for students to have, but many are priced out of buying a bike and the cheapest are quite dodgy. The cheapest one that is a good quality + new on Argos is £275
- The logistics of bringing a bike to uni is a pain, what happens to it after you are finished with your degree, bad for college, bad for environment etc
- Wants to introduce a bike rental college scheme, where you can get one on a Termly/yearly basis.
- There's no upfront cost for students, you pay in more manageable chunks and hopefully a lower cost, as the college retains the bike.
- Currently exploring 2 different methods. One is a ROI scheme, to try and keep it cheap, but good for college so that they can pay off the bike and have a new revenue stream.
- Or like how Alumni are able to buy plaques for chairs, we could do this with bikes..
- Would like to work on this with Green and Ethics and Welfare

Frep elections, freshers and planning ahead (Raised by Vice-Presidents)

- Frep elections in 5-6 weeks

- Thanked everyone for freshers week
- Reminded committee that as it is Michaelmas term, if you want to do something, now is the term to do it in

Arts advisory group (Raised by LGBTQ+)

- Arts Festival, wasn't fully aware that people could get involved at any level
- Having a student led exhibition? Or a student rep?

LGBTQ+ Swap (Raised by LGBTQ+)

- Planning is underway for an LGBTQ+ formal swap with Kings next term.

Superhall (Raised by Ents+)

- There's the first superhall next friday, its theme is British icons

Various updates (Raised by Green+Ethics)

- The G+E want to sign up for the Green impact award
- Sponges have been swapped out for brushes. Members of the JCR have bought their own packs of sponges instead, so this isn't having the green impact that college hoped-although it was noted that students probably don't replace sponges as often as the college, so in that sense, it's a tad greener! The college has told G+E that they don't have enough washing machine space for reusable sponges, so this isn't an option.
- Due to recent rules released by the govt, it is now illegal to have certain types of plastic, so our plastic cutlery has been switched out for wooden

BME updates (Raised by Presidents)

- (The BME officer couldn't make it to the meeting, so Presidents took the lead with this item.)
- Working alongside Marcus (admissions) there are plans to create resources that demystify being in cambridge.
- There will be three videos released, the first two tailored to specific BME communities and the third video will be a Q+A
- They plan to focus on the good and bad, and be transparent about the uncomfortable topics.
- Once videos are done in January, they want to do workshops and maybe some residential.