Minutes

For the meeting on 30th November 2023, 11:30pm in the Bridgetower Room. Ryan Ko and Safy Oshoala chaired the meeting.

Present:

Ryan Ko (Co-President) Safy Oshoala (Co-President) Michael Hargreaves (Treasurer) Angelo Smith (Welfare) Ellen Thomas (Welfare) Ella Weaver (Green and Ethics) Hannah Dixon (Womens and NB) Hailey Ching (Frep) Jack Millar (On behalf of Ents) Isaac Hall (ASO) Harvey Challinor (Webmaster) Lucia Laffan (Access) Izzy Solomon (Secretary)

Apologies:

Reema Pujari (VP) Chris Ryan (VP) Lucas Wolman (Green and Ethics) Zeeshan Hossain (BME) Audrey Chow (International) Jen Price (Frep) Maya Kuncher (Frep) Reuben Baldwin (DSO) Alex Price (Class Act) Mila Edensor (LGBTQ+) Faye Blackshaw (LGBTQ+)

Overview of Points of Discussion:

- 1. JCR Office (Raised by Presidents)
- 2. Plaque for Clarissa (Raised by Presidents)
- 3. Israel-Palestine/Governing Body Update (Raised by Presidents)
- 4. Handovers (Raised by Presidents)
- 5. Update on budget & finances (Raised by Treasurer)
- 6. Covert recording: the surveillance state (Raised by Webmaster)
- 7. Bop Turnout (Raised by Ents)
- 8. Event Quality and Type for Lent (Raised by Ents)
- 9. Green Impact Award (Raised by Green and Ethics)
- 10. Benn Bursaries (Raised by Welfare)
- 11. Information-hunting for university autism and ADHD assessments (Raised by DSO)
- 12. University wide demands (Raised by Women + NB)

Any other business:

DBS and shadowing scheme (raised by Access)

Freps and their plans(Raised by Freps)

Washing machines (Raised by Presidents)

Smoking (Raised by ASO)

Welfare Baskets (Raised by Welfare)

LGBTQ+ (Raised by Presidents)

Points of Discussion:

1. JCR Office (Raised by Presidents)

- → Glen wants the JCR to move out of I5, and hopefully to a ground floor room.
- → JCR has been asked to provisionally move things to the storage space in the lecture theatre, with the hope that the JCR will be put back in the bottom of F staircase.
- → It was raised by ASO and Secretary (previous and current June Event Presidents) that this may be an issue as June Event nears and needs space for storage.
- → It was suggested that the event preparations be used as a deadline to encourage the college to move the JCR somewhere more permanent.
- → It was also noted that this could cause issues for the Trinity Hall musical having a place to store things.

2. Plague for Clarissa (Raised by Presidents)

- → The Family have sent a message of thanks to Ryan and Safy
- → Clarissa's mother would like the plaque next to the tree and hopes the college will reconsider their decision
- → The previous Presidents are following up about this with Glen
- → Glen has informed them that the college has a no plaque policy, and there is worry that there will be too many plaques requests if this is changed
- → A biodegradable tag (lasting 3 years), or a bench are the proposed alternatives that the college would allow.

3. Israel-Palestine/Governing Body Update (Raised by Presidents)

- → College will keep the JCR in the loop if they are doing anything, although the college has said that there isn't much that they can do.
- → The Presidents went to the governing body with a series of ideas and solutions, which were rejected, such as an informal chaplain for Jewish and Muslim students.

4. Handovers (Raised by Presidents)

- → Next term, the committee will give up their roles to next year's committee. Handovers are really crucial and make it so much easier to keep things happening around the college.
- → JCR members should start considering how they will go about handovers and start finishing up any projects they are doing etc.

5. Update on budget & finances (Raised by Treasurer)

- → There is nothing to be concerned about in terms of the budget, at the moment.
- → Society's have claimed back ¼ of their funding.
- → Although, the garden party is £3000, so the committee is on track for the year, but we can't take on any big unexpected costs.
- → The prescription schemes seem to be going successfully. So far 6 people have used it and about 10% of the funding has been used.

6. Covert recording: the surveillance state (Raised by Webmaster)

→ There is an updated CCTV policy.

- → The new one specifically states that the college can't do covert recording in student rooms.
- → In the meeting on the 20th of october, it was put forward that the emphasis had previously been not to prevent crime, but to catch people in the act. The Senior tutor thought that it was heavy handed.
- → This new update means that things have to go through far more people, such as the senior tutor and welfare reps.
- → The cameras will always be around college, but they will only be turned on/monitored/used if there is a person's welfare at risk.
- → Previously, the head porter had a lot of say in making these calls, now more people will be consulted on this.

7. Bop Turnout (Raised by Ents)

- → At the start of the term the ents committee wanted to run move events, but has since scaled things down a bit to hold higher quality bops.
- → The systems have been improved so that the technology runs well, and this has made the bops better.
- → While things were quieter at the start of term, the Mega bop sold 372 tickets. And the Bridgemas one sold lots of tickets too. Overall the team has done very very well!

8. Event Quality and Type for Lent (Raised by Ents)

- → It was raised that there is the option for companies to come in and set things up, which takes time off the ents committee.
- → This would gives ents more time to focus on social media and general publicity,
- → Usually ticket at £3 for members. This normally pays off the music and they give out free drinks to people who run the door.
- → Using an external company wouldn't be a massive cost, they'd charge around £200, and could cover this with ticket sales.
- → Next term the plan is to do 2 bops and 2 superhalls. They want to finish strong with some great events that deliver quality over quantity.

9. Green Impact Award (Raised by Green and Ethics)

- → Our Green and Ethics officers are working towards the green impact award.
- → College is happy they are doing it and support it
- → The deadline is in March and it seems very on track!

10. Benn Bursaries (Raised by Welfare)

- → From sitting in on some of the decision making process, welfare revealed that the committee was correct in their assumption that the college is helping out with the increases to rent
- → It was noted that the college's estimates for costs of food where out of touch, as they didn't consider the rises of food cost at hall

- → Further, there was an application that the Bursar disagreed with, stating that a bike is not an unexpected cost, so funding wasn't awarded.
- → Welfare disagreed with this, and the general JCR committee also felt that this was a genuine issue that someone could be granted funding for. It's a privileged position to know what Cambridge is like before you get here, so a bike could easily be unexpected.
- → From here it was noted that before the new cohort comes in 2024, it's Important to tell students about how popular bikes are in Cambridge.

11. Information-hunting for university autism and ADHD assessments (Raised by DSO)

- → Our DSO was unable to make the meeting, so sent this in his place 'I am sorry for being unable to attend today. I intend on creating a Google forms now that many have made use of the autism/ADHD screening service. As DSO, I only get news when it's bad news and people need help, so I'd like to gather as much information as possible about how people are experiencing the ADRC screening process including positive experiences.'
- → The Presidents think that this is a good idea.
- → Following the meeting this form was sent out to all undergraduates

12. University wide demands (Raised by Women + NB)

- → DRAG wants to provide a list of demands so that the SU can use it. Afterwards they will outline what the uni has been able to solve.
- → One issue that was noted, is that this will not inform the entire uni, when there are only 10 people on the committee.
- → To account for this there will soon be a uni wide form, which will allow students to submit what demands they may have.
- → These diverse perspectives will then be synthesised and submitted alongside the ones that the committee is raising.
- → (For context of how effective this is and how well the uni responds: There were 9 demands in 2021 and about 3 were met)

Any other business:

DBS and shadowing scheme (raised by Access)

- → Trinity Hall doesn't do DBS checks on anyone, as they pay students with vouchers and money off college bills. Keeping students off the payroll does mean that there is no screening.
- → Our Access officer feels out of the loop with the upcoming Shadowing scheme and will be contacting the SU for more information, as there was confusion as to whether Trinity Hall had signed up for it.
- → Shadowing schemes will be running from the 28th-30th January and the 4th-6th and 11-13th of February. (Sundays to Tuesdays)

Freps and their plans(Raised by Freps)

- → The Freps wanted to push for ovens and freezers, but the committee has explained the difficulty in this, as the college is not able to safely provide them.
- → The freshers have decided which committees they will sit on between the three of them and the webmaster supported them in learning how to use the moodle/meeting allocations.

Washing machines (Raised by Presidents)

- → When the machine break we need to call the washing machine companies themselves
- → Also submit a maintenance request, so that the college have a record of when they are broken and how many students this is impacting
- → There are plans to replace all the wireless modems on the washing machines. It will still be paid by card, just not contactless.

Smoking (Raised by ASO)

→ Plans for a smoking area in the master plans were discussed and the committee agreed with the ASO that the College would look uglier if the smoking area was removed as people would then smoke out the front of college and it wouldn't be nice for tourists etc.

Welfare Baskets (Raised by Welfare)

- → The welfare baskets were completely emptied after a week at Wychfield
- → Womens + NB noted that a similar situation is happening with period products
- → It was suggested that getting a locker could help make them last longer/perhaps prevent 'hoarding'
- → Although it may be that there is a real need for this many sanitary products/students may be experiencing hardship and we should be mindful of this and continue to ensure these resources are easily accessed by those in need of them (Secretary note post meeting).

LGBTQ+ (Raised by Presidents)

- → The equalities committee happened very recently, but the Presidents haven't heard anything back from this yet
- → There have been some issues with the gender expression fund, so the Presidents recommend that a new form is made and sent out to students