



## JCR Committee Meeting 3 – Minutes MT20, Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November

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### General Announcements:

1. James and Caroline meeting this week to discuss the possibility of an online bop
    - a. Potentially more of a DJ performance than an actual bop
    - b. Assume that the bubbles would join together for the call– would probably just talk amongst themselves
    - c. Sanaa has spoken to other colleges – bubble bops, snacks provided, Spotify playlist etc.
  
  2. Orly needs people to sign up as isolation helpers, particularly from RHS
    - a. CG - Do RHS volunteers need to go to college site to pick up deliveries/ supplies for isolating students?
    - b. OW -No, only have to deliver within RHS. Deliveries can be made directly to RHS however an isolating student cannot pick it up (i.e. the helper would need to be there to receive the package).
    - c. Orly to advertise this in general meeting.
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### President's Business (Sanaa):

1. Update on Christmas Vac (TBC):
  - a. Storage/leaving items behind
    - i. We will probably be allowed to leave our possessions in our rooms over the Christmas Vac.
    - ii. Likely to have to be packed away and put to one side. This is so that rooms can be deep cleaned if necessary.
    - iii. Some graduates may need to be relocated to RDB over the vac, so some student's stuff may need to be moved into college storage facilities.
    - iv. College to supply cardboard boxes (waiting for confirmation)
  - d. Rent reduction
    - i. For some students the decision to stay in college residents over the vac is completely out their control/ determined by external factors.
    - ii. Sanaa and Bilal negotiating vac rent reductions with college. Will be meeting with John Ford and John Banbrook to discuss this matter.
  - e. OW – do we know if college knows anything about the widow for students to return home for Christmas?
    - i. SM – No, assumes that this will be confirmed soon.
    - ii. For this term, the vac residence application deadline is very flexible as the situation is ever-changing. Expecting most applications to be submitted in 7<sup>th</sup> week.

3. Looking ahead to Hilary Term (things to potentially discuss with College):
  - a. Household bubbles:
    - i. Christ Church Fresher's re-bubbling approach is problematic
    - ii. RW – The Welfare Dean was considering swapping around a small number of students, has college said no?
    - iii. SM – Not really, probably taken on an individual level. If a student is unhappy for whatever reason they can contact the Dean of Welfare and be moved accordingly. Not a widespread re-shuffle.
  - b. Internet:
    - i. BA – College internet is often not strong enough for online tutorials/ seminars. Problematic if you are isolating.
  - c. Online/ in-person teaching:
    - i. PN – Stressing the need to be clear about whether or not the majority of teaching will be online or in-person next term. This will help people determine whether or not they return home during the vac/return to college next term.
    - ii. CY – University is aiming for in-person tutorials, but this may change.
    - iii. SM – Assume it will be the same as this term. Ultimately the decision of the tutor and on a subject to subject basis.
    - iv. EM – Can personal tutors communicate this directly to students instead of waiting to be asked?
  - d. Reading list availability:
    - i. PN – Could we have a review of reading lists with the library? When all the students in a class need the same textbook on the same day/week there is no time to isolate the book. Need more copies of certain texts.
    - ii. Ciaran to contact Clare White.
    - iii. OW – May be difficult with extremely long reading lists, however reviewing essential textbooks could be a feasible request.
  - e. Collections and returning to college:
    - i. SM – Collections will be online. Can take them remotely/ off college site.
    - ii. ATM – College are veering away from the back by Thursday of 0 week rule. More of a come-back when you feel comfortable doing so approach.
    - iii. SM – Potentially a staggered entry over a few weeks, maybe based on subject. Very unclear as of yet and nothing is confirmed.
  
4. How can we improve the ballot system?
  - a. The Committee generally prefers our system over that of other colleges (individual instead group balloting and no price tiers)
  - b. BA - A lot of people will be told that they need to go into the private sector last minute.
    - i. Hard to find accommodation; organize a group; get the money for a deposit and find a UK guarantor at that point.
    - ii. Bilal will discuss with Lucia the possibility of giving those most at risk of being asked to move out a head's-up prior to the ballot.
    - iii. Will ask to extend the Equalization Scheme deadline.

- c. Increasing transparency – could we do an introductory talk for the Freshers?
    - i. ATM – It would be useful if the college website contained a page specifically for accommodation information, including all the necessary documents and a general timeline of accommodation events (e.g. when the ballot takes place).
    - ii. OW – seconds this idea. Awareness would encourage more students to organize off-site accommodation in advance rather than having to do it last minute.
  - d. SM – what if we had two Equalization scheme application deadlines: one before and one after the room ballot?
    - i. Not sure how it would work as there are a limited number of spaces (i.e. a limited amount of money). To be discussed further with college.
  - e. BA – The Equalization scheme does not take inflation into account (not changed since 2011)
  - f. RW – Do we know if college is expecting the normal number of freshers next academic year?
    - i. SM- Currently yes. However, this may change in January when offers are sent out.
  - g. PN – How will freshers coordinate themselves into new accommodation considering that they have not been allowed to mix bubbles this year?
    - i. BA – We can't really push the ballot system back any further as this will be too last minute for people to have to find private accommodation. May be possible if they were told they need to move out before the ballot.
    - ii. However, college wants to make sure all onsite rooms are full (a huge financial contributor)
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### **Access Business (Rebecca):**

- 1. Interviews update:
  - a. All interviews will be remote
  - b. There will still be Interview Helpers – this is still a paid role
  - c. If you have any ideas about how to make it as enjoyable as possible (e.g. social activities), send them to Rebecca who will report back to Hannah.
  - d. Collecting videos of interview tips.
    - SM – More likely to get videos if you ask someone directly.
    - RT – Tutors have also been asked to make videos introducing themselves so that the interviews are less intimidating
  - e. PN – Suggests online welfare drop-ins to calm people down. Social activities could include Netflix parties, remote festive crafting, colouring, etc.
    - RW – When will these welfare drop-ins happen? Quite a hard ask for the 8 people on the Welfare Team to conduct during their holidays. College may have to provide more help and/or the Welfare Team should have similar rewards to Interview Helpers as remote support can be exhausting and very hard to pull off.

- RT – Someone who is DBS checked (Hannah, basically) is required to attend all online calls, therefore drop-ins would be very limited due to child-protection restrictions.
  - f. EM – The 5 minutes when the helper usually walks the candidate to an interview is quite important for calming-down the potential student. How can we replicate this? Could we have a helper in the call for the 5 minutes before the tutor appears?
    - Would still need a DBS checked adult present.
  - g. The Helpers are not usually DBS checked. It is fairly straightforward to get a check, but it does take a few weeks and, because shifts will be harder to fill as leading remote socialization is less appealing, we will need as many helpers as possible, potentially only doing a few shifts each.
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### **Any other Business:**

1. Update on Green Trashing (Emily)
  - a. Basically, nothing is actually that eco-friendly and shouldn't be branded 'green'.
    - i. The only confetti that is really biodegradable are flower petals (expensive and not to everyone's taste)
    - ii. Coloured powders (dyed corn starch) are the only other eco-friendly option.
  - b. Is it worth making an order when truly green products are so limited?
    - i. RW – It may be better to put together an information pack instead. This will help students make their own informed decisions.
    - ii. EC- Will consider this option but doesn't want to put across judgy vibes and ruin the fun of trashing.
    - iii. OW – We could put this level of detail up on the Facebook page during trashing season. This will help make people aware that, just because a product claims to be eco-friendly, it doesn't mean that it is.
  - c. AMT – Are food stuff (such as sprinkles or cut-up rice paper) biodegradable?
    - i. EC – These are better options than confetti. However, they are often banned by venues as they can be a hazard when wet.
    - ii. Could be dangerous for the wildlife if they consume it.
  - d. Working to organize Covid-safe, student-lead litter collections during trashing season. The current university approach is to wash it away with a massive blast hose – this is not ideal.