



JCR General Meeting 6 - Minutes HT21, Sunday 7th February

General Announcements (Sanaa):

- Community week: 22nd - 26th February. We have plans for every day so stay tuned!
 - The Founders' Dinner is taking place this week! You have the opportunity to make your own formal meal for your household. For more information see the St Anne's Kitchen Instagram (@st_annes_kitchen)
 - Sport's rep – you can still join the new St Anne's Six Nations fantasy ruby team. You don't need to know anything about rugby to participate, it's just a fun activity!
 - Student's Union Rep update: We have had no candidates for the SU Rep election scheduled for later this week. Subsequently, the election has been postponed until Trinity Term and will be incorporated into the JCR committee elections.
 - Hustings for next academic year's executive committee roles (president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, welfare and entz reps) will take place during our 4th general meeting of term (Sunday of 7th week). Keep an eye out for opportunities to talk to the current execs.
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Motion: To donate £250 to Colours Cayman and £250 to the Cayman LGBTQ Foundation

Proposed by: Emily Carr

Seconded by: Hannah Holden

This JCR notes that:

- The President of Magdalen College is to represent the Cayman government at an appeal before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in a case concerning same-sex marriage in the Cayman Islands.
- This has shed light on the injustices still faced by the LGBTQ+ community living in the Cayman Islands
- Colours Cayman and the Cayman LGBTQ Foundation are the two principal charities working in the Cayman Islands to support this community
- Colours Cayman's mission is to "advocate for LGBTQIA+ rights as Human Rights and promote the inclusion and equality of LGBTQIA+ persons in the Cayman Islands and throughout the Caribbean and Latin America"
- The Cayman LGBTQ Foundation's mission is to "work towards creating and maintaining a safe, inclusive, and equitable culture for the LGBTQ+ community of the Cayman Islands"

This JCR believes that:

- These two charities provide essential and much needed support, and our donation would help them to continue to do so.
- We have a responsibility to do what we can to support those in countries where the LGBTQ+ community is denied full rights and equality.
- In LGBTQ History month it is especially important that we do what we can to practically help in the fight for progress not just in the UK but around the world.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Donate £250 from the St Anne's JCR Charity Budget to Colours Cayman
- Donate £250 from the St Anne's JCR Charity Budget to The Cayman LGBTQ Foundation

PROPOSER:

- This backdrop is what is happening with the Magdalen President, however, no matter what you think about that scandal, the reality is that legal inequality is taking place in the Cayman Islands and we have the means to help reduce it.
- We want to fight for social inclusion and equality
- In general, we are incredibly fortunate. Therefore, it is up to us to help rise others up.
- It's LGBTQ+ history month. We have the symbolic flag flying, but it means nothing if we don't take practical action as well.
- This is money that we are not spending on other JCR activities. Now of all times, why not?

QUESTIONS:

1. Do either of these charities provide direct mental health support?
 - a. The Cayman LGBTQ Foundation signposts people to inclusive support services including mental health services.

DEBATE:

- 1) Against the motion:
 - a. These charities seem to be doing great work; however, we have a limited budget. If we are putting it in one place, we are failing to put it in another, which may have more immediate and direct consequences on people's lives (such as hunger relief). We need to consider where the money will be best spent to maximise its impact.
 - i. (Proposer) This is always going to be true, no matter where the charitable donation is going. Furthermore, this institutionalised homophobia does kill people.

2) Supporting the motion:

- a. As Oxford students, we should feel a sense of duty to help the people that a member of our university community is threatening.
- b. We are in a financial position to re-shuffle budgets if necessary in order to help charitable causes.
- c. The argument that we could spend the money elsewhere has been used to block social progression across history. If we were to compare all the charities, we would never find the best one and meanwhile the people who need our help would continue to suffer.
- d. It's true that some charities work for direct action and others for indirect action, but they are neither mutually exclusive nor necessarily hierarchical.
- e. Helping the LGBTQ+ community in the Cayman Islands will help prevent a range of other social issues, such as poverty, assault and homelessness.
- f. This issue is ultimately time-sensitive, charities need to be offering legal support now, and therefore need the finances now.

VOTE:

For: 25

Abstain: 1

Against: 1

The motion has passed

Hustings for Visiting Student's Rep

- Hustings Speech by Hana Shafique (summary):
 - A focus on cohesion and communication
 - Desires to work towards a greater integration of Visiting Students into the St Anne's community.
 - Ideas:
 - Online social events and games (e.g., Jeopardy)
 - Weekly check-ins with visiting students so that they can experience the transition to the Oxford tutorial system together.
 - A group chat.
- Question: How will you consider the issue of different time zones when planning online social events?
 - Answer: A poll to decided which time would work best for the most students. Could also split into two events taking place at different times. This is not ideal as they are a small cohort already, however desperate times call for desperate measures.

