General Meeting Week 4 Michaelmas Term



St Anne's College JCR Motions – General Meeting Week 4, MT 2021 (Sunday 31st October)

General Announcements

- BE- Karaoke night in the bar on Wednesday
- PC- Announcing Movember.

Motion 1: Remove current signatories from JCR bank account and add Kane Moylett and John Ford as signatories

Proposed by: Kane Moylett **Seconded by:** Connor Craig

This JCR notes that:

The current signatories on the account are registered from 2014/15 - It is unconvenient and irrational to have JCR members from 7/8 years ago on the account who are difficult to reach

This JCR believes that:

It would be simpler, easier and more sensible to have current signatories on the account, and I would also recommend John Ford (who would not have access to the account) who would be able to help in the future if a treasurer forgets to remove themself such as in 2014/15.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- a) Remove the three current signatories on the JCR bank account who are: Georgina Evans, Duncan McKellar and Christopher Wigg
- b) Add two new signatories to the JCR current account being: Kane Moylett and John Ford
- c) This will apply to all JCR bank accounts

Further Comments from Proposers

• KM- We need to get quorum, and this is why the same motion is happening again, as it is a legal change so it must abide by the rules of the constitution.

Debate/Questions

- How do we change at after Kane leaves?
 - Kane will remove himself as treasurer and add whoever the next treasurer is.

VOTE

For 33

Abstain 0

Against 0

MOTION PASSES

Motion 2: Contribute £75 (this was changed from £200) from the Arts Budget toward a student film created by members of the JCR.

Proposed by: Sophie Tucker Seconded by: Finlay Yates

This JCR notes that:

- St Anne's JCR has an arts fund specifically for helping to fund creative projects by members of the JCR.
- Any project may be considered by the JCR for funding if it (Constitution Section 4.1)
 - a. It has the participation of at least one St Anne's member
 - b. It falls broadly under any category that the Arts and Literature Representative considers part of the 'Arts and Literature' domain
- The student film Fish Bowl is being created as part of the Oxford University Film Foundation (OUFF) Projects '21 series and is written and directed by two separate members of St Anne's JCR.
- Fish Bowl will be screened at Phoenix Picture house in HT22 at the OUFF premiere alongside other student shorts and graduate projects.

This JCR believes that:

- Student film is an important and often overlooked part of student art as a whole, and has been one of the most affected industries by the pandemic.
- St Anne's JCR is committed to supporting the arts and enabling students to have creative outlets and fulfill artistic pursuits.
- Additional funding is necessary to ensure creative freedom and therefore a high quality production. Funding will primarily go towards the hire of industry standard equipment.
- This project will help to represent St Anne's and the creative community within the JCR.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Contribute £200 £75 from the Arts budget toward the production of Fish Bowl.

Further Comments from proposers:

• ST- There is a fully written out budget that has been sent to the treasurer in case anyone has specific questions.

Debate/Questions:

- Treasurer suggests there may not be enough in the budget. He has read the budget submitted to him and understands the expenses, but the JCR budget won't stretch to that.
- The JCR can donate £75. This doesn't have to go through a motion- people can apply through the arts fund outside of the general meeting.
- This money would go through the JCR art funds.
- Can it go through the charities budget counting as a charitable donation?
 - It is a registered charity, so going through the charities budget as a motion it may go through. But this would have to be resubmitted as a new motion.
 - o In this case it is unlikely the full amount of money will be attained through the arts funding.

THE PROPOSERS ASKED THE TERMS OF THE MOTION BE CHANGED IN THE GM, FROM A REQUEST OF £200 down to £75, STILL TAKEN FROM THE ARTS FUND.

VOTE	
For 23	
Abstain 3	

Against 0

MOTION PASSES

Motion 3: Motion to let to rusticated students attend halfway hall with their freshers cohort

Proposed by: Eleanor Wright

Seconded by: Sunandha Anantharamen

This JCR notes that:

Rusticated students who were members of the 2019 Freshers cohort will be denied tickets to halfway hall in 5th week of Michaelmas term 2021. This halfway hall was postponed from last Hilary due to the global pandemic.

This JCR believes that:

These students are part of our cohort and should be allowed to celebrate this momentous occasion with their peers.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

Have the JCR committee urgently write an open letter addressed to Helen King requesting that these rusticated students have the choice to attend halfway hall. This should set a precedent for fairer treatment of rusticated students in both our and future years.

Further comment from proposers:

- EW- We want the opportunity for people to join the halfway hall that they would be most comfortable- important to set a precedent of looking after rusticated students. Address it now and we can hopefully resolve it.
- They can choose whichever halfway hall- but only one still.

Debate/Questions:

• People that rusticated feel isolated when they come back to college, important to include them in this.

- Email has already been sent but there has been a general negative response from college- an open letter can make the point more strongly.
- Logistically, this only would apply to a few people, so it shouldn't be a huge change or inconvenience for college to accommodate.

VOTE

For 28 (including 1 proxy)

Abstain 0

Against 0

MOTION PASSES

Motion 4: To get a college tortoise for St Anne's

Proposed by: Megan Jenkins Seconded by: Lucy Thompson

This JCR notes that:

Animals have been proven to benefit people's mental health, and in Oxford's stressful environment, which has been exacerbated by the impact of the pandemic, a college tortoise would benefit the students at St Anne's. A college tortoise will help to unite the students at St Anne's and improve morale, especially if it wins the Corpus Christi tortoise race (which it will).

This JCR believes that:

A college tortoise could really benefit the students of St Anne's. To make sure that the tortoise is healthy, we will do a lot of research about the tortoise breed most well-suited to a college environment, and maybe one that doesn't hibernate, such as a red-footed tortoise. We would also consider getting a slightly older tortoise instead of a newborn one. I (Megan) would be willing to look after the tortoise during vacations and, if St Anne's at any point is no longer able to look after it, I would also be happy to have it permanently. Also, in the JCR constitution, the tortoise is supposed to be the casting vote in the event of a tie, so we definitely need a tortoise.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

Send an email to Helen King compelling her to allow us to get a tortoise, and hopefully get St Anne's a college tortoise!

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Further Comment by Proposers:

• One of the issues is that we have no one that is meant to look after the tortoise at Anneswe thought If one of us take responsibility for it, this would make the idea a possibility again.

Debates/Questions:

- Would it be worth to change the title of Tortoise Ranger, so they take it home during holidays and are generally responsible for it? Would there be enough interest?
 - o Current Tortoise rangers think so.
 - o Would be hard to transport it though.
 - This would also be a constitutional change, which are more stringent to pass as a motion.
- Who would pay for the tortoise?
 - o Equipment from last year isn't suitable.
 - Cost of having one tortoise is about £400 a year- need vet visits at least once a year, they need a particular diet, UV lamps, etc. This excludes the cost of the tortoise.
 - o Could we split the costs with the MCR?
 - It is something that we could consider
 - Do we have a budget for it?
 - Currently, we have nothing in a tortoise budget as we didn't have a budget at the start of this year. The treasurer would have to cut budgets in other areas to allow the money for this budget.

Is it ethical to have a tortoise?

- A lot of tortoises are illegally raised and bred.
- Tortoise rangers would make sure the breed of tortoise is one that is safely and ethically bred.

Can we ask to co-habit with another college?

We can't really cohabit as tortoises don't live well together. It would only be
possible with two female tortoises but can't determine gender exactly until they
turn 6.

Where does the tortoise live?

• To be figured out.

What do the Tortoise rangers know about tortoise care already?

• We know some information but are currently in the process of learning more.

Will college oppose this?

• College is not dead set against the idea, and with JCR backing it may be a possibility.

Says in the motion that MJ would take care of the tortoise, but isn't she going abroad next year?

- It wouldn't travel with Megan- it would stay in her home.
- Possibility of having the MCR help out, if necessary, though this hasn't been discussed.

Why are we looking at tortoises given the ethical issues?

- Other colleges have tortoises- they send them off to a biologist who looks after them properly.
- Just because other colleges can do it doesn't mean that we necessarily have the facilities to do it.
- The equipment, costs, would be too high.

Can we look at a college animal alternative?

Potentially.

AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION, THE PROPOSER'S DECIDED TO TABLE THIS MOTION.

AS A RESULT, NO VOTE WAS TAKEN AND ANY PROXY VOTES IN THIS CASE WERE DISCOUNTED.

There were no further comments or questions at this point.

END OF MEETING