

JCR COMMITTEE MEETING 15/10/2023

AGENDA

President's business -

- The constitution and budget requests - should we have exec approve budgets of under \$75 (as the constitution says) or would this open us up to accusations of being undemocratic, so should we have committees approve smaller budgets (without the general jcr)? Or should we just use the same procedure as last year and take any budget request straight to a general meeting (even though this is not required in the constitution)?

Vice President's Business -

- JCR office sorting out plan brainstorming

General -

- (Amy) Elections for freshers' rep and visiting students rep - when? (handover says W4, any earlier?)
- (Gaspard) Thoughts on Gaspard's changes to the budget?
- (Lola) college access to JCR-owned social media accounts, should passwords be shared with Jay Gilbert?
- Booking weekly SR3 for welfare event
- Should we get a card reader for freshers week?
- (Leif) should we give \$50 to the Alexandria classics magazine out of the arts budget?
- (Helen and George) - discussing trans rights statement

FOR THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING (ran out of time)

- Charity formals, combining with equalities + getting people from other colleges and outside the uni going to formals
- Discussing adding a faith rep

GENERAL

President's Business -

Constitutional budget issue - In the constitution says budgets under £75 can be approved by the exec committee, under £150 can be approved by the entire committee

- This provision hasn't been used by previous committees, but it is the way the constitution was designed to work, do not need general meetings for funding
- Discussed among the executive committee, we don't want just the exec to be able to approve budgets. But we do think that the JCR committee should have the power to approve funding without having to go through a General Meeting (GM) for small amounts.
- Anything above 150 we would bring to the GM, anything under 150 we would bring to committee meetings and it would be voted on here or instead in GM. If we reject funding in a committee meeting then the issue would be brought to the GM, so we would not have the power to reject something outright, only approve funding.

What amount should be approved by the committee? - Discussion

- It's difficult because the norm last year is not what was in the constitution which was to bring any funding issue to general meetings. If we do go back to just exec approving the amounts then we have the right to because this is in the constitution. If anyone has a big issue with this being in the constitution then this would require a constitutional change, for now we will just ignore the provision of powers to exec alone and move on.
- Should we just continue with the norm of last year (taking all funding requests to GM)? But also do we want to approve small amounts of funding
 - Ie. if we have a society asking for 20 can we just approve it in committee
 - 150 is too much, more than some people's budget for the whole term, this needs to be taken to GM, too much for us to approve without being taken to GM
- 300 a term about motions, can vary, also have another 250 we can use on this or other things. If it comes from the arts or sports budget its more complicated, depends on the kind of motion
- Send a funding motion to Krishh, and either it's approved in the committee meeting, or we disapprove it and we send it to GM, we couldn't just scrap it.
- Exec - president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, welfare and entz, only 8 people, problematically small amount
 - We aren't going to be approving things in just exec as its too little people, we will bring things to committee
- Under 75 is good for committee, above 100 is too much
- For arts - this is what the arts budget is mainly used for, small publications would request ~20, and similar for sports
- Number smaller than 100, maybe 75 would be preferable, still is a lot of money to be given without the general jcr having a say
 - If its an uncontroversial suggestion then its fine, but if we don't realise its controversial and someone has an issue with it then it is a problem
- Krishh would announce at the beginning of GMs what has been approved

RESOLUTIONS

Constitutional budget issue - amounts under 75 we will approve as committee, amounts over 75 will be approved by GM. If committee rejects a request it will be sent to GM. Exec will not approve funding decisions without committee.

Cleaning out the JCR office - create some kind of volunteer system/rota for cleaning out the JCR Office in the next committee meeting, and to publicise it

Elections - information will be published on the newsletter about the upcoming elections to be run in the next general meeting (29th Oct)

Changes to the budgets - the reduction to the arts budget concern is tabled for now until the art's rep returns with more information about how the budget was used last year, pizza concern unresolved

College access to JCR owned Social Media Accounts - passwords will be added to a spreadsheet but this will not be shared with College

Welfare drop ins - Seminar Rooms will be booked for welfare drop ins

Card reader - a card reader will be purchased for fresher's week in the future

Arts funding - unanimously approved

Trans rights statement - LGBTQ+ reps will draft a statement and meet with Helen King for approval

in committee meetings

- If someone brings a motion to GM they have opportunity to be there and argue for it, so do we need to invite them to committee meeting
 - But then, if we said no as committee then it would go to Gm and they could defend it there

Decision: amounts under 75 we will approve as committee, amounts over 75 will be approved by GM. If committee rejects a request it will be sent to GM. Exec will not approve funding decisions without committee.

Vice President's Business -

Thanks for Freshers' week -

- Shout out Gaspard, and committee for taking over when Krishh fell ill
- Plan to tackle JCR office -**

Fridges -

- There are too many fridges, are we planning on selling them? Some people are allowed to leave their fridges there for a year with permission. Some have been abandoned - difficult to work out which ones have been abandoned and which ones are being used.
 - So which ones we can get rid of depend on Georgia asking the people that own/request them
 - JCR lunch discussed with Helen King and Simon (ex-JCR President)
 - promised to refurbish
- Fire safety problem with selling fridges
- Georgia has a fridge log - everyone whose put a fridge in there has written it down, when it went in, how long its been there
- The JCR office is something we can work on throughout the year, but the fridges need to be removed by the end of the year
- Can current students rent a fridge for the year and pay eg. £5 for a term - college does do that. If that is more widely advertised then more students would want a fridge.
 - Georgia has had 3 requests for fridges, she will get back to them in week 3 or 4
 - Need to check with college whether this gets round the fire safety issue as everything needs to be fire safety approved
- Handle the fridge situation first (priority), what fridges are left - temporarily remove them and deal with the excess items in the room, then we can get the rest of the room more tidy (no tower of fridges)
- Where do we put the fridges if we move them out? They would have to go to the Danson Room. If we are only sorting out the room over a few hours
 - need to lock them away for security

Air beds -

- Majority of airbeds in the office don't work, air mattresses have holes, metal ones don't have springs
 - If the bed is broken there is no point in leaving it in the JCR
 - Ayesha bought new beds last term and new pumps, but has had messages that the beds have holes and duct tape on them already. Something that will have to be looked at, if the beds are in bad shape then more will be ordered.

General -

- Random items in the office: half a drum kit, massive speaker (broken?), bookcase - can we do a yard sale or donate stuff to charity shops, or take it to a tip?
- Sorting it out - suggestion for everyone to do eg. 20 minutes of cleaning, maybe start with an itemised list, small groups of volunteers and make a rota for it. We could involve the rest of college as the office is the

responsibility of the whole JCR not just committee, we could advertise it as a spring cleaning (welfare) event (joke).

- Needs to not just be cleared out but cleaned - there are bugs, we need pest exterminators
- Make a proper inventory of what's in there - would save us buying new things if we knew what was actually in there

Decision: to create some kind of volunteer system/rota for cleaning out the Danson room in the next committee meeting, and to publicise it

General -

Elections - when to run elections for new roles (visiting students rep, freshers' rep, foundation year rep)

- Draw attention to Foundation year rep, a new role
 - Run elections in the *second general meeting*
 - Advertise at the end of the next GM, send manifestos by a certain date etc
- Does the foundation year student sit on committee, would they be linked to access? Yes, access rep helps liaise with foundation year rep

Decision: information will be published on the newsletter about the upcoming elections to be run in the next general meeting (29th Oct)

Gaspard's changes to the budget -

- Comparing to the budget last year, lots of miscellaneous funds at the bottom of the budget that got used as the year went along. The spreadsheet each individual rep has been sent is individual to their role
 - Gaspard is aware of this and this is counted in the budget, the miscellaneous small budgets are still there
- Had equalities meeting before this about the questions to do with the common pot or the separate budgets, has been added to the spreadsheet
- Thinking of changing the pizza place we order from as dominoes is expensive
 - When ordered from dominoes from ACS, 50% off if someone collects the pizzas - we need someone to collect the pizzas that is not essential to JCR meetings ie. not Krishh
 - Whatever we do this week is what the freshers think is always the case - if we do pizzas that are slightly worse this week then the freshers won't know better
 - Going forward with dominoes, if we change it then we can say this was a special case for the first meeting
- Arts: if we compare the new budget with last year, its down 700, the whole budget was used last year
 - Its 700 lighter, feedback from other reps is that the budget for arts rep was massive.
 - Arts rep rebuttal - the termly budget gets given out to any student that wants it for their production, it's not an events budget but a budget that goes to individual Annes students, the other big thing is arts week, and the budget was spent on it
 - The new 400 termly budget is good, right now there is only 200 for arts week - 700 is not possible for arts week
 - Recommended for Leif to chat with the arts rep and come back with the necessary amount (needed for supplies such as paintbrushes etc.)
 - George - part of a team organising an exhibition in Oxford, people will submit art for free. Some art students will be happy to do it for free but Leif wants to reimburse people (a discussion needed to have

closer to arts week)

Decision - the reduction to the arts budget concern is tabled for now until the art's rep returns with more information about how the budget was used last year, pizza concern unresolved

College access to JCR owned social media accounts -

- Lola needs passwords record of passwords for college owned social media accounts - bad track record of lost accounts, Lola won't do anything with the passwords, need them to pass on to next committee
- College would like access to the passwords but Lola doesn't have to give it to them, would only give Jay Gilbert the passwords
 - College is worried as newspapers etc think JCR accounts are the official college accounts, not so much of a push to hand it over to college right now as has been in previous years
 - There are certain accounts where the issue is more sensitive and individual reps aren't as happy handing over the passwords, but college aren't necessarily going to log in and monitor what is happening if they have access to the accounts
- College should have access to the main St Annes students account (they do) - but should they be able to access entz, welfare, disabilities, queer, environmental accounts?
 - Does college need access? Unanimous decision, no they don't
 - Welfare and LGBTQ+ - students message the accounts with personal issues that they wouldn't want anyone other than the specific JCR reps they are trying to contact to see (with LGBTQ+ its can be students who aren't out who students who are seeking access to the gender affirmation fund)
 - LGBTQ+ reps - condemning Kathleen Stock post from last years LGBTQ+ rep caused tension between the College and donors, there is a worry that if college has access to JCR instagram accounts they have the potential to interfere (delete posts etc) with important issues to do with equalities and welfare, which might override what students have decided
- College is more concerned that there is a record of passwords so we don't lose the accounts but they are less concerned about access to the accounts themselves
- If college do want control over what is posted the reps would rather they have to run posts by senior members of college staff rather than college having the power to outright delete what they put out
- Described last year - the alumni and comms rep acts as the mediator between the JCR and college, so Lola should have access

Decision - passwords will be added to a spreadsheet but this will not be shared with College

Weekly SR3 booking - SR3 was a big success during freshers week, can we book it once a week as a drop in?

- Hoping to run a welfare event every other week during the week (other than the welfare tea), and on weeks there isn't an event there would be a welfare drop in
- SR3 will be booked for specific dates
- Cannot be used in the evenings however as the door locks, also the room will not be consistent as the seminar rooms are used for teaching, but this can be beneficial as everyone has different schedules

Decision: Seminar Rooms will be booked for welfare drop ins

Card reader for freshers week -

- Should we get one? Yes.
- Some take different tariffs for different amounts, it goes in the wrong place, when we do decide to get one we need to choose the right one for what the college needs it for,
 - A lot of them are flat rates, if people pay under £5 then club nights then the tariff will eat into that more than it would for other events, still have cash only for things that are quite cheap or have it as a fall back
- Should contact our bank and see what they can provide
- Need a solid alternative - pay pal
- Sumup readers have been used, £30 and easy to use

Decision: a card reader will be purchased for fresher's week in the future

Arts funding -

Unanimously approved by committee

Trans Rights statement -

- Committee and LGBTQ+ reps working on a statement on welcoming and supporting trans students in college
- Trying to set up a meeting with Helen King to hopefully get her to sign off on the statement in order to avoid a Kathleen Stock situation where the college and JCR may have been somewhat at odds
- Teddy Hall's statement put out by their LGBTQ+ reps as an example of roughly what would be said
- The SU statement specifically names the recent Conservative Party Conference, we would avoid doing this and being overtly political as we think it would be harder to get the statement approved by college

Decision: LGBTQ+ reps will draft a statement and meet with Helen King for approval