

JCR Open Meeting Minutes

Meeting on 05.10.2023 at 17:00 UK time

List of Committee Members

Names, initials, pronouns and * to mark non-attendance	Role
Jacob Hougie, JH , He/him	President
Daisy O'Connor, DOC , she/her	Vice President
Oliver Law, OL , he/him	Treasurer
Luka Murphy, LM , he/him	Secretary
Salma Salifu, SS , she/her*	Welfare
Julia Sinkinson, JS , she/her	Welfare
Luke Tyler, LT , he/him*	Welfare
Jess M, JM , She/her	Academic and Access
Ryan Simpson, RS , she/her	Green
Ruth Chapman, RC , she/her	Catering, Accommodation and Facilities
Amit Ramakrishna Prasad, ARP , he/him*	Sports and Societies
Neela Nee, NN , she/her	Ents
Saira Ahmed, SA , she/her	Ethnic Minorities
Cosma Rubben, CR , she/her	International Students
Harley Chidley, HC , they/them	LGBTQ+
Maisie Johnson, MJ , she/her	Gender Equalities
Malachi Gee, MG , he/him*	Disabled Students
Eleanor Lewis, EL , she/her	Class Act
Lucy Robertson, LR , she/her	Computing (non-voting)

Agenda

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Summary of Key Points

JH outlined the results of the room repointing survey, explaining his methodology, and suggesting a new more equitable system to band rooms in the future.

JH presented the JCR with the proposed amendments to the constitution which are focused around a new mechanism to replace the computing officer, and making clear the chain of responsibility for the JCR social media accounts.

JH asked the JCR for suggestions about new suggestions for merchandise now that the main provider, Redbird, is willing to work on custom products.

JH and **RC** discussed the active policy covering the provision of heating this Michaelmas.

Action Points

JCR committee members should be aware of the new room repointing scheme and be ready to work in implementing any changes that might be actioned in the near future.

JH to discuss with accommodation about pointing of 4th year ballot rooms not on the room database.

JCR committee members should be prepared to organise the referendum on the new constitutional amendments. This involves the practical aspects of emailing members the ballot, as well as encouraging participation to meet the 50% threshold.

OL should be ready to liaise with the football team to ensure that they can make a one-off purchase.

JCR members should think of, and suggest, new items they'd like to be included in college stash.

0. Administrative Matters

Meeting begins at 5:27

OL is absent with apologies. **LT, ARP, SS, MG** are absent.

JH introduces the open meeting and eulogises to the freshers about the benefits of Corpus democracy.

1. Room Repointing Update

JH explains the results of the room repointing update. Explains to the freshers how they will be sorted into a randomised list, while the 2nd years will ballot in the opposite order to that in which they did in their 1st year.

Rooms are pointed on a variety of scales which then leads to rooms being assigned a band which then determines rent. The last repointing took place in the late 2000s and more recent cohorts have different priorities e.g. Old Court gains the most points for location, while in reality library court is the most popular.

Gesticulates to the results of the survey before proffering his suggested repointing calculation to be passed around the room.

Location and area will remain the most important factor, while a sink has moved up into 3rd place. Kitchens have also assumed a more prominent position.

New factors will be introduced, such as year of last renovation.

Radiators are now apparently irrelevant.

This leaves the total number of points available for each feature as:

<u>Feature</u>	<u>Existing Total Possible Points</u>	<u>Proposed Total Possible Points</u>
Location	180	185
Area	410	160
Presence of sink	40	155
Number of Additional Gyp Appliances	30	140
Room Type	200	130
Noise	-14	120
Distance to	195	120
Year of Last Renovation	N/A	115
Outlook quality	60	115
Bathroom facilities	80	100
Number sharing	N/A	95
Floor	40	90
Laundry Quality	20	55
Number of radiators	60	40

Repointing is also necessary for rooms around Leck especially because facilities were given manual point allocations. Sarah Wordsworth is also leaving, so **JH** assumes the process will take a few short years.

LR asks if points will need to updated every year for every room if year of renovation is a new factor. **JH** says that one might be able to create an algorithm that might do this role automatically.

Anna Harper asks if 4th year rooms come under the JCR. **JH** replies that they are affected by banding because bands were previously determined on a zero-sum basis. **Anna Harper** explains that certain 4th years were

given little information about their rooms, they had little pointing and rent was done through a private company which they were not informed about. **JH** explains he has no idea how 4th year ballot rooms work, and will liaise with accommodation.

JM asks if this process will be completed by the next ballot. **JH** replies that this would be ideal but depends on when college appoints a new accommodation officer. Says it might be possible to do so without a data collection. If the process stretches beyond Michaelmas, **JH** would be happy to form a subcommittee to oversee the process. **JM** asks how the process would affect rent banding if pointing finishes after the room ballot. **JH** explains that the band you pick, should be the rent you pay and changes to rent bands ought to only take effect after students have had a chance to pick rooms based on the new points.

JM then asks about students who have gone abroad and how this process might affect them. **JH** understands that students who ballot abroad currently pay the same amount as other students, but would probably pay the equivalent band even if the points have changed. **Anna Harper** explains that while their band hasn't changed, the rent has gone up while they were abroad. **JM** grimaces.

Reuben Bolton (RB) asks about the rumoured new kettle rules. **JH** asks the JCR to raise their hands to see which members have a personal kettle in their room. **LM** counts the numbers in the room and finds that an overwhelming majority indeed have their own kettle.¹ **JH** rages against colleges' intention to ban kettles in addition to other against

¹ Though an unbiased accounting may have shown that about 33% of attendees raised their hands

personal electrical appliances. **RB** suggests that keeping a kettle would be a key weapon in any extended conflict with executive body.²

Later in the meeting, after attendees have had a chance to view room pointing proposals, **JH** asks for a vote on the repointing proposals, to gauge support. All vote in favour apart from **RB** who votes abstain because he struggled to read the smaller font on the room repointing sheet.

JH is then prompted to show members of the JCR his methodology as well as particularly discrepancies in the current system, especially the fact that many Leckhampton rooms have been given 0. He carries his laptop screen to show a spreadsheet of rooms ranked based on their new pointing, which reveals what many consider to be sensible rankings.

2. Constitutional Amendments

JH outlines this particular agenda item and expresses confidence that attendees will have read the amendments before the meeting. In brief, the Computing Officer will now be allowed to resign their post or be impeached. Because the Officer has a mandate from being appointed rather than elected, the Committee thought it appropriate that they might be removed by committee meeting rather than an open meeting.

He then moves onto the second amendment, concerned with the need for a clearer structure for managing the social media. In theory, this would mean that the secretary is in charge of social media, but in

² Some students suggest electrical warfare though **JH** dismisses this idea half-heartedly

practice they can allocate work to other officers who are willing to take on the role; as is already done in the current committee, where social media is de facto organised by **HC**. However, the key difference is that unless another officer takes responsibility, the secretary would be responsible for managing social media entirely.

He delivers the news that these amendments must be passed by a referendum which requires 50% participation. The Colleges' Executive Body also needs to approve these measures, and he doesn't foresee much opposition from its members after communication with the Dean and Senior Tutor.

Anna Harper asks about the quota that must be reached in the referendum. **JH** explains that it merely requires a 50+1% of the vote to be in favour, from at least 50% of JCR members.

JH then calls for a vote in favour of bringing these amendments to ballot, as per the constitution. **LM** carries out a vote, which is unanimously in favour.

3. Themed Stash

JH outlines that Redbird, the college merchandise supplier, has offered to come up with more exciting stash that might be available for the next term. Asks the JCR what sort of designs they'd like. **RC** explains that Jesus JCR have multicoloured jumpers, where the sleeves differ in colour to the body. **HC** then suggest 'Juicy' sweatpants with 'Corpus' as the writing. Many other members then call for pink dressing gowns which were once a ubiquitous part of merchandising orders. **JH** reassures them that dressing gowns are being worked on.

RB suggests that other colleges have nice, fluffy, sweaters. **HC** then calls for Corpus Gibbets which could then be paired with **JM**'s suggestion for Corpus crocs. On the other side of the aisle, **Keelan Shorten** suggest something in University varsity style as Corpus merchandise is less recognisable than Cambridge University stash. **RB** then suggests Corpus, ankle-length puffers. Several members reply by expressing support for Corpus bucket hats. **Heather Taylor** suggests a chronophage design would be appropriate for any new merchandise order.

Anna Harper suggests Corpus-crested glass eyes à la Dom Bielby. **JH** expounds the alumnus' virtues as former President, Secretary, and proponent of the bridging course. **A JCR Member** asks if merch might be able to have more female sizes. **JH** notes that redbird does do female sizes, though Ryder and Amies often don't.

4. Any Other Business

Cosimo Burdett (CB) says that the football team is in desperate need of goal keeping gloves to prevent injury, especially in advance of the match on Saturday. Asks if the JCR could commit to a one-off purchase for one pair of gloves at £15 from SportsDirect. **JH** suspects that the football team might have the funds covered by their budget, if not the JCR can cover the funds through an unbudgeted One-Off Purchase so long as the football team liaise with **OL**. **CB** asks about the identity of **OL**.³ **JH** explains that he is the treasurer.

³ **CB** has recently returned from a year abroad so was unaware of the new committee

RC then explains that the rooms have been cold and is asking if heating should be switched on, before calling for a JCR vote to have the heating turned on.

Isabelle Pallister explains that if she has been so cold in her room that she has been shivering like an animated character. In response, **EL** explains that she bought an electric blanket last year which led to an electricity bill of £23.50, but she believes that the cost was worth it. **JH** reads the active policy which states that heating ought to be turned on at the start of term, unless it is predicted to be warm for the coming days but notes the heaters take 3 weeks to turn up, therefore there is no need for the JCR to take significant action.

MEETING ENDS at 18:08