

JCR Open Meeting Minutes

Meeting on 06.10.2022 at 17.00 UK time

List of Committee Members

Names, initials, pronouns and * to mark non-attendance	Role
Jamie Charles, JC , she/her	President
George Stokes, GS , he/him	Vice President
James O'Garro, JO , he/him	Treasurer
Jacob Hougie, JH , he/him	Secretary
Keelan Shorten, KS , he/him	Welfare
Vasilisa Grachova, VG , she/they	Welfare
Ben Palmer-Welch, BPW , he/him	Welfare
James Walker, JW , he/him	Academic and Access
Kitty Joyce, KJ , she/her	Green
Yifei Zheng, YZ , he/him	Catering, Accommodation and Facilities
Matthew Wadey, MW , he/him	Sports and Societies
Gosia Szakowska, GoSz , she/her	Ents
Muhammad Mahmoud, MM , he/him*	Ethnic Minorities
Neve Baskar, NB , she/her	International Students
Emma Gibson, EG , she/they/he*	LGBTQ+
Lucy Trusler, LT , she/her	Gender Equalities
Malachi Gee, MG , he/him	Disabled Students
Dylan Mankin, DM , he/him*	Computing (non-voting)

Agenda

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Summary of Key Points

1. The JCR approved the renewal of the JCR Committee Elections Active Policy and approved the new Hybrid Meetings Active Policy, Punt Hire Active Policy, Class Act Active Policy, Ethnic Minorities Active Policy.
2. The JCR also discussed toilet paper, servery opening times, gym inductions and university challenge try outs.
3. The racial harassment reporting form has been approved and details will come soon

Action Points

1. YZ to ask about improving the quality of the toilet paper
2. YZ to ask about later opening times for the servery
3. YZ to ask about the provision of first aid in gyps

0. Administrative Matters and Welcome

Meeting begins at 17.16.

MM, EG and **DM** are absent.

JC welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially those for whom it was their first JCR meeting.¹ **JC** explained that most of this meeting would be fulfilling a constitutional duty to renew existing Active Policies or to pass new ones.

1. Renewal of amended JCR Committee Elections Active Policy (**JC**)

GS explained that this policy, which needs to be renewed, now includes elections for the Class Act Officer, now that it is part of the constitution. He also explained that in the case of a by-election the Class Act officer and DSO will now also be elected at the same time as another vote as was already the case for the LGBTQ+ officer, in order to protect anonymity. The policy was also reorganised to aid in legibility.

Jago Goodband asked how elections could be non-anonymous and **JC** clarified that we can see a list of who voted in each election, but not what they voted for and **MW** explained the problem – you would be able to see how people identify by looking at the list of who vote.

The policy was approved with 28 votes in favour.

¹ And last? We hope not!

2. Hybrid Meetings Active Policy (JC)

JC explained that JCR meetings used to be in-person, but during Covid they went online and, now, there is a desire for hybrid meetings to make it easier to attend. This policy makes hybrid meetings more feasible by describing means of participation and voting that can also ensure the integrity and security of the meeting.² This describes the voting mechanisms and means of participation. It isn't very prescriptive to allow flexibility for future committees.

BPW asked if the committee could come online too – and **JC** clarified that they can.³

The policy was approved with 29 votes in favour.

3. Punt Hire Active Policy (JC)

JC explained that this policy sets out the system for charging for and funding the punt: students and staff get charged £5 for 2 hours but fellows and alumni will pay £10 because they are likely to be more able to do so. It was noted that both of these are significantly less expensive than private hire. The funds raised will be split equally with the MCR (as was the cost of the punts) and the revenue will help to cover maintenance and storage, thus helping to make to make the punts, which were costly,⁴ less expensive.

² For more information on why we need this, Viz. Open Meeting Minutes of 03.02.22

³ He was, of course, asking for a friend

⁴ For the mental health of the JCR committee as well as its finances. For more on the financial cost, Viz. Meeting Minutes 7.10.21 12.02.22, 16.02.22

The policy was approved with 29 votes in favour.

4. Class Act Active Policy (JC)

JC explained that the SU has a Class Act campaign for students who have been/are being disadvantaged in some way beyond the remit of the other liberation officers such as those who identify as working class, who come from a low income family, who attended a non-selective state school, who are the first generation of their family to attend university, as well as care leavers, estranged students and those who have experienced unstable accommodation or homelessness.

The Class Act officer is a representative for students from those backgrounds and this policy helps to clarify which individual students may self-identify as part of the electorate for this officer.⁵

NB asked about the vulnerabilities of self-identification to abuses by students who may not belong in the electorate and **JC** clarified that we can't respond to cases of false self-ID and noted that there is nuance in self-ID because some people are wealthy now but grew up on free school meals (or other similar cases) so making assumptions would be dangerous anyway.

The policy was approved with 30 votes in favour.

⁵ For more on this Viz. Minutes of Meetings: 27.4.22, 28.04.22, 29.9.22

5. Ethnic Minorities Active Policy (**JC**)

Similar to the Class Act Active Policy this policy helps to provide guidance to students about identifying as Ethnic Minorities. **JC** noted that many students have been worried about self-identifying as an ethnic minority, especially Jewish and White students who don't identify as White-British. This policy clarifies that any member of an ethnic minority or mixed ethnic group can vote for the Ethnic Minorities Officer.⁶

Jago Goodband Asked if Scottish and Welsh people could self-identify as an Ethnic Minority and **JC** clarified that there are white ethnic minorities on the list, but that this is based on self-identification as an Ethnic Minority group.

The policy was approved with 30 votes in favour.

6. Any Other Business

JC explained the Any Other Business section of the meeting was a chance to ask about anything not on the agenda.

BPW asked about the toilet paper – it seems to be cheaper and thinner than last year and it was suggested that **YZ** speak to the head of housekeeping about this.⁷

MW asked about having slightly later meal times – **YZ** said he'd ask catering about opening later. **GS** noted the Leckhampton servery is open

⁶ For more on this, Viz. Meeting Minutes 29.09.22, 27.04.22

⁷ Never let it be said that the JCR doesn't deal with the really pressing concerns of undergraduates

7pm-8pm and **YZ** clarified that that is because it is now made in Old House and transported there after Old House service.

Emily Parkinson asked about access to basic first aid equipment, especially in Gyps for knife injuries and **YZ** said he'd ask housekeeping. **GS** added that the porters have lots of equipment and expertise and there will be a first aid training. **Flori Sharpe** noted that Erika, the college nurse also has first aid equipment.

MW explained gym inductions were going ahead.

JC noted University Challenge trials were going ahead in the Pelican Bar at 7pm on 12th October.

NB said she'd confirmed that the racial harassment reporting form had been worked out with the Senior Tutor and information will come out about it soon.

JH asked about the heating turning on and **JC** explained the heating is still in the process of being turned on.

Meeting ends at 17.40.

Action points:

1. **YZ** to ask about improving the quality of the toilet paper
 2. **YZ** to ask about later opening times for the servery
 3. **YZ** to ask about the provision of first aid in gyps
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