

JCR Open Meeting Minutes

Meeting on 03.05.2023 at 19:00 UK time

List of Committee Members

Names, initials, pronouns and * to mark non-attendance	Role
Neve Baskar, NB , she/her*	President
Jacob Hougie, JH , he/him	Vice President
Oliver Law, OL , he/him	Treasurer
Daisy O'Connor, DO , she/her	Secretary
Luke Tyler, LT , he/him	Welfare
Julia Sinkinson, JS , she/her*	Welfare
James Walker, JW , he/him*	Welfare
Jess M, JM , she/her	Academic and Access
Ryan Simpson, RS , they/them	Green
Yifei Zheng, YZ , he/him*	Catering, Accommodation and Facilities
Amit Ramakrishna Prasad, ARP , he/him	Sports and Societies
Neela Nee, NN , she/her*	Ents
Freddie Sehgal, FS , he/him	Ethnic Minorities
Cosma Rubben, CR , she/her	International Students
Harley Chidley, HC , they/them	LGBTQ+

Maisie Johnson, MJ she/her*	Gender Equalities
Claire Collins, CC , they/them	Disabled Students
Eleanor Lewis, EL , she/her*	Class Act
Dylan Mankin, DM , he/him*	Computing (non-voting)

Agenda

Summary of Key Points	5
Action Points	5
0. Administrative Matters	6
1. Room Pointing (JH)	6
2. Salto locks (JH)	8
3. Women and Non-Binary Gym Hours (JH)	10
4. Any Other Business.....	10

Summary of Key Points

Voted in favour of revisiting the repointing system, and doing a survey as to what are the most valuable facilities for a room, in relation to the Old Court location points.

A discussion over the installation of Salto locks around college, including in individual rooms, and the possible privacy and safety concerns.

A survey is to be done concerning the best hours for the women and non-binary gym sessions.

Action Points

Surveys are to be constructed concerning the room pointing system, and for the best hours for the women and non-binary gym sessions.



0. Administrative Matters

Meeting begins at **19:18**

NB, JS, JW, YZ, NN, MJ, EL, DM absent with apologies.

1. Room Pointing (**JH**)

The rooms in Old Court are disproportionately higher pointed, and therefore are more expensive, though they remain universally unpopular. The question has been raised as to whether they should be repointed, especially after work has recently been done to repaint the prize rooms.

The way that pointing works, is that each location is allocated points, and the different qualities in the room are also allocated points, in order to select the price band. The question at hand is whether Old Court, as a location, should be repointed.

LT: Yes. The shower facilities are subpar, the rooms are really cold, and most rooms do not have sinks, which are generally considered a positive thing for rooms.

JH: A larger question, is whether we should consider repainting the rooms in general, to reflect the different values people put on the different amenities. The last time pointing was done was in the 2010s, and it took a lot of work, requiring a survey, so would be a longer project for the JCR.

HC: If you have accessibility requirements, do you have to pay more for things like close proximity?

Malachi Gee: The highest price that college can charge is the average cost of college accommodation, when rooms are given for accessibility purposes.

Flori Sharpe: There is still an issue for people who do not have all the appropriate documents in place when arriving at college, and it can take longer to get ARD accommodations, so this is an issue with pointing in general

JH: As part of a wider banding effort this can be considered, but might be a separate issue to discuss with college.

JM: Does this mean that the bands would shift in value, and would some rooms get pushed higher in cost to compensate?

JH: Any re-banding has to be zero-sum, as College still needs to have the same revenue from rent. This raises the question as to whether this is something we want to proceed with and consider.

Ina L'Alik and Ruth Chapman: Would a star room review system be worth it? Having other people's opinions in a quantitative way might be helpful

JH: This is quite subjective, so if this occurred this wouldn't change the way that pointing happens, but might still be useful

College member: Will this mean that other locations get more expensive?

JH: Yes, but we would likely be leaving predominantly freshers areas alone, and locations such as Library Court would be considered as they are in high demand with good facilities. Overall, this would probably look like doing another survey, creating new points, then having a discussion

to see whether we would want to pursue it. This would likely be a multi-year process.

Indicative vote on taking this to a survey to develop a new system: 20 in favour, 2 abstentions, 1 against

2. Salto locks (JH)

The Salto locks are the digital locks that currently open the library, or the post room, and are unlocked with the CamCards. There are two varieties, either online, which College can control and actively see the usage log. This is under the same control policy as CCTV, which limits who can access the logs to the IT office and porters and requires reasonable justifications to be written into an access log. The porters would be able to change who can access a door in real time, which would allow them to make a lost CamCard non-functional. The alternative is offline, which College cannot control or see remotely, but can access the log and alter access by physically going to the lock. This is part of the College advancing a programme of modernisation, with the idea being to replace the A20 key with the Salto lock, alongside motorising gates and increasing accessibility to wider college areas. This allows them to stop having to keep track of hundreds of keys and improves security at entrances. The main issue for discussion is the use of Salto locks, and possible privacy concerns. A further issue raised in the past was about who can access other College buildings. While College has no preference on access, they can facilitate people entering other buildings and want to follow the JCR and MCR on questions of access.

Malachi Gee: My room currently operated by the Salto lock, and there are issues with the motorised gate and unlocking system, as it can have certain technical issues.

LT: There are people at other colleges with the Salto locks, where the addition of a handle gets rid of the problem of the door closing properly.

DO: At the JCC meeting there was a discussion about the possibility of needing to tap the card to lock the room on the way out.

Malachi: The motorised gates can have an issue where they do not fully close, and this is an issue from a security standpoint. The non-motorised doors sometimes have to be reset manually, because if they don't close properly they make a loud beeping sound; this often happens with the post room door.

JH: This might be changed with newer technology

Flori Sharpe: In terms of the security aspects, even if there are initial teething issues, this would not be a large change in the security of the Bene't street gates, as they often do not lock properly.

OL: Will this be a security risk overall in terms of the individual rooms, and would it take a while to get a replacement card, leaving someone locked out of their room?

JH: The porters might be able to give you a master key while waiting for the delivery of the CamCard, or they might have blank cards.

FS: There are potential privacy concern in the wrong hands, as in another college, porters could see 'suspicious activity' and visited rooms to investigate, especially during Covid.

JH: The CCTV policy is that it should only really be used in disciplinary, post-hoc manners, rather than in the moment, so this ought not to be an issue.

JM: If there are emergencies and things, a key is a bit more reliable in terms of health and safety, or instances such as fires. Would there be a button to get out, or the requirements of tapping the card?

JH: There would probably be a button to get out. We are keen to have the tap to lock or to unlock system on individual rooms. Was that the main reliability issue?

JM: The keys are still more reliable and the SALTO lock to get into Bene't can be temperamental.

LT: Would we still have the brown door in the Bene't street entrance?

JH: We might not need to have that as the other gates are secure enough, College is reevaluating its use.

3. Women and Non-Binary Gym Hours (**JH**)

At a previous meeting, we were broadly in favour of introducing women and non-binary gym hours, but the question is when the hours would be. This could be something that goes to a survey (no-one in the meeting had any preference).

4. Any Other Business

No AOBs, meeting ends at **19:48**