

## JCR Meeting 2 – February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2019

### Present

Ellie Brain (President), Emily Insanally (VP), Andrew Salkeld, Alex Burns, Becky Reilly, Finn Manders, Leon Reason, Connor Dwyer, Iona Mac, Marc Foxhall, Rob Watts, Henry Sainsbury, Harriet Bradnock, Alexandra Nikolin, Ben Bristow, Poppy Blackshaw, Irene Jessel, Cerian Craske, Ben Tudor, Priya Kaler, Du vessa Bandeen, Daniel Ellis, Dmitry Bashtanov, George Richmond, Justin Yu, Caolan McConnaughie, Zayn Richards

### Apologies

Daniel Carter, Emily Baker-Thurston, Yaron Bernstein

Note: The President made all points recorded in these minutes, except for those stated otherwise.

#### 1. Round The Room

**President:** Attended General Purpose Committee (here on, GPC); it looks likely that an Equality and Diversity Working Group shall be started. First Billy Day meeting held; event to be in collaboration with the Music Society. Discussions with Treasurer (Andrew) over investments (see Item 4). Sliding doors are to be installed at college entrance for disabled access.

**VP:** Housing ballot timetable to be finalised, with a meeting regarding this on Tuesday. Trying to move the ballot to a week earlier than last year due to May Bumps. Also trying to remove the forms usually asked to be filled in by all students simply stating consent to be a part of the ballot as this takes up unnecessary time in the process. Looking to host an open weekend of accommodation (especially second year houses). JCR Officers are to post videos of daily life at Fitz on the Offer Holders' group.

**Ents:** Reminder to JCR stewards of upcoming bops. Proposal to GPC to get payment for stewards still in process. Reminder of upcoming events Superbop at Cindies on 15<sup>th</sup> February, and Charity Pub Quiz on the 16<sup>th</sup> February.

**Welfare:** First yoga session complete, and yoga and massage sessions to continue. Survey on Tutor system due out around Thursday. Also looking into discussion with Tutorial Office to speak to prospective students about access issues. Valentine's Day cookies to come. Pursuing MCR link up in terms of welfare work.

**LGBT:** Reminder that the LGBT Bop is this Tuesday.

**T&A:** Shadowing Scheme is underway.

**Gym:** More inductions have taken place.

**Food:** Survey is coming soon.

**Ethical:** FitzOff contest has begun, and compost scheme is coming along.

**Women's:** Successful FemSoc last weekend. Put in for Fitzwilliam Society grant, and also looking for speaker for upcoming Women's Formal.

**BME:** Discussion group coming up.

## 2. Treasurer Time

Senior Treasurer is supportive in trying to increase our budget a little.

Money secured for recycling and compost bins for Ethical Affairs.

Will look into more funding for International Officer (as raised by Justin)

If we are hoping to start Paint and Draw as a regular event, will need to look at budgeting for paint and other art supplies.

JCR member jumpers shall arrive following approval of the budget.

## 3. Living Wage

From a conversation with the Bursar;

Staff are not on the Living Wage, but instead are compensated for this through a bonus in December (which is not optional and is proportionate to wage) and a free dinner each day. To be entitled to the bonus, a worker must have worked the full 12 months of the year leading up to December, and must be full-time staff. Bursar believes staff are paid well.

President would like a survey to go out to staff on their views. The Bursar does not want this, as staff may turn on the college.

(Duessa) Raised concerns as to whether pay rises would mean increased costs for students.

(Treasurer) Last year was financially good for Fitz, but the Bursar budgets conservatively, and thus it is possible this could be the case.

Broad agreement we should look into making the bonus pot available to part-time as well as full-time staff. No other consensus reached at present.

On side discussion regarding rent during Living Wage discussion, President highlighted she has a meeting on the matter tomorrow (Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January) and shall share details with the JCR in order to think about how to limit rent rises.

## 4. Responsible Investment

Discussion led by Alexandra (Ethical Affairs Sub-Comm)

Held first meeting about responsible investments by Fitz earlier this week.

Looking at efforts to raise awareness of investments, such as events like 'In Conversation with the Master'

Also want to create a document with the MCR putting pressure on the college for responsible investments – discussion with the JCR as to what we want in this.

(President) Bursar is committed to creating investment that are responsible.

(Dmitry) Bursar believes in transparency of what we're investing in.

(Duvezza) We should make it clear to students what the college is investing in.

#### 5. JCR Voting Amendment

Discussion brought forward from two weeks ago regarding if the JCR should change its procedure for mandating the President and VP at CUSU Council. (*See Agenda Notes for full details of proposal*).

President split on the matter.

Debate in the room commonly focused on the problem of abstentions; the 40% rule cannot be of all votes cast, but only of votes cast yes or no. Even in this case, what would be the procedure for if too many people abstained?

Vote to be held on whether we should change, but if passed, shall then discuss exactly how, having clearly rejected the initial proposal.

Vote – Should the current mandating voting procedure should change?

For – 10

Against – 14

Abstain – 2

The motion fails; there shall be no change to the current mandating procedure.

The President congratulates the JCR on having discussions about democratising the body.

#### 6. CUSU Motion

Only one motion to be put to CUSU Council this week, proposed by Fitz JCR President Ellie Brain.

Vote - Motion to support the provision of menstrual products

For – 26

Against – 0

Abstain – 0

The motion carries unanimously.

#### 7. Disciplinary Procedure Change

A discussion on whether the JCR wishes to openly support proposed changes to the university's disciplinary procedure from 'proof beyond doubt' to 'balance of probabilities'.

The discussion focused closely on support for victims, and as such we can as a JCR make clear that we want more support for victims of sexual harassment or assault in Fitz.

Vote – To support the proposed changes

For – 18

Against – 1

Abstain – 7

The motion passes.

(Alex) There is a template letter on Facebook which individuals can use to show support for the changes if they wish.

Meeting adjourned 18:22