

St Hugh's JCR - HT19 Meeting 4 - Minutes

Sunday 3rd March 2019, 8pm, 8th Week HT19, JCR

1. Reports from members of the JCR Committee
2. Statement by the JCR Treasurer of the balance of the term's motion budget and the balance of any other budget relevant to this meeting
3. Late motions for admission
4. Action motions for debate asking for funding
5. Action motions for debate not asking for funding
6. Statement motions for debate
7. Items for discussion
8. Elections taking place in the JCR
9. Any other business

1. Reports from members of the JCR Committee.

President - Emma O'Callaghan

Vice President - Alice Worsley

Secretary - Oscar Baker

Treasurer - Vaibhav Chandak (absent)

Access - Maddie Mann

Welfare and Equal Opportunities - Lana Firth, Joseph Uhlar, and Rita Kimijima-Dennemeyer

Careers and Academic Affairs Rep - Harrison Engler

Entz Reps - Kavana Crossley and Aluet Nyuon

LGBTQ+ Rep - Katya Turchin

International Students' Rep - Aman Modi

Charities & Communities Rep - Laura Bishop

Environment & Ethics Rep - Jiaqi Li

Sports and Societies Rep - Viv Leong

DoDO - Leon Sui

Freshers' Rep - Morayo Adesina

2. Statement by the JCR Treasurer of the balance of the term's motion budget and the balance of any other budget relevant to this meeting.

The balance of the term's motion budget was duly read out by the JCR Treasurer.

3. Late motions for admission

There were none

4. Action motions for debate asking for funding.

Motion A: That In the Pink contribution

THE JCR NOTES:

- That In the Pink is an LGBTQ+ journal that is contributed to by various students at Hugh's and across the university.
- Members of Hugh's JCR are on the editorial team of In the Pink.

THE JCR BELIEVES:

- That In the Pink is important for encouraging students to engage with important issues surrounding LGBTQ+ rights.
- That a journal such as In the Pink is important for providing a voice to LGBTQ+ students in Oxford.
- That without college financial backing, student publications such as In the Pink would cease to exist, especially as it is a new publication, which particularly needs funding to get off the ground.

THE JCR RESOLVES:

- To give £50 to fund In the Pink for HT19 in return for 10 copies to be placed in the JCR.

Proposed: Katya Turchin (JCR LGBTQ+ Rep)

Seconded: Michael Culbert

Short factual points and points of debate:

E. Piggott argues that this seems expensive, and that it would be good to get more copies.

H. Engler asks who is on the editorial team and what other money has also been given. The proposer notes that Michael Culbert is on this team and one other member of St. Hugh's JCR. H. Engler makes a general point of debate that we spend money on publications without knowing what it is spent on and where such money goes.

Vote:

24 in favour, 0 against, 7 abstention

MOTION PASSES

5. Action motions for debate not asking for funding.

Motion A: College Contribution Scheme

THE JCR NOTES:

- By having no way of expressing a negative preference to a College or PPH in admissions, the University assures applicants that provisions for students and student experience will be comparable, regardless of College or PPH.
- Many poorer colleges and PPHs were originally established to cater for students who were traditionally excluded from more established colleges.
- The College Contribution Scheme (CCS) is a mechanism by which richer Oxford colleges contribute to the maintenance and costs of poorer colleges.
- Permanent Private Halls (PPHs) have not been included in the CCS, in the most recent scheme or prior to this, despite largely having no more than a fraction of the resources available even to the poorer colleges, who are granted access to income from the CCS. This prevents PPHs from expanding independent access efforts, expanding and refurbishing student accommodation, and ensuring a basic level of student experience in line with the rest of the University. The CCS seeks to help poorer colleges, but ignores the poorest of all.
- Including PPHs in the CCS would not require any more money to be given by colleges that already contribute to the scheme, it would merely grant access to the existing fund.
- That PPHs have no way of changing this scheme alone, because doing so requires a seat at the Conference of Colleges, which PPHs are also excluded from.
- There are differences in student experience between colleges including, but not limited to, sports facilities, travel grants, hardship funds, libraries, student mental health support, music and drama facilities, accommodation costs and vacation residence, and food prices.

THE JCR BELIEVES:

- Oxford students should have a broadly comparable experience at this University, regardless of their college or PPH.

- The CCS should be used to achieve 'Believes 1', and that its existence should not suffocate the growth of the poorest student bodies in Oxford – PPH endowment cannot grow alone, while those of fellow colleges are supported by the CCS.
- All student members at Oxford should have the same opportunities to succeed academically and have a positive student experience, as Students from all colleges and PPHs are equal as University members.
- All students have an interest in equality between college experiences, both from inter-collegiate solidarity and because college choice is often outside students' control.
- Every student should be able to request accommodation if they are estranged or a care leaver regardless of their college's ability to fund this, which PPHs cannot achieve consistently, if at all, without access to the scheme.
- That a lack of endowment is a prohibitive factor behind poorer colleges and PPHs becoming more financially stable and thus becoming able to add value to students' college experience, increase their size, and expand their independent access and outreach efforts, but that this should not be the case.

THE JCR RESOLVES:

- That the President of this Junior Common Room should lobby their Head of House to start a discussion on PPHs access to the CCS at Conference, on CCS-relevant committees, and generally.
- To offer a message of support to students at PPHs who suffer as a result of this state of affairs.

Proposed: Emma O'Callaghan (JCR President)

Seconded: Alice Worsley (JCR Vice-President)

Short factual points:

The Welfare Rep (Joseph Uhlar) asks what constitutes a PPH. The President explains this and notes that Conference of Colleges do not include these institutions.

The Welfare Rep asks if this will have any direct impact on St. Hugh's. The President notes that it will not.

J. Whalley asks how much money St. Hugh's gets. The President states that this is dependent on the projects College presents, and is then granted money.

Points of debate:

There were none.

Vote:

31 for, 1 against, 1 abstention

THE MOTION PASSES.

6. Statement motions for debate.

None submitted

7. Items for discussion.

None declared

8. Elections taking place in the JCR

Election A: Travel Grants - Hilary Term 2019

Applications for a Hilary Term 2019 Travel Grant will be read out. An online vote will follow.

Election B: Election of an Independent Chair for Trinity 2019

Paddy Byfield ran unopposed to continue in his role as Independent Chair.

29 votes for, 1 vote for RON and 1 abstention.

PADDY BYFIELD WAS DULY ELECTED ST. HUGH'S JCR INDEPENDENT CHAIR.

9. Any other business.

Any questions regarding the running of this meeting should be directed to the Independent Chair, Paddy Byfield.