

## JCR Meeting Agenda

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### Order of Business:

1. Matters arising
  2. Reports and Officers' question time
  3. Motions
    - a. Funding for LGBTQ+ Campaign
    - b. Response to Kathleen Stock
    - c. Sponsor Raise Oxford
    - d. Funding for GREAT
    - e. Donate to EP Africa
    - f. Tankards for Swimming Cuppers
    - g. Quarter-zip for Ali
    - h. Massage Gun for JCR
    - i. More PS4 Games
  4. Any other business
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### Short hands:

- POI = Point of Interest  
 Q = Question  
 A = Answer  
 P/S = Proposer/Seconder

### 3. Motions

#### a. Funding for LGBTQ+ Campaign

##### The JCR notes that:

- The SU has a number of student-led activist campaigns designed to advocate for students belonging to various protected classes, including RAEM, Disabled, Working Class, and LGBTQ+ individuals
- This JCR has two members on the committee (Harry McWilliam as the Working-Class officer and Katie Kirkpatrick as Comms officer)
- The SU campaigns have a very small budget which limits the work they're able to do
- Thus, all colleges are being asked to give a small amount to help support the campaign financially
- Now, more than ever, with people like Kathleen Stock being invited to speak at the Union, the campaign needs support to help with our efforts.

##### The JCR believes that:

- With both major parties in the UK now holding regressive and harmful views and policies regarding LGBTQ+ individuals, and particularly trans rights/policy, local queer advocacy and activism is vitally important
- Activists that are coming to talk deserve to be properly paid for their time.

##### The JCR resolves to:

- Give the LGBTQ Campaign £100 towards running events, paying speakers, and supporting students across Oxford.

**Proposer:** Harry McWilliam

**Seconder:** Amy Shaw

#### b. Response to Kathleen Stock

**The JCR notes that:**

- The Oxford Union has invited notorious transphobe Kathleen Stock to speak this term
- Stock is a transphobic and trans exclusionary speaker and has actively worked against trans rights. This includes supporting gender identity conversion therapy, despite a professional consensus on the ineffectiveness and harmfulness of this practice, has repeatedly portrayed trans women as dangerous and predatory despite a total lack of evidence for such, and is a trustee of trans-exclusionary hate group the LGB alliance, and signee of the WHRC declaration, described as extremist in its anti-trans positioning.
- Stock is also well known for spreading misinformation about the trans community, often using arguments that disregard empirical facts and research. None of her writing on gender has been subject to peer review, and yet she is being invited to likely espouse her views on such by the union committee.
- LGBTQ+ members of the university and at Teddy have received threats of violence as a result of speaking out against Stock's platforming, which the union has yet to publicly condemn or apologise for.
- Trans people, especially trans women, are more likely to face abuse, violence, and attacks as a result of their gender identity.
- 41% of British trans people reported facing transphobic violence over just a 12-month period (Stonewall, 2018)
- In 2022 trans people experienced the biggest increase in hate crimes of any group, up 56% (BBC, 2022). This has been linked by some to a growing wave of hatred from far-right groups against the trans community.
- The IPSO (2020) found a 400% increase in coverage on trans issues in the past 5 years, with Prof. Paul Baker (2019) finding there has been an overwhelming increase in negative portrayals of trans people in newspaper coverage over the past decade.
- Similar motions to this have been passed at a number of Oxford colleges already this week, including St. Anne's and Mansfield

**The JCR believes that:**

- The rights of any minority group to exist should never be up for debate.
- Right to free speech does not pertain to include the right to a platform to amplify your views, especially a platform this prominent and exclusive, especially when the speech itself is harmful and its promotion dangerous
- The Union has made the choice to amplify a voice that actively harms trans students, trans people and the trans community at large
- Doing so, the Union will be both complicit and responsible in spreading transphobic rhetoric; and the consequences of such, should it choose to promote Stock via this event, adding to the current wave of attacks towards the trans community in British politics, governance, and mainstream media.
- Transphobes should not feel welcome in Oxford, or at Teddy
- Trans people are valued and loved members of this university, this college and society at large, and they deserve to feel welcome and supported in their home.
- Showing solidarity with the trans community across Oxford is more important than ever, and this must be done both publicly and meaningfully.

**The JCR resolves to:**

- Condemn the Oxford Union for platforming Kathleen Stock and call on her invite to be rescinded in support of the trans community.

- Reaffirm this JCRs solidarity with the trans community in Oxford and beyond, that trans rights, trans lives and trans happiness matter and must be protected and encourage JCR members to attend protests that affirm such, if they are able to do so safely.
- Release a public statement (written by the LGBTQ Rep) detailing such on its communications platforms. Have the JCR Secretary send a copy of said statement to the Oxford Union secretary to inform the institution of its disapproval.

**Proposer:** Harry McWilliam

**Secunder:** Amy Shaw

### **c. Sponsor Raise Oxford**

#### **The JCR notes that:**

- Raise Oxford is a student initiative that encourages students to take a positive and deliberate approach to giving. We invite students to donate significant to them to charity with the aim of changing the way students think about charitable giving in the long-term, prompting them to consider it to be something that should be celebrated as opposed to a sacrifice.
- At the end of the year, everyone who donated is invited to a modest Summer Party run by Raise Oxford to celebrate their collective impact and show that deliberate giving can be a meaningful and positive experience.
- Any donations made to Raise Oxford by students are matched by external sponsors and donated to the Against Malaria Foundation - a consistently top-rated charity according to several independent charity evaluators - that funds long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs) and ensures they are distributed and used to protect the most vulnerable people worldwide from malaria.
- In the last two years, Raise Oxford has raised over £50,000, helping to protect over 37,000 people from malaria.
- Money is needed to publicize Raise throughout the university, as it is a new organization, and to fund events run by them to aid the celebration of charitable giving.

#### **The JCR believes that:**

- The St Edmund Hall JCR should support Raise Oxford and aid them in accomplishing their goal of encouraging students to take a positive approach to giving.
- Encouraging students to donate to charity themselves is more effective than just donating to the charity directly as it can change the way the students think about charitable giving in the long-term, and result in them giving significant amounts of money to charity even after they graduate from Oxford.

#### **The JCR resolves to:**

- Donate £500 to sponsor Raise Oxford.

**Proposer:** Sophia Sukanuma

**Secunder:** Celine Gu

### **d. Funding for GREAT (Gender and Racial Equality at Teddy)**

**The JCR notes that:**

- GREAT has recently been restructured and now focuses on both gender and racial equality at the Hall.
- GREAT has a new committee, headed by Anandita Abraham, who are planning on holding several events in Trinity term open to all members of the Hall.
- In order to hold these events, which it believes will benefit all of the Hall, GREAT requires funding from the JCR.
- Funding that remains at the end of this term will be rolled over to Michaelmas and used by the committee to support events running in Michaelmas, especially those events before Michaelmas' first JCR meeting (i.e., those in Freshers' Week).

**The JCR believes that:**

- It is important to fund a diverse range of societies and clubs at the Hall.
- Aiming to make the Hall a more inclusive space is a worthwhile goal.

**The JCR resolves to:**

- Provide £250 to support GREAT's events this term.

**Proposer:** Anandita Abraham

**Secunder:** James O'Neill

**e. Donate to EP Africa**

**The JCR notes that:**

- EP Africa is a charity that invest in schools to give all students access to quality education across Kenya and Uganda.
- All money donated to the charity goes directly towards improving education provision and funding in schools across rural Kenya.
- In the past, the money has been spent on rainwater collection tanks, lab equipment, computers, strengthening alumni networks, and improving school organisation – all of which go a long way to improving education provision in a school.
- Eventually, the charity aims to work with up to 30 schools each year to improve the quality of education for up to 15,000 students annually.
- JCR member, Will Loosley, will be volunteering with the charity over the summer and needs to fundraise £2500 for his project.
- All the money donated will be directed invested into improving the school facilities, Will is paying for his own travel and expenses which means the money will be directly used for improving the school and not paying for the trip.

**The JCR believes that:**

- Education should be shared among the poorest communities.
- Proper education is the single most effective way of giving young people a way out of poverty.
- All the money donated will be going directly towards improving education.

**The JCR resolves to:**

- Donate £500 to Will's fundraising with EP Africa.

**Proposer:** Will Loosley

**Secunder:** Tom Harray

#### **f. Tankards for Swimming Cuppers**

##### **The JCR notes that:**

- Whereas the Inter-College Swimming Cuppers at Oxford is a prestigious competition that showcases the swimming talents of the participating colleges.
- Whereas Mauricio Alencar and Poppy have demonstrated exceptional leadership skills in leading their respective teams to victory in the aforementioned competition.

##### **The JCR believes that:**

- Whereas the awarding of tankards is a longstanding tradition in Oxford to recognize outstanding achievements and contributions.

##### **The JCR resolves to:**

- Therefore, let it be resolved that the JCR awards tankards to Mauricio Alencar and Poppy for their exemplary performance and leadership in captaining their respective teams to victory in the Inter-College Swimming Cuppers at Oxford.

**Proposer:** Brittany Perera

**Secunder:** Tom Coates

#### **g. Quarter-zip for Ali**

##### **The JCR notes that:**

- It can become night-time.
- The night shift is not a good shift.
- Ali works the porter's night shift.
- The late gate currently doesn't work.
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##### **The JCR believes that:**

- Especially on Wednesdays and Thursdays, Ali our amazing night porter has to maintain order overnight.
- There are many drunken actions that he has seen that perhaps he shouldn't have.
- He is a very nice individual.
- He cares for the environment by making us switch the lights off in the JCR when we leave.

##### **The JCR resolves to:**

- Reimburse Brodie Weymouth £29.99 for the purchase of a ¼ zip with Ali's name on it.

**Proposer:** Brodie Weymouth

**Secunder:** Catherine Gower

#### **h. Massage gun for JCR**

**The JCR notes that:**

- There has been a massage gun in the JCR for the past two terms which has done wonders for stress levels, tension and muscle recovery. Trinity will be full of exercise (cuppers season!) and sitting at desks (exam season!), however the massage gun is now broken.

**The JCR believes that:**

- A new massage gun would be great for mental and physical health.

**The JCR resolves to:**

- Buy a new massage gun that everyone can use.

**Proposer:** Brittany Perera

**Secunder:** Holly Sanderson

#### **i. More PS4 games**

**The JCR notes that:**

- The PS4 is a great JCR asset.

**The JCR believes that:**

- We need more games than just FIFA and a better Call of Duty.
- WWE video game would be a hilarious addition and very easy to play for everyone.

**The JCR resolves to:**

- Give up to £100 for new PS4 games.

**Proposer:** Mauricio Alencar

**Secunder:** Alex Whitmarsh