|  |
| --- |
| JCR Meeting Minutes |
| **Order of Business:**1. Matters arising
2. Reports and Officers’ question time
3. Motions
	1. Donation to CARE4CALAIS
	2. Donation to Project Aware
	3. Arts and drama fund
	4. Inflatables for paddling pool
	5. Buy Sam a thank you gift
4. Any other business
	1. Tabled motion for Rugby Dinner
	2. Donation to Allsorts

Time began: 19:20  | **Short hands:**POI = Point of InterestQ = QuestionA = AnswerP/S = Proposer/SeconderQuorum reached (30) |

1. Matters arising

**Chair:** Congratulations to all the finalists who have finished already or will soon, well done! You’re doing fantastic and if you see one buy them a drink basically.

**Brodie:** There’s nothing to say that I won’t put in emails, but we have a solution to this SEHA thing. So, previously it was £8 a term, for your whole time at the hall and it was mandatory. Now it’s been changed to a £24, single payment at the end of the term, which if you really want to you can opt out of. Hopefully, Chris and the members of SEHA can persuade you to join the alumni network through all their activities and events throughout the next couple of years.

**Q:** If you opt out can you still go to events?

**Brodie:** Yes, there’s no two-tier system. You’re still part of it if you opt out. If they don’t receive any funding, then they’ll just ask to go back to how it was. Also, for finalists there is no extra fee you pay. You do have week 11 battles, which might be a shock to some of you.

**Brodie:** Also, bye to all the finalists. Cheers for being here!

**Brodie:** We’re going to be trialling a new polling system this time. So, I’m going to get you to scan this *\*QR cod*e\* and do your vote. You can also follow this link. We’re going to be trialling that for the first couple of charities motions first, cos they’re going to pass either way. Just to make sure it works.

1. **Motions**
	1. CARE4CALAIS Donation

**The JCR notes that:**

* The Refugee crisis in Northern France is getting worse.
* The JCR has a strong connection with the organisation C4C with members of all year groups having travelled to Calais to volunteer.
* The JCR has always shown great enthusiasm in supporting donations to the refugee crisis through JCR motions, ceilidh tickets and personal clothing donations.

**The JCR believes that:**

* The Refugee Crisis in Calais is in urgent need of financial support.
* Refugee rights are human rights.

**The JCR resolves to:**

* Donate £500 to Care4Calais.

**Proposer:** Claire Mallon

**Seconder:** Lucia Mullings

**P:** I’m doing a charity motion for Care4Calais. We’ve supported this cause in the past, they’re loads of members of the JCR who are really involved in it. I’ve been out there, Lenny’s been out there, Emily Twinn has been out there for weeks and weeks. It’s a really important cause, let’s fire it through.

**POI:** We have no idea how much money we have in the charities budget at the moment. It may be that, like two terms ago, we have to split it. Each gets 80%, that may be how it happens.

**P:** As much as we can give, that’s slay.

**Q:** What do you have to say on the recent news about mixed treatment and the previous head resigning?

**P:** Do you mean Clare Moseley retiring? Well, she didn’t resign, she retired. Unfortunately, there’s a lot of misinformation about Care4Calais put out by the right-wing media. It’s a really great organisation. I can personally attest to that; I’ve been over there. As has Emily Twinn, as has Lenny, I also think there’s another fresher who’s going to go this summer. I just wouldn’t be swayed by what is put out by sort of right-wing stuff. To be clear, she didn’t resign in scandal, she retired because she’s been doing it for many, many years.

**Brodie:** Right, we’re going to have scrap this idea instead, and go back to the old system.

**Against:** 1

**Abstain:** 1

**Motion passes**

\*Clicks\*

* 1. **Donation to Project Aware**

**The JCR notes that:**

* Donating money to charities is good
* The oceans are of paramount importance as they support diverse ecosystems, regulate the Earth's climate, provide a significant portion of our oxygen, and offer sustenance and livelihoods to millions of people around the world.
* PADI Project Aware Foundation is a non-profit organization focused on marine debris, shark and ray conservation, and marine education. They empower divers and water enthusiasts to take action and raise awareness about the importance of protecting underwater environments.

**The JCR believes that:**

* Marine conservation is an important cause which the JCR should support
* Donating money to this charity will help us be closer to our goal of being the most environmentally friendly college

**The JCR resolves to:**

* Donate £500 to Project Aware

**Proposer:** Lalou Laredo

**Seconder:** Honor Gibbs

**P:** Yeah, so Project Aware is a charity that is affiliated with PADI – the most predominant diving organization in the world. It’s quite good. Oceans are obviously really important, and they do quite a range of projects – rubbish collections under water, programs to teach people about sharks and ray conservation. I think it would be nice to donate some money to that. I think this probably falls under E&E business.

**Brodie:** I don’t mean to be the villain of this story, but its £250 for normal charity motions and £500 for personal involvement. What personal involvement do you or someone else in the JCR have?

**P:** I’ve done stuff with them in the past but not recently. I did do quite a lot of rubbish collection. If it’s a question of putting it down because I’m not going anything now, then its still money going towards the organisation.

**Brodie:** If you’ve had some kind of personal involvement in the past then that’s fine.

**Q:** What’s your favourite kind of fish?

**P:** Cuttlefish

**Abstain:** 0

**Against:** 0

**Motion passes**

* 1. **Arts and drama fund**

**The JCR notes that:**

* Currently most JCR funding runs on a reimbursement system.
* This requires members of the JCR to spend a measure of time out of pocket or prevents members from spending JCR funds where they cannot cover the amount.
* The arts and drama fund appears to have been designed specifically with funding drama productions in mind.
* Not only does the arts and drama fund run on a reimbursement system it also only makes payments every 8th week.
* The arts and drama fund has been designed to ensure there is sufficient funding for all arts and drama expenditure. However, does still hold an element of uncertainty in reimbursement.

**The JCR believes that:**

* All members of the JCR should be able to spend JCR funds (where authorised) regardless of their financial position.
* Students should not have to spend time out of pocket.
* The way in which the arts and drama fund makes payments is flawed. Although its purpose is an easier way to access arts and drama funding it in fact makes funding some types of expenditure more difficult due to the timing and uncertainty of reimbursement.

**The JCR resolves to:**

* Change the constitution and relevant JCR documents to reflect that (where expenditure is authorised) members may request funds from the treasurer (or other relevant officers) before making a purchase. Post purchase members must provide evidence of expenditure (where applicable) and the difference must then be settled (through one further transaction).
* Change the arts and drama fund to support immediate access to funds for arts and drama expenditure that meets the below requirements:
* Expenditure is producing a significant benefit to JCR members.
* Without immediate reimbursement (or prior transfer of funds if requested) JCR members would have to spend significant time out of pocket.
* Expenditure meets the other requirements currently in place for the arts and drama fund.
* Change the arts and drama fund to allow members to request arts and drama funding through a JCR meeting should the wish to do so / if they believe it is easier / if the request is determined not to meet the requirements of the arts and drama fund.

**Proposer:** Teddy Thomson

**Seconder:** Minnie Leaver

P: I maybe wasn’t too clear in the motion; it could maybe be moved into two parts.

The first and most important part is currently the JCR reruns on a reimbursement system, which runs into a couple of problems.

The first problem would be people who are spending money through the JCR, in an authorised way, have to spend time out of pocket. They have to spend their own money in the first place, before they can be reimbursed.

The second thing is that if they have x sum to spend, but don’t have that in their account they may be either be unable to, or require to go into their overdraft to, spend money for the JCR.

I believe that’s wrong.

\*CLICKS\*

So, the first part of this motion is to change the constitution to recognise that this doesn’t have to be the case. Currently, the constitution uses the wording reimbursement. I think we should formally change that, to suggest that where expenditure is authorised you can be sent the money beforehand.

An example of what this could look like is currently for Welfare they get loaned money across the term. We have both been keeping track of what they’ve been spending. Then at the end of the term, they will send back what they haven’t spent. Or maybe they’ll go over £20 or something, and I’ll send them money. We’re trying to avoid going over, so it’s always them that owe me money. I think this works well with JCRT and welfare funding.

Another example of how it could work is Marcus ordering the pizza last week. I’ve sent him money in advance for the pizza, there were no issues with that. It didn’t create any more work for me really and it was much better for Marcus.

Ways it could look like going forward. Let’s say you get cleared £200 to spend for cuppers drinks. I could send you £150, then I’ll transfer you the rest once you send me a receipt. It’ll typically apply to the larger expenditures. But the whole point is, if you want to run it in a system where you’ve got access to the funds first, then that can happen.

Problems highlighted are the potential for fraud. Personally, I don’t think this is an issue. For a start there will be a lot of social pressure for that not to be the case. I think if you’re going to go through the hassle of authorising expenditure in the JCR, if you’re going to come in here and submit a motion, you’re probably not going to be coming in here next week knowing everyone knows you’ve stolen £30 from the JCR. We can put methods in to prevent access to large amounts of money, or enough money to steal. I don’t think that’s a problem.

Another problem is the suggestion that this might be quite hard to get through college. Brodie is more of an expert than me on this; I don’t think this should be the case. From my point of view, I don’t know why college would be forcing us to do something that we don’t want to do – if we pass this motion. There should be a quite a strong reason to get it through the relevant committees.

The second part is about the Arts and Drama Fund. Currently, it works on a system where across the course of a term you submit motions for arts and drama funding. They will be looked at in 8th week and the money is sent out in 8th week.

This system has been designed with drama motions in mind. The production is out of pocket, they’ve had a loan from Oxford Drama Club or whatever. It doesn’t involve any students going out of pocket. It works perfectly for that.

One problem is when you’re trying to organise any other arts expenditure. You’re going to run into a problem with people waiting until 8th week for reimbursement.

The other problem is there’s also a lot of uncertainty in that. Now Brodie has designed it to fund all of our arts and dramas expenditure. But it’s also designed as a fail-safe. Because we’re not running everything through a JCR meeting, you can’t just have massive explosion in expenditure. So, we can still keep the fund the way it is. Looking at problems in the future, if the expenditure goes crazy, we can see what we need to change in how things get authorised.

My proposal is that the fund with operate in the same way, with the same requirements for authorisation by Arts Reps, President, and Treasurer. But if it’s the case that a Teddy Hall student will be out of pocket to run the event, they can receive funding throughout the Arts and Drama Fund, without waiting till eighth week for reimbursement.

Again, that will also need to go through college committees, I believe Brodie said.

I think the main issue would be if we’re arguing about inequitable distribution of the arts and drama funding. That shouldn’t be a problem with how the fund has been designed, its designed so everything gets the money it requires. And if it is a problem, and we’re going to run out of money in the funds then maybe the fund should be redesigned because that’s not how it was meant to initially be implemented.

Sorry, I rambled a bit there but that’s everything I’ve got to say.

Q: Just to add on the whole risk of fraud debate. It’s interesting because there’s downsides to both ways of doing it. In the current way, it’s not accessible to every socioeconomic background. If you’ve not got money sitting around in your bank account, you can’t do certain things. I wanted to add that I agree with Teddy. The people in the position to commit embezzlement aren’t going to do it, due to the social pressure. If they get found out, they won’t have any friends realistically.

P: Just a point I would make on that. If you think about per term, if an average single expenditure we get £3 stole, it’s a total cost of £30 to make funding accessible. A) it’s not going to happen, and B) it far outweighs the potential of fraud.

S: I would just say, when we were doing TART last year, it meant that one of us was £300 out of pocket before we got reimbursed. Basically, the wealthier you are the more likely you are to do arts and drama.

P: One thing to say about that. Again, what’s proposed is, for arts and drama funding, if you don’t meet the requirements for the fund or if the President/Treasurer/Arts Reps say you can’t have the money, you can still have a JCR motion about it.

You never come to a meeting and say it has to go through the fund. Or you never try and go through the fund and get blocked from going through the JCR if you can get it that way. The fund is meant to make it easier to access the money, but if you want to go through the meeting, you should be able to.

Q: I also think telling people about the arts fund? I do art and it was very unclear how to get money for this. It was quite an ordeal to get money for the TART fund.

Brodie: We did have like 11 applications this term.

P: Me and Jack Sun were a bit confused too. In his handover document, he said you might want to look into this. I asked him about it, and he didn’t know the details.

Q: Is this one motion or two?

P: We can split it if you want.

Q: Nah I’m not fussed.

Q: At this point do we just dissolve the Arts and Drama Fund if it’s going through the JCR anyway?

Q: The point is it was supposed to be easier, so we don’t have to go through JCR.

P: I was saying it doesn’t have to go through the JCR, but it can.

Q: I have a bank account which is created just for welfare. Teddy will loan us money. Whenever I buy something for welfare it gets immediately taken out of that and the receipt is sent to Teddy. It’s kind of like there’s a pool of money somewhere which you can dig into when you do arts and drama.

P: That’s an extreme case of what it’s going to look like. I loan Welfare quite a lot of money, but I know they will be obligated to spend it all before the end of term. With these other motions it will be much more small scale. There’s the potential, if you’re worried about fraud, you send a little bit less say 80% of the funding. You get the receipt back and then you send the extra 20%.

For arts and drama, the fund works. The whole point is you don’t go through a motion. It almost always gets accepted like it does in meetings anyway.

Q: What can the arts and drama fund be used for? If I just went and did some painting, could I ask for some money?

Brodie: You have to fill out a form. It has to benefit members of the JCR at some point.

Q: Can it just benefit one person, or does it have to be the whole JCR?

Brodie: That’s the thing with every motion. Saying this motion has to benefit at least x % of the JCR to get funding is difficult and arbitrary. Some of these drama motions may only have 3 people who directly receive the money, but then people argue that other people benefit by going and seeing it. It’s hard to define how it benefits. As long as it has some sort of benefit, it can receive money, but I know the MCR is stricter.

Q: Also, the thing is, if we don’t fund drama as a JCR, it doesn’t really happen. To distinguish it, sports will happen whether we pay for cuppers dinners or not, while drama stuff doesn’t take place.

Q: I think the sports do need funding, which they get through the amalgamated clubs’ fund.

P: But none of the sports need JCR funding.

Brodie: The amalgamated clubs’ fund now prioritises non-sporting clubs. That came from Luke. I’ve applied for funding for powerlifting and got rejected. I know Robbie did. I know Luke has problems with alcohol at stuff, that was mentioned in the last meeting. Of course, there is only a certain amount of money in the amalgamated clubs’ funds. Each case is individual. There is no bias towards sports at all in the amalgamated clubs’ funds.

Brodie: So, I messaged you today about it. I’ve asked other JCR Presidents about how those colleges do funding. If anyone was running what this proposes or did reimbursement. What other colleges said was for any big purchase, say over £50, they had it bought from the JCR debit card. Currently, we don’t have one, we are looking into it. What I might ask Teddy is, can we have the Treasurer in charge of buying big things, if they’re online. So, someone will send you the link. Or, if it’s an instore thing, then the Treasurer can give the card to the person. So, funding and money is kept within the JCR circulation

P: I think online purchases that works great for. But giving people the card has much more scope for fraud.

Q: Surely you can check it online?

P: The point is, if someone gets cleared £200 to spend on cuppers drinks, if they get the card, they could spend £500. If I send them £200, they can only spend £200. I think it heightens the potential for spending more money.

Q: You could have another account, a safe account, with only so much money on it.

P: The problem is we already have 3 accounts. It would be quite difficult to set up another account just for that.

Q: To reiterate what Teddy said, if you put your card details into the internet once, you can easily accidentally reuse it.

Brodie: The point is Teddy would pay people online.

Q: But what’s stopping people who get the physical card, saving the details and making small transactions you might not see right away?

P: Lalou has a good point that someone could go to the bank and take out all the cash. You could say someone must have picked it up and guessed the code. There’s no proof of who did it.

Friendly amendment that online purchases can be paid for by the treasurer, using the card – accepted

Q: Just to confirm, with the money in the arts and drama fund, will it ever run out?

P: What this new system would look like is: Across the course of the term, if it’s an arts and drama motion where it’s meeting the requirements but requires a member of the JCR to be out of pocket, they can get funding for it immediately. Just like all other funding works.

Then at the end of the term, the other motions, like the drama motions where it’s not a Teddy Hall student spending the money, their applications will go through like normal.

If we meet the limits of the fund, you wouldn’t be able to get any more funding. Just like in 8th week, when we meet the limits, the funding is spread out across the propositions. The whole point of the fund is it doesn’t run out, and if it does then it be reformatted, because that’s not how it was designed.

Brodie: Just to get a bit of context, we get about £4000 in subs per term from the JCR. That’s our income. That’s partly why the fund was put at that number. Of course, at the meeting last term we negotiated with everyone who came. Yes, it is designed to maximise benefit as much as possible, but realistically we don’t have infinite money in the JCR. We’re well off but there’s spending to Welfare, subs to the Cherwell, other motions; Of course, a few sports things that need to be balanced in context with arts and drama. While there is a set amount of money and going over it would be ideal in every single circumstance – if we were like John’s or someone, I know they send money out to everything – the reality is we are not infinitely made of money.

P: The summary of the points are:

* + - The constitution is going to be changed to recognise that the treasurer has the duty to make funds accessible before purchase to members of the JCR, and where purchases can be completed by the treasurer they will.
		- The second bit about Arts and Drama Fund is that across the course of the term, if the expenditure meets all the other requirements and involves a Teddy Hall JCR member being out of pocket, they can receive funding for it immediately. It does still have to be authorised by the Arts Reps, President, and Treasurer.

Chair: We could split it into two motions if people want to?

Friendly amendment to split into two motions – accepted

For adjusting the Arts and Drama Fund so people can apply for funding through JCR meetings if they wish to,

Against: 2

Abstain: 1

Motion passes

For changing the constitution to allow access to funds prior to their expenditure and to allow the treasurer to make online purchases with the card

Against: 2

Abstain: 1

Motion passes

Brodie: I would like to clarify; this will go to GPBC week 2 Michaelmas to be approved by college. You can assume its approved, but it will also go for formalities to GB in week 4 to be fully approved.

But probably by week 2 it will be able to be enacted.

* 1. **Inflatables for paddling pool**

**The JCR notes:**

* The weather is hot.
* It will probably get hotter.
* Swimming is nice when it is hot.
* Inflatables make swimming more fun.
* The hall adores fun.

**The JCR believes:**

* We should get some inflatables.
* Said inflatables will be at least two rubber rings and one lido.

**The JCR resolves to:**

* Reimburse the cost of 4 or 5 very cheap inflatables to be kept in the sports cupboard and used upon permission of the God of Paddling Pools.
* Get a £17 bottle of vodka for sanitation purposes.

**Proposer:** Henry Mehta

**Seconder:** Tom Coates

**P:** The weather is hot. It will probably get hotter. Swimming is nice when it is hot. Inflatables make swimming more fun. The hall adores fun. We should get some inflatables. There will be at least two rubber rings and one lido, maybe a dolphin.

**Brodie:** Is it alive?

**P:** I guess it counts as an inflatable if its alive. Just to reimburse the cost of 4 or 5, really cheap inflatables. We can just get them of amazon or Alibaba or something. Keep them in the sports cupboard and use with permission from the God of Paddling Pools. You can use them anywhere you want within reason. And also get a £17 of vodka for sanitation.

**Q:** When using the inflatables will you be topless?

**P:** In the shirt on the lido, but not in the ring.

**Q:** Can we see what that looks like?

**Brodie:** Exec veto.

**Q:** How do you anticipate any sanitation induced fatalities?

**P:** We can also put up the cost of a burial.

**Q:** What colour will they be?

**P:** Whatever’s the cheapest, if we can find maroon and gold, we will get them.

**Against:** 3

**Abstain:** 1

**Motion passes**

* 1. Buy Sam a thank you gift

The JCR notes that:

* Food@ the Hall is very nice.
* So are formals.
* All of the servery staff are also very nice and friendly.
* Sam Green is leaving after serving 21 years at the Hall.
* Teddy Hall has at least three Sams with a colour as their surname.

**The JCR believes that:**

* Showing appreciation and thanks is a good thing.

**The JCR resolves to:**

* Thank Sam Green for all his hard work on behalf of the whole JCR.
* Buy Sam a gift as a way of saying thank you.

**Proposer:** Brodie Weymouth

**Seconder:** Poppy Buckley

**P:** Basically, Sam Green is leaving. He worked at the servery and does many great things. We do appreciate all the servery staff, they’re all very nice. Sam is Head Butler and is part of the coordination of that. He’s been at Teddy Hall for 21 years. We have three Sams with a colour in their name – Sam White, Sam White, and Sam Green. So fun fact, Sam White in our year has the email sam.white2, which is pretty tragic for him.

**Q:** Do you have an idea for a gift?

**P:** Probably a bottle of wine and some chocolates, with a little card. I’ll buy it with Poppy, I don’t know my wines personally.

**Against:** 0

**Abstain:** 0

**Motion passes**

1. Any other business
	1. Tabled motion – Rugby dinner

**P:** Everybody remembers the cuppers final. Lots of people were there, it was great day for lots of people. Basically, we feel everyone really enjoyed themselves and it was great to take home the win. So, we had a really lovely dinner three weeks ago. Everyone really enjoyed themselves. It was a really great reward for the effort put into the club. It turned out to be pretty expensive. One man, Jasper Singh, put quite a lot of his own money in to make it a special evening. We’d like to petition the JCRT to reimburse him for half the funds he spent. Lots of the JCR really enjoyed themselves. Also, it affects the JCR widely as it is rewarding the players for a great show they point on for the whole college.

**Friendly amendment to give £100 for the rugby team and friends to spend in the bar tonight – rejected**

**Against:** 2

**Abstain:** 0

**Motion passes**

* 1. Donation to Allsorts

P: Charity motion to Allsorts. How much am I allowed to request? Personal involvement so £500 please. I’ve volunteered since I was 12. I’m doing a fortnight of play schemes with them. They lose thousands and thousands of pounds. It’s for people with additional needs, learning difficulties, any disability of some sorts.

Motion passes