



## JCR Meeting 1.3 – 17-11-2020

Attendance: SWC (President), MW (FCO), MP (VP), SS (Social Chair), JS (PG&M), ES (Senior Welfare), BT (JCR Chair), TB (Sports & Socs), RM (PR Officer), MF (Facilities), LB (Outreach Chair), ER (Librarian), JG (Male Welfare), HM (EM Rep), LH (LGBT+ Rep), GG (WCS Rep), SP (Trustee), KM (Trustee), EM (Stool, Formals Manager), KB (Finance Comm), EGr (Finance Comm), JW (Finance Comm), EP (Social Comm), SB (Social Comm), DM (Social Comm), LJ (Social Comm), NG (Social Comm), IE (Social Comm), HH (Campaigns Manager), BC (Welfare Campaigns), GT (Welfare Campaigns), JC (JRO, PG Treasurer), SG (DUCK Rep), JL (Outreach Publicity), EJ (Outreach Comm), CT (Project Coordinator), KW (PG Academic Rep), RP (Bar Liason Manager), JR (Head Frep), CP (Bailey Wardrobe Manager), KBro (Environment Rep), HD (Stock Manager), EO, MA, DT, LW, DP

Apologies: LS (Gym Manager), ES (Outreach Comm), HR (Social Comm), JWa (PG VP), CH (Assistant LGBT+ Rep), JGa (Female Welfare), EB (Fashion Show President), AD (Trans & Non-Binary Rep), AG (Social Comm), EW (Social Comm), IA (Welfare Campaigns), MPi (Welfare Campaigns), TAF (Welfare Campaigns, Assistant International Rep), CA (YAPL Rep & Social Comm), JP (Trustee), LuH (Social Comm), SU (Social Comm), EG (Social Comm), GF (Welfare Campaigns), MO (Social Comm),

Absent: AJ (Local Students' Rep), SR (Finance Comm), NE (Social Comm), RMu (Assistant WCS Rep), SoB (Events Manager), DB (Outreach Comm), CL (Outreach Comm), LD (Outreach Comm), MH (SU Comm), LF (Stock Manager)

Location: MS Teams



Agenda:

### Motions

Bar Steward JCR Membership Motion (1)

Record of Resolutions Motion (2)

Motion to Create a Cuth's Poetry Society (3)

Motion to un-Officer the Communities Committee (4)

Caucus Voting Procedure Motion (5)

Reports Motion (6)

The JCR Yoga at Cuths (YAC) Motion (7)

### The Raffle

### Elections

Assistant Librarian (I)

Students with Disabilities Rep (I)

2x Junior Returning Officers (II)

3x Sports and Societies Reporters (II)

2x SU Committee Members (II)

Postgraduate Welfare Rep (II)

Assistant Ethnic Minority Rep (II)

Assistant Students with Disabilities Rep (II)

Best Frep Team

\*Minutes Pass, as do minutes from Extraordinary meeting in Summer at long last\*



## Motions

### Bar Steward JCR Membership Motion (1)

#### This JCR Notes:

- The Bar Steward is a sabbatical college, not JCR, position.
- The Bar Steward is not given automatic JCR Membership for the year unlike the JCR President and FCO.

#### This JCR Believes:

- The Bar Steward is a valued member of the Cuth's community.
- The cost of giving the Bar Steward a further year of JCR membership is minimal to the JCR.
- Good relations with the bar are mutually beneficial for the bar and the JCR.
- The Bar Steward should be given automatic JCR membership for the duration of their office.

#### This JCR Repeals:

##### **JCR Membership Order**

2.4 Sabbatical Membership shall be granted to the President of the Society and the Finance and

Compliance Officer for the entirety of their term of Office.

#### This JCR Orders:

##### **JCR Membership Order**

2.4 Sabbatical Membership shall be granted to the President of the Society, the Finance and Compliance Officer, and the Bar Steward for the entirety of their term of Office.

**Proposer:** SWC

**Seconder:** MP

## Discussion

\*No questions\*

\*No amendments\*

\*No opposition\*

\*Passes on a General Aye\*



## Record of Resolutions Motion (2)

### This JCR Notes:

- The JCR often endorses positions related to current affairs in general meetings.
- These resolutions are not collected into easily accessible lists and are instead only found in the minutes, which makes them hard to access.
- The inaccessibility of these resolutions means that policy positions have occasionally been forgotten and tasks have gone uncompleted.

### This JCR Believes:

- Collecting this information into documents which could then be published on the JCR website would allow the general membership to be better aware of the activities of the JCR and aid officers in completing their mandated tasks.
- These documents would allow for future JCR members to be better aware of the positions and policies of past members, and would likewise allow them to repeal measures that are no longer applicable to the JCR.
- This list would be best maintained by the chair, complementing their responsibility to maintain the standing orders.

### This JCR Orders:

#### **Positions in the JCR Order**

(3.20.2. Their [The JCR Chair's] duties shall be to:)

4) To keep a record of resolutions adopted in general meetings of the JCR updated and well maintained.

**Proposer:** AW

**Secunder:** MP

### Discussion

MP Why has this been put under the responsibility of the Chair and not the FCO when they already keep a similar list?

AW I personally think that the Chair would do a better job as they oversee the Standing Orders, and this is a similar task.

SWC I agree that this way makes more sense, but it would be fine if the FCO was given the responsibility.

\*No further questions\*

\*No amendments\*

\*No opposition\*



\*Passes on a General Aye\*

## Motion to Create a Cuth's Poetry Society (3)

### This JCR Notes:

- There is not currently a society for people to meet and discuss poetry within the JCR.
- There are many people within the JCR who read and/or write poetry.

### This JCR Believes:

- There are many people in the JCR who would appreciate a space in which to discuss poetry written by published poets, or by other students.
- A poetry society would allow those who may not study or write poetry, but have an interest in it, to participate in discussion about poetry (akin to a book club).
- It would be a safe space in which to share poems to other people in the JCR.
- A poetry society would be useful to recommend new poets to those who want to broaden their reading.
- A poetry society would encourage diverse and intersectional reading habits.

### This JCR Resolves:

- To create a poetry society in which members can meet to share, discuss and perform poetry. This will be done remotely at the current time but can be reassessed by the president as the rules regarding in person activities change.
- To hold an AGM for the new society to elect an executive committee within 14 days of this motion passing.

**Proposer:** LW

**Seconders:** EM, IU, HM, SD, HJ, DV, DT, KW, GP, CR, SN, BC, MA, HT, HG

## Discussion

\*No questions\*

\*No amendments\*

\*No opposition\*

\*Passes on a General Aye\*



## Motion to un-Officer the Communities Committee (4)

### This JCR Notes:

- The role of Communities Officer has been vacated due to resignation twice since its creation last academic year.
- There were no candidates for the role at Meeting 1.2, thus Communities Committee currently has no representation on the JCR Executive Committee.

### This JCR Believes:

- The role of Communities Officer is not an effective way to chair, organise, and represent the interests of Communities Committee.
- That the Communities Committee would be chaired better by an existing minority rep, taking on the role in addition to their responsibilities as a minority rep and elected to the role by the committee itself.
- The interests of minority reps would be better represented on the JCR Executive Committee by sending a delegate from Communities Committee to represent the views of members of committee, with the Communities Committee having discussed the agenda of the Executive Committee meeting in advance in order to raise their concerns with the delegate.
- The minority reps should sit on the Student's Union Committee in order to ensure that a diversity of opinion is represented in Cuth's votes in SU Assembly.

### This JCR Repeals:

#### **Positions in the JCR Order**

##### 3.14 Communities Officer

##### 3.14.1 Elected via...

... as part of a minority group.

##### (8. Communities Committee)

5) Advise the Communities Officer of any concerns raised by members of minority groups that need to be brought forward to other groups, including but not limited to the executive committee and SU Committee.

8.1.1 It shall be called by the Communities Officer.

8.1.2 It shall be chaired by the Communities Officer and minuted by the Vice-President.



## This JCR Orders:

### **Positions in the JCR Order**

#### (3. Executive Committee)

3.1.4 The agenda of each meeting shall be shared with the Communities Committee in advance of each meeting.

3.1.5 The Communities Committee shall be invited to send a delegate to each meeting.

3.1.5.1 The delegate shall not be considered a member of the Executive Committee for any purposes other than attending meetings of the committee.

#### (8. Communities Committee)

5) Discuss the agenda of JCR Executive Committee meetings and advise the nominated delegate to the Executive Committee of any concerns raised by members of minority groups that need to be brought forward to other groups, including but not limited to the executive committee and SU Committee.

8.1.1 It shall normally be called and chaired by the Communities Chair.

8.1.1.1 The President of the Society should call and chair a meeting of the Communities Committee in order to elect the Communities Chair, at some point prior to the commencement of Michaelmas term.

8.1.1.2 Nominations for the Communities Chair shall be conducted on an ad hoc basis in the meeting itself.

8.1.1.3 The President of the Society shall allow candidates the opportunity to ask and take questions, prior to conducting a secret ballot.

8.1.2 It shall be minuted by the Vice-President.

#### 8.2 Communities Chair

8.14.1 Elected by the membership of the Communities Committee.

8.14.2 Their duties shall be to:

1) Chair the Communities Committee.

8.14.3 Any member of the Communities Committee elected prior to the meeting held to elect the Communities Chair shall be eligible to run for the position.



(13.1.4 It shall consist of:)

- 7) Students with Disabilities (SwD) Representative (Ex-Officio),
- 8) Working Class Students' Representative (Ex-Officio),
- 9) LGBT+ Representative (Ex-Officio),
- 10) Ethnic Minorities Representative (Ex-Officio), and
- 11) International Representative (Ex-Officio).

#### This JCR Mandates:

- The President of the Society should endeavour to share agendas for meetings of the JCR Executive Committee with the Communities Committee well enough in advance of each meeting so as to allow the Communities Committee to discuss the agenda.
- The Chair should replace all references to the Communities Officer relating to overseers for Method III applications to instead say “Communities Chair”.
- The Chair should remove all other references to the role of Communities Officer from the Standing Orders.

**Proposer:** SWC

**Seconder:** AW, GG, LH, HM

#### Discussion

JC Will the organisation of Freshers' Week be hampered by a lack of Minority Representation on the exec?

SWC Minority Rep roles are generally quite autonomous. To an extent Freshers Week is no different.

AW They could have elected a chair by Freshers Week – the motion says a Chair must be elected prior to Michaelmas term.

JG What scenarios would mean that a Rep attends an exec meeting? Do they have input?

SWC They will always be invited. They will be sent the agendas of exec meetings beforehand, and can decide who will attend (it doesn't have to be the chair, and can be multiple members)

DT Does the Chair get the Exec discount to balls?

SWC No, as they don't have the extra responsibilities, such as setting up for balls.

RM Can I propose an amendment that they all should?

SWC That would need to pass through Finance Comm, so no.

\*No further questions\*





MP Amendment: Chair should be elected at least 2 weeks before Freshers' Week

AW Seconds

\*No questions about the amendment\*

\*No amendments to amendment\*

\*No opposition to amendment\*

\*Amendment passes on a general Aye\*

JG I'm uncomfortable with the idea of someone *sort of* being on the exec – they have all of the input, but without a lot of the undesirable jobs – what's to stop (for example) Outreach Chair, from now refusing to help out with setting up for balls?

SWC This motion is the result of many discussions with Minority Reps. The core issue is that the role of Communities Officer is flawed – no one actually wants to do it, and it's not really got a lot of responsibilities as all reps are independent. Unlike Outreach chair, it's the main bit of the job that people don't want to do (Whereas outreach will do the undesirable stuff because they are keen to organise volunteering).

JS Minority Representation on the exec is very important, and this is probably the best way to do that.

DT I think if we are having this conversation, we also need to question if we even need a Communities Committee?

SWC I appreciate that point. I think the committee is still important though, as it does facilitate communication with the Exec, the President, and Vice-President, and it encourages cohesion and intersectionality.

\*No further amendments\*

\*JG opposes amended motion\*

JG Just reflects my previous questions. Responsibilities lacking doesn't sit right with me so I'd rather it comes to a vote. I think we could make it like the Environment Committee, where there is no direct exec representation.

DT I'm passionate that we get ride of the Communities Officer role, whether this motion passes or not.

\*RM, AW, & LH reflect concerns that entirely removing exec representation would be a step in the wrong direction\*

DP Would the Communities Committee be the only committee without an elected officer in charge? I think keeping committees organised in similar ways is important to maintain their legitimacy (NB He's German).

SWC This would be the only committee that would operate exactly like this. But it would still be chaired by someone who has been elected to a Method I position. Every committee has quirks, they have evolved that way as it works best for the JCR. Initially this committee was chaired, but that didn't work, so this is the evolution.



RM To clarify for people who won't know: minority reps used to sit under the very large welfare campaigns committee and the consensus among us was that this didn't really work for our representation - only the senior welfare officer could represent us to the exec and they have a lot to do.

\*Voted for on MS Teams\*

\*Amended Motion Passes\*



## Caucus Voting Procedure Motion (5)

### This JCR Notes:

- That minority reps are elected to represent the views and priorities of their respective minority groups to the JCR and cater for the specific needs of that group; these groups, by definition, make up only a minority of the JCR and therefore a minority of votes.
- Currently any member of St Cuthbert's Society JCR, some which are not a member of a certain minority group, can vote for minority reps.

### This JCR Believes:

- In Method I elections for minority reps, the option to abstain should always be present.
- Implementing voting by caucus would raise the voices of the minority groups to higher significance, meaning that the minority reps elected would more accurately reflect the views of the minority group in question being elected.
- Overall participation of minority groups in the JCR may be improved by this, as they are more likely to feel that their voice is being heard.
- Students identifying as part of a minority group may be more inclined to interact and talk to reps, given the reps would be elected by them alone.

### This JCR Orders:

#### **Positions in the JCR Order:**

##### 1. Nomenclature

Caucus voting procedure - A method of voting in which members that do not identify with the minority group the position is elected to represent are recommended to abstain in the election.

8.1.6 All positions elected by Method 1 on this committee, excluding the President of the Society and Vice-President, shall be elected by caucus voting procedure.

#### **Method I Rules Order:**

##### 4.2 Caucus Voting Procedure

4.2.1 For those positions designated as being elected through caucus voting procedure, the election should incorporate an option to abstain due to not identifying with the given minority group.

4.2.2 In the event that the option to abstain receives the most votes, the option to abstain should be disqualified from the election without its votes being redistributed.

4.2.3 The Senior Returning Officer should make reasonable attempts to ensure that voting members are aware of the caucus voting procedure and discourage members from voting in elections for representatives for minority groups with which they do not identify.



**Proposer: AW**

**Secunder: LH**

### Discussion

AW This is a throwback to a vintage SWC motion

\*No questions\*

\*No amendments\*

\*No opposition\*

\*Passes on a General Aye – SWC slightly upset as it was highly controversial when she proposed a similar motion years ago\*



## Reports Motion (6)

### This JCR Notes:

- A number of positions now exist in the JCR that are not members of the Executive Committee, but are still of great importance to the JCR as a whole.
- Reports are currently only submitted by members of the Executive Committee, and only on the first and last meetings of term.

### This JCR Believes:

- Reports allow for scrutiny of the actions of JCR officers and keep JCR members informed of the actions of officers and committees they aren't directly involved with.
- Having reports from non-Executive officers would improve accountability and would improve awareness of lesser known roles.

### This JCR Repeals:

#### **Meetings of the JCR Order**

2.1 5) Reports and questions...

### This JCR Orders:

#### **Meetings of the JCR Order**

2.1 5) Reports and questions. At the first and last general meeting of term all officers of the Executive Committee shall submit a written report. At the third general meeting of Michaelmas term and the second general meeting of Epiphany term, the Student Trustees, the Year Abroad and Placement Representative, the Music Representative, and the Environment Representative shall submit written reports. Following the reading of the reports, questions may be asked and the reports shall then be considered by the meeting for approval. If the report is not approved then it must be resubmitted at the next General Meeting on paper.

7) A roundup of the activities of Cuth's sports and societies since the last general meeting, presented by the Sports and Societies Officer.

#### **Positions in the JCR Order**

(3.17.2 Their duties shall be to:)

7) Prepare a roundup of the activities of Cuth's sports and societies, to present at each general meeting of the JCR.

(18.4.2 Their duties shall be to:)

3) Assist the Sports and Societies Officer with the preparation of a roundup of the activities of Cuth's sports and societies, to present at each general meeting of the JCR.

**Proposer:** AW

**Secunder:** MP



## Discussion

MP Should the Sports & Socs be at every meeting? It could make meetings longer.

AW The report could be very quick and include people who aren't always involved. Make the meetings about the things we care about.

MF Why have you chosen the roles you have? Why not make it all Method I roles.

AW It's all the committee chairs who aren't exec, and the student trustees who are important. There are quite a few Method Is who it wouldn't be relevant for,

DT Is it compulsory?

AW Yes. It's just for about 4 committees.

DT Why is it not on request? What if they have nothing to say?

AW A Couple of sentences isn't too much to ask. It increases visibility. It's worth it.

DT Can we change it to be on request?

JC Last year Trustees submitted reports at the same time as the exec. It'd be good to make it more constant and official.

MP Why do all the trustees have to give a report?

AW It's implied that just the Vice Chair would do so.

\*No further questions\*

AW Amendment: add Head Frep to First meeting of Michaelmas and Summer Term.

\*No questions about the amendment \*

\*No amendments to amendment\*

\*No opposition to amendment\*

\*Amendment passes\*

AW Amendment: add Communities Chair to give a report with the exec.

\*No questions about the amendment \*

\*No amendments to amendment\*

\*No opposition to amendment\*

\*Amendment passes\*

\*No further amendments\*

\*No opposition to amended motion\*

\*Amended motion passes on a general aye\*



## The JCR Yoga at Cuths (YAC) Motion (7)

### This JCR Notes:

- Cuths does not have a yoga society, and it's an activity many people do.
- Especially in the light of Covid, a Yoga Society would bring people together over sessions on zoom and create a like minded community.

### This JCR Believes:

- Yoga would be a great communal (online) activity to bring people together, increase mood and encourage gentle exercise.

### This JCR Resolves:

- To start a yoga society within Cuths.
- To begin weekly sessions over zoom.

**Proposer:** HH

**Seconders:** TAH, ER, MW, JC, RD, HM, GT, JG, LS, BW, GP, LD, SS, ZW, MF

### Discussion

\*No questions\*

\*No amendments\*

\*No opposition\*

\*Passes on a General Aye\*

## The Raffle

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Vintage 2016 Naked Calender – Winner - SG

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Vintagier 2014 Naked Calender – Winner - KM

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – A pot noodle – Winner - JR



## Elections

### Assistant Librarian (I)

Candidates: ZH, XR, RON

XR's Hust (Method I husts given in meeting)

- Introduces himself, experienced in the library.
- Would like to make it even better
- Improve book club, extend opening hours, update computer software (current one is quite old, and crashes occasionally)
- Reintroduce snacks when possible in a safe manner. It would make it more enjoyable.
- Very enthusiastic and reliable (has covered shifts)
- Loves to read, experienced in sorting and filing books.

ZH's Hust

- Introduces Herself, experienced in library.
- Similar ideas
- Keen for book club
- Experienced as a librarian and with Admin.
- Involved in various societies
- Continue extending opening hours.
- Bring snacks back when possible.

Questions

ER If there was no limitation, what is the biggest change you'd make?

XR Software. The millenium system is quite old and slow, it would make the jobs easier.

ZH Opening Hours. Gives everyone more time to be in the library. A space to go for everyone.

LJ How will you make biscuits COVID-19 Safe?

ZH Prewrap biscuits/ tongs/ continual santising

XR Prewrap bisuits/ buy pre-wrapped biscuits (e.g. Penguins)

MW The biggest difficulty is often emailing college – would you be comfortable getting in touch with College Staff?

XR I'd be fine with that. No more frustrating than my landlord.

ZH Agreed. I'd imagine SC (Facilities) will be experienced with this stuff by now. I'd feel fine.

To be voted on online





## Students with Disabilities Rep (I)

Candidates: SG, RON

SG's Hust (Over questionable Wifi)

- Hidden disability, been through a lot with it before and at Cuth's
- Found SwD very supportive
- Didn't run earlier because I was too disabled (sic)
- Help out as well as possible
- I'll do my best!
- Introduce more support in freshers week
- \*Laptop seems to be dying\*
- \*End of speech\*

No questions

To be voted on online

## 2x Junior Returning Officers (II)

Candidates: AJ, MR, RON

AJ's Hust

- They don't seem to do much.
- Never been on GovComm
- Must do before I leave
- Cannot wait to be bossed about
- Inspired by GovComm past and present.
- Ready to bask in the glory

MR's Hust

- Can count
- Ready to get involved with the JCR
- Loves democracy
- Ready to be diligent
- Count the votes faster than Nevada
- Look forward to it.

Questions

DT What is your favourite thing about the SRO?

MR The moustache

AJ How to the point he is with his opinions



EM A key part of the JRO's role is kicking people out of rooms – can you demonstrate

AJ \*Calmly, yet firmly kicks SWC out\*

MR \*Forcibly, almost violently kick EM out\*

To be voted online (as MS Teams can't handle multiple option)

### 3x Sports and Societies Reporters (II)

Candidates: EP, RON

EP's Hust

- Apologizes for being flustered. Dealing with adverse circumstances.
- Does a few societies
- Love the *range* of societies available at Cuth's
- Believes the very accepting environment shows the sense of community.

Questions

ER What is your favourite part of reporting?

EP I love to write about current events. I'm interested in the dynamics of the world – I can link this to the inner workings of Cuth's. I will be a cheerleader for Cuth's.

TB Currently not too much going on, how would you keep people engaged?

EP Lots of societies are doing online socials. They are trying. Easy for some, not for others. Community spirit.

EP Elected

### 2x SU Committee Members (II)

Candidates: AJ, RON

AJ's Hust

- Wants to be more engaged
- Wants to ensure Cuth's views are reflected
- Different perspective
- Flexes Cuth's experience

Questions

DT Who is your favourite exec member past or present?

AJ SWC



RM Cuth's always has a pretty good turnout at SU elections, but we never quite get the best turnout. How can we push the turnout to that next level?

AJ A lot of people in 4<sup>th</sup> year don't vote – people become less engaged. I'll ensure that 4<sup>th</sup> years vote. I'd say do a silent disco, but due to pandemic we can't. Therefore I'd offer to go on one to one walks with the entire year group so that they vote?

AJ is elected

Postgraduate Welfare Rep (II), Assistant Ethnic Minority Rep (II), Assistant Students with Disabilities Rep (II)

No candidates; moved to next meeting.

Best Frep Team will also be voted on online

\*Meeting Adjourned\*