

# St John's College Junior Common Room

## The People's Republic of St Giles

Minutes for the 3rd meeting of Trinity Term 2015  
24th of May 2015, 8.30pm, JCR

### i/ Minutes of the previous meeting

### ii/ Matters arising from the minutes

### iii/ Officers' reports

Alex gave his report, reporting on the Teachfirst event, his meeting the new Schools liason officer, and advertising the roadshow. Collette told us that the camped scheme was now up and running.

Daniil asked when the bike scheme would be back on track - Christina told us that the reason we ratified the current rep was because we were desperate to ratify anybody - even if they had little knowledge of bikes!

### iv/ Reps' reports

### v/ Ratifications

### vi/ Items for discussion

#### a/ Trinity Bops/Entz Ban

Christina raised this as finalists had said that the last bop of term was too noisy and caused too much disruption too close to their exams - it could have been the noise from people outside or the bop itself but either way it was an issue.

Finch said that finalists have an irrational brain, which is inevitable, and that the struggle is real and anything that could be done to make it better should be done.

The question was raised of whether the last bop could held elsewhere, such as at Plush. Jessica asked if we had the budget for this, and the answer was a definite yes.

Holding the final bop of Trinity term in Plush was generally approved by straw poll.

### vii/ Agenda Items

#### a/ The Dark Matter Motion

Proposer: Flora Sheldon

Seconded: Claudia Haavik

Flora outlined the motion, explaining that other JCRs had already supported it.

Christina asked what the #itgetsbitter was, and Finch explained that Stonewall had #itgetsbetter and that this must be a subversion of that.

Andrew asked how much money we have left - Christina said we don't know. Finch then asked why the BME/LGBTQ budgets weren't being used for this - Flora replied that it is intersectional and good for all.

David K said that this motion is quite controversial, given Darkmatter campaign against marriage equality.

Finch said that our financial motions budget isn't limitless, and that we should consider the precedent set and the utility to all John's members before using it.

Flora said that the event would be free for John's members if we give. She also noted the 2014 article concerning marriage authority, saying that it looks to deconstruct marriage more generally for its colonial and slavery connotations. Darkmatter is radical but great - anti marriage, not anti gay marriage.

David responded by saying that from what he's seen from their approach, they're very vitriolic, and he wasn't sure that such strong views would be representative of the JCR.

Finch asked for a rough idea of John's attendees - Flora wasn't sure, but there would be some at least. Andrew asked about timings around exams, and Charlie asked what the workshop would consist of. Flora wasn't sure, and Charlie worried about the discernable benefit to the JCR.

Cecilia read from their website, saying the workshop would be on the intersection of race, sex, class, and gender - social justice and change-making strategies.

An amendment was brought to lower the amount to £100.

Manby said that the JCR has a lot of money and gives a lot to great causes, and that we shouldn't adopt this utilitarian attitude when a small group can derive great benefit. Silas echoed this, saying it would be selfish to restrain.

Finch said he brought the amendment because there was clearly some controversy, and that giving £100 rather than £200 might be a fairer display of support. Katy said that it's come to the JCR because the minority reps want the support of everyone - Jacob echoed this, saying it is an event for all people. If even one trans person who hasn't come out goes to it then it's a win.

Finch withdrew his amendment.

Another amendment, saying that the JCR does not endorse the full range of Darkmatter views (eg: BDS) was received as friendly.

The motion was voted on by secret ballot, with the Returning Officer requesting that people "don't be a dick" and only vote once.

**Motion PASSES 19 for, 10 against, 4 abstaining**

b/ Save St Catz Financial Motion

Proposer: Christina St Clair

Seconded: Vicky Skornia

Christina relinquished the chair to Manby, as the line of succession was clear apart from the Secretary who has the right to refuse to take minutes (which I did).

Christina outlined the motion, telling us of the amounts pledged by other colleges, explaining the situation with Catz college withholding funds on the new system. Manby read out Vicky's note of support saying that we could easily cover the cost.

Charlie asked what the £5400 cap was about - Christina replied that they don't need/want any more than that as it's their termly budget. Jake asked if other colleges attached no sanctions to late repayment - Christina said that a lot of them used her motion so quite possibly.

Finch asked if this was a JCR initiative or if Catz had come round begging - Christina said no, and that Presidents had been helping along the way.

Jess asked if John's would be annoyed about this, but Christina said they'd never know. Matt asked if anything nice would be done for us - Christina said they'd write us a letter. Angus asked if there was a chance of never being paid back - Christina explained that they had enough in reserve to pay us back already but just couldn't access it currently.

Jacob added that apparently it's only the Catz bursar that's the issue, and that their master thinks the JCR should get their money. Christina then added that all votes thus far had been unanimous in favour...!

**Motion PASSES unanimously**

c/ Motion: Support topical, original student film in Oxford by donating to the production of 'Amore'.

Proposer: Silas Elliott      Seconder: Felix Grainger

Silas outlined the motion, explaining the funding loop with small film whereby no bodies recognise it as an art form, so no short films are made, so no bodies exist to fund them etc.

Finch asked what John's freebies there would be - Silas said a free screening. Jacob asked what kind of film - Silas replied dark satire, technology reliance etc.

Manby asked if he could be in the film - Silas said yes.

Felix asked if he could speak in favour even though he seconded the motion (lol). He said that there's no short film awareness and that there should be.

**Motion PASSES unanimously**

d/ Good Night Out Campaign

Proposer: Katy Haigh      Seconded: Lidia Fanzo

Katy outlined the motion. Daniil asked if we could combine this with First responder training - Christina said that would depend on timing. Ciaran asked what clubs, beyond Plush and Wahoo, would be interested in signing up. Katy said that once they had the money to train, they will ask the clubs properly - Plush and Wahoo said yes just from a cursory interest check.

Charlie asked if Good Night is a plc or a charity - Katy said they weren't a charity. Zoe asked what the training entailed - Katy similar to first respondents. Louise asked if people were being trained to talk to bouncers who deal with harassment, which was correct. Finch asked if there was any Thames Valley Police involvement - Katy didn't know.

Christina relinquished the chair to Manby once again to speak in support, saying that it sounded very cool and wanted to put personal support behind it. Flora agreed.

Jake asked if we could pressure certain clubs, (Parkend!), to sign up. Katy said they would try.

**Motion PASSES unanimously**

#### viii/ Any other business

Ciaran informed everyone that the Charity BBQ had been a big success, giving a shoutout to your Secretary and Turlough for helping him run the event, saying roughly £450 had been raised (this was later confirmed to be over £500).

Finch said that there may be some spaces for people on the Rugby goodlad workshop.

Jess was concerned that the BME event was advertised on the basis of bacon and alcohol, given Muslim and Jewish students. Christina said this had been raised, and that she had raised it with Cameron. He had wanted a large turnout and said there would be veggie pizza and non alcoholic drinks.

Syrie added that the TW kitchen had been messed up.

A motion of Censure against the BME rep was then received.

Flora noted, looking around the room, that we weren't the best people to speak on this - "lots of white faces".

Jacob asked if the motion could be framed more encouragingly, rather than censure. Alastair said that JCR events should be inclusive, and that this one wasn't. Charlie said that if we do nothing, then nothing would be done.

Manby said it would be polite to invite him, and saw this as a stab in the back. Katy agreed.

Alastair asked the motion be tabled until the next meeting, and Daniil asked that facebook events be monitored in future.

Meeting closed: 21:54.

Danny Waldman  
JCR Secretary  
29/5/2015