**Lady Margaret Hall**

**Junior Common Room**

**General Meeting Agenda**

**Sunday, 9th June 2024, 8th Week TT24**

**Independent Chair: Malaikah Butt**

**Notices**

**Ike Glassbrook, JCR Vice President** – An amendment to the University disciplinary code is tabled for a vote this Tuesday. Advice/recommendations to students concerned.

Reminder to ensure that rooms are in an acceptable state when moving out!

**Freddie James, JCR Treasurer** – Please use the omniform on the JCR website ([www.lmhjcr.co.uk](http://www.lmhjcr.co.uk)) to make any claims for either motions or reimbursement (for Officers).

**Motions**

**Motion 1:** Give £50 to the Oxford Media Society

**Proposer:** Alice Hazell

**Seconder:** Cem Kozanoglu

**This JCR notes that:** The Oxford Media Society is Oxford’s largest dedicated society to the media industry. Since the relaunch of the society in 2018, they have hosted over 100 events, accumulated over 2000 members, and invited an array of prominent figures in the media industry to speak at Oxford; including Krishnan Guru-Murthy, Nick Robinson, Rachel Riley, Peter Drury, and many more. Among this term’s events is a panel with Radio 1 hosts Nikita Kanda and Lauren Layfield.
The Oxford Media Society provides a unique opportunity for students to get involved in the media industry by way of learning from current journalists, media executives, and creators. Considering the difficulty of breaking into the media industry, membership to the Oxford Media Society is free, as is attendance to the society’s events (which number around eight a term). Members are encouraged to partake in events, and learn from one another in their passion in the media industry and pursuit of working in it.

**This JCR believes that:** It is crucial to support and sustain student access to the media industry, which is essential to expanding opportunities for them for purposes of cultural enrichment and gaining insight. It is important to maintain the operations of the Oxford Media Society.

**This JCR resolves to:** Grant the Oxford Media Society £50 to cover their operating costs and to maintain their work as a student society.

**Motion 2:** To give £150 to River Action

**Proposer:** Clara Johnson

**Seconder:** Alice Hazell

**This JCR notes that:** Pollution of the rivers in Oxford is an issue which affects many members of the JCR community, particularly those involved with sports such as rowing.

**This JCR believes that:** River Action do important work to combat this pollution and aim to ensure that the monitoring of water quality and the inspection and prosecution of polluting industries is significantly increased.

**This JCR resolves to:** Give £150 to River Action

**Motion 3:** To act on the demands of the LMH subcommittee concerning action on Palestine

**Proposer:** Ike Glassbrook

**Seconder:** Pearl Crumb

**This JCR notes that:** Finalised statement, passed unanimously, of the JCR Subcommittee for Action on Palestine (formed as per the motion passed 40/18 in the meeting of 12/05/2024):

3/6/24

As per a motion passed by the JCR on the 12th May a group was mandated to form a subcommittee, to determine what demands should be made of the College in response to the humanitarian crisis in Palestine.

We are devastated at the systematic destruction of educational institutions in Palestine: all 12 universities have been destroyed in the past 4 months. We feel that as an educational body dedicated to opening the doors to those who are underrepresented, Lady Margaret Hall has a duty to take a stand on this issue, and affirm the right to education.

We believe that silence is an inadequate response to the severity of this situation.

We therefore issue the following demands of the College.

Demands of LMH
1. We urge the College to issue a statement, affirming the right to peaceful protest. We note that LMH is committed to protecting student welfare, and ending discrimination under the Equality Act 2010. Students should not feel that protest will be met with persecution, nor should they feel threatened by an establishment dedicated to education.

2. We note that many students feel their welfare has been threatened, through the rise of hate speech and discrimination. The actions of the Vice-Chancellor have been detrimental to student welfare. We believe that calling the police on students exercising their right to protest is unacceptable. Whilst the Vice-Chancellor later issued a statement claiming dialogue has been opened between the University and student groups, said student groups have denied the existence of any such channels of communication. Following this, we ask that the LMH issue a statement outlining its stance on the actions taken by the Vice-Chancellor. We ask that the College call upon the Vice-Chancellor to acknowledge both the damage her rhetoric has caused the student community, and its contribution to further inflaming the situation.

3. In light of their extensive investments in weapons and military technology companies complicit in ongoing violence, we ask that LMH stop banking with Barclays.

4. We ask that LMH develop an Ethical Investment Policy, for the 92% of College investments not invested in the Oxford University Endowment Fund. Student support for an ethical investment policy was shown in Michaelmas Term 2023, where a motion in support of it was passed. These demands would reasonably extend and incorporate existing JCR discussions on ensuring the LMH investment policy extends to divestment in fossil fuels. We note that while the College has taken steps to improve environmental impact, ethical investment is incomplete without divestment from armament companies, or affiliated organisations. Though competitive interest might limit the possibility of point (c), there should be a robust and public policy in place.

(a) Divestment from armament companies across the full scope of the College’s investments.
(b) A divestment from companies that are complicit in violations of Palestinian rights.
(c) A commitment to make information about the College’s investments and engagement activities public, including an annual, public list of the College’s investments.

5. LMH should lobby for Oxford University Endowment Management to make their policy publicly accessible, as LMH invests 8% (over £4 million) of their capital into the Oxford University endowment fund.

6. We believe the University should display an active commitment to rebuilding the destroyed educational infrastructure in Palestine. LMH should publicly commit to supporting Palestinian scholars, for example through exchanges, joint projects, academic fellowships and partnerships, online library resources, and scholarship programmes. The effectiveness of College action has been seen in the past through the Ukrainian Graduate Scholarship, which could act as a model.

**This JCR believes that:** The subcommittee has fulfilled its purpose in forming these demands.

**This JCR resolves to:** Seek action from the college per these demands.

**Motion 4:** Make Asha Davison Independent Chair for MT24

**Proposer:** Emma Davies

**Seconder:** Pearl Crumb

**This JCR notes that:** Following the standard procedure for selecting an Independent Chair, Asha Davison has won the most votes from the JCR Committee out of all nominees.

**This JCR believes that:** Asha should therefore be appointed to the role of Independent Chair for MT24.

**This JCR resolves to:** Make Asha Davison Independent Chair for MT24.