**Lady Margaret Hall**

**Junior Common Room**

**General Meeting Minutes**

**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. Ike – Congregation where college fellows meet every week or something? Amendment to the disciplinary code. Concerning things such as giving power to deans to discipline those who are “likely to cause damage”. Due to the SU transformation, students are not being represented in this. Let your tutors know that this is something that is happening and something that you are concerned about. Contact me if you need resources of this. Need fellows voting on this Tuesday, 2pm in the Sheldonian.

Reminder to ensure that rooms are in an acceptable state when moving out! Ike – Many people leave at the end of this week or week 9. Please leave your room in a decent condition, empty of all stuff and rubbish in bins, and make plans ahead of time, especially if clubbing night before you leave. It is not a major concern to be late in leaving college; prioritise leaving rooms clean. 5% of rooms were left in a shoddy state last year. Dean has mentioned that if your room is particularly bad, you could be placed in a worse room than what you got on the ballot. Fines have also been raised as a way to go about this.

**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 motions or reimbursement (for Officers). If you've been awarded money in a motion or have been an officer but haven't claimed money back, Freddie, please do so if you’ve been awarded money in a motion or have been an officer. It needs to happen before the start of August, but ideally as soon as possible. Find the form on the website, go to the Treasury page, and it is on there. I’ll get the money back to you.

**Motions**

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

**Proposer:** Alice Hazell

**Seconder:** Cem Kozanoglu

**Notes:**

Alice – Asking for £50. We run events that surround the media industry. Run events of a high calibre. We do have high outgoings. We have two Radio 1 presenters coming, so we need to pay for them with money. Tight from money at the moment. Sponsorship ran out and waiting to come through again. Asking lots of JCRs.

Cem – Second everything Alice said.

Speak in favour – Clara – Media society do a lot of good events. Not much money. Would use it well.

Speak against – none



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

**Proposer:** Clara Johnson

**Seconder:** Alice Hazell

**Notes:**

Clara – I row, I talk about it a lot. An issue is the pollution of the river. Big effect on the boat race; whole crew got sick the night before. I got sick really badly. £150 would be coming from the charities budget, not taking away from other motions. This charity does lots of work in Oxford during Summer VIIIs, which is why I chose them. Swimming in Port Meadow is also pretty dire, not just a rowing thing.

Alice – Second all that. It’s rubbish that we can’t swim because they’re pumping sewage into the water. It is important to give to those who will make a change.

Speak in favour—Seraphina emphasises that it’s coming out of the charity pot. There is a decent amount in there. When we trash, we like to jump in the river, and we need it to be clean.

Lucy – I row a lot and would like to not fear for my life every time I row!

Speak against – none



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

**Proposer:** Ike Glassbrook

**Seconder:** Pearl Crumb

**Notes:**

Ike – Many will have attended the meeting in 3rd week, where we voted on the subcommittee. We’ve been working over the past few weeks to ensure this has been set up. Thanks to the Chaplain and Junior Deans for acting as Independent Chair and welfare reps, respectively. Produced a statement. Agreed unanimously. This constitutes a series of demands we will communicate with the college over the next few weeks. We want to get a result that aligns with divestment and various other things. Full statement in the agenda. Voting on this means we

Pearl – not currently present.

Speak in favour – Ruby – I was on the subcommittee. We had productive conversations. Discussed what a statement means. We really tried to focus on welfare. We tried to be as careful as possible on wording. Overall, the subcommittee as a great way for LMH to go about this.

Michael -- The section on hate speech was lacking. We need to promote respect through discourse. The issue is coming to JCRs because there isn’t discussion available elsewhere. Amongst other Jewish students, it is sad to say that it seems that we are trying to shut down the conversation. Conversations can happen outside of the JCR. The first point, whether the JCR should make political statements, is up for debate. Upset by some details of the Open Letter. Second, a statement made by the JCR should represent the whole JCR. I wondered why there wasn’t a statement on antisemitism in the section on hate speech. Other forms of discrimination should, of course, be mentioned. What other forms of communication do we have besides a JCR statement, such as asking how people are? You can sign a letter but not actually ask how people are feeling -- Not enough to just sign and not make personal connections with people. There is a humanitarian crisis in Gaza and Israel, such as displacement. It feels wrong not to represent the entirety of the students. This conflict is real for people and has two sides. If people are so worried about the impact of conflict, please have more sensitivity and look out for Jewish, Israeli, Muslim and Palestinian students. I was disillusioned by the community and people not asking how I felt. We can do better and should do better. I’m sorry to bring this up now. Want to add an amendment to the section about hate speech.

Ike -- Thank you for raising your concerns there. I want to ensure that discourse is maintained. We have been really concerned about instances of antisemitism. Since the graffiti in Regent’s Parks College, we have been working with students there to ensure nothing like this happens in our college. Best to ensure that welfare is available. This motion is primarily about the subcommittee. The core exec has already been in discussions with the college about welfare. Specifically, resources for Palestinian, Israeli, Jewish and Muslim students. I wasn’t involved in the subcommittee, so I have nothing to add here. This is taken as a basis for where to start negotiations with the college rather than strictly for public purposes.

Ruby—On the committee, we talked about welfare. I'd be happy to add something. It's not intended to be something to release; it's just a basis for negotiations. My main concern was receiving nothing from the college about welfare support. The open letter had nothing to do with us. Completely disconnected from the subcommittee.

Ike -- if this motion passes, we will talk to the college about these demands. Demands 1 and 2 have already been raised regardless of the subcommittee. I am happy to take feedback on board and emphasise this further. My view is to take the statement as is and reassure you that we are taking welfare on board as a significant point in negotiations. Unless there is a quick change?

Alisha – The statement's purpose is to provide guidance on what we want to talk to the college about.

Ike -- the best solution for raising other concerns is to contact us separately, and we will make sure this is raised properly.

Ike – The main concern was the antisemitism in the encampments

Freddie—Just to confirm, if the motion is passed, this statement will not be posted on social media or anything. This is just our guide in negotiations with the college. Malaikah -- can the language be improved? Ruby—If this motion passes, it goes on the website and acts as a statement. We were conscious of stopping making it a two-sided polarised thing and wanted to keep it open to all discrimination.

Charli—I'm not affected by this. I appreciate the subcommittee. It's important to have the demands there and continue providing opportunities for discourse.

??? – Demands to put on the college, not a statement from the JCR. Emphasise the role of the JCR in welfare. The focus should be on voting for what is in the document, not other issues.

Speak against – none

Michael – How does suggesting an amendment work? Ike – If there is a wording change, I understand that we can make the amendment.

*[N.B., The meeting took a short break to create the amendment and discuss the situation]*

Malaikah – We have gone through an amendment procedure outlined by the constitution. The proposer has given their consent for this. We will be voting on this form of the motion tonight.

Ike – The following amendment, with my consent as proposer, is to be made to the original motion: To add to the second sentence of demand (2) of motion 3:

**We are aware that some students in college and around the university have been directly affected by the conflict through ties of family and community- especially Arab, Israeli, Palestinian, Jewish and Muslim students. Further, Jewish students and Muslim students have been directly impacted by the rise of antisemitism and Islamophobia around the UK and this university. We request the college take action to proactively reach out and support these students and totally condemn the rise of hate speech around the university**.

In terms of practical impact, is that this is present in the statement further to this motion being put out. We are already awaiting action regarding student welfare, so we will ensure that this is sufficiently reiterated and remains a constant factor of consideration.

Finnley – General point about welfare, there are slots available for this week. You are more than welcome to attend. Talk about any specific concerns or concerns about another person, such as another’s mental health.



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

**Proposer:** Emma Davies

**Seconder:** Pearl Crumb

**Notes:**

Emma – as per the termly nomination procedure, any member of the JCR can apply to be the independent chair. The JCR committee then votes on this and Asha won.

Pearl – nothing to add.

Speak in favour – Asha – yes!

Speak against – Seraphina – can’t stand her. Lucy – she leaves the crusts of her pizza.

