The County College JCR
Executive Minutes

Thursday 14th January
15:00
Online via Teams

Chair
India Ellis (VP Democracy & Finance)

Attendees
Callum Slater (President); Henry Blackburn (VP Socials, Sports & Events); Elisha Moreton (VP Welfare, Equality & Diversity); Josh Wynn (Media & Communications Officer); Jess Todd (Socials & Events Officer); Katie Aspin (Socials & Events Officer); Lucy McFegan (Women+ Sports Officer); Matt Houghton (Men+ Sports Officer); Niamh Cartwright (Women+ Welfare Officer); Emmanuel Adeyemi-Abere (Equality & Opportunities Officer); Sonja Dembo (International & Faith Officer)

Apologies
N/A

Absentees
N/A

Agenda item
Introduction and apologies
Presenter
IE

Discussions
No apologies received, all members present.

Agenda item
Matters arising
Presenter
IE

Discussions
All members should have watched the video submission for the Lent Term Co-options - all completed this.

Agenda item
Term 2 Calendar
Presenter
CS

Discussions
CS explained that Executive Committee meetings should be used to review plans and ideas already developed by the sub-teams, make comments and suggestions where necessary, and approve them.

CS noted that Week 11 has been focused on starting up Welfare, Equality & Diversity (WED) campaigns, and working on the communications, elaborating that the social media engagement has been fantastic this week. The committee agreed that our communications appear to be heading in the right direction.

CS requested feedback on the County College main page posts redirecting students to the County Welfare page. JT noted that she struggled to find the County Welfare page and suggested a link or tag leading to the page and CS suggested adding the link to the Facebook page on the Linktree in the Instagram bio. WO noted that the WED team’s introductory post has reached around 1000 people, which indicates an improvement already.

HB pointed out where the Socials, Sports and Events (SSE) team have added weekly themes to the calendar, and requested that the social media content throughout each week corresponds to the theme.

CS commended the Veganuary Rate my Plate event organised by the WED team, noting that past Rate my Plate events have been successful. WO confirmed that the WED team would like the main
page to continue redirecting students to the Welfare page for this event, so that they can review how effective that has been in improving engagement at the end of this month. CS requested that the WED team keep a proper log of the engagement in order to draw up a thorough comparison after this trial.

CS noted that the events and campaigns on the calendar already reflect what we have learnt in training sessions and requested that teams continue to update the calendar.

### Agenda item

**Uniform Debate**

**Presenter**  
CS

**Discussions**

CS explained that despite the budget cuts, the 2020 JCR Executive still reserved around £350 to provide hoodies and polo shirts for the 2021 JCR Executive uniform. CS proposed only purchasing JCR Executive hoodies this year in order to redistribute funds into other budget lines.

EM stated that she would prefer to keep the polo shirt over the hoodie, and suggested that officers could choose which piece of uniform they wanted. IE agreed that for practicality purposes, she would prefer to keep the polo.

SD stated that as a continuing officer, she already has uniform from last year so would be willing to sacrifice all uniform. SD elaborated that officers who are new to the JCR should be priority in receiving uniform.

MH confirmed that giving officers a choice would be a good idea, as he would prefer a hoodie over a polo shirt. KA explained that although having more money in other budget lines would be beneficial, as a new officer she would appreciate having the opportunity to receive both uniform items.

HB noted that the money may not be needed by the SSE or the WED teams, and that the fund distribution should be justified before sacrificing the uniform budget.

IE stated that she would not be comfortable with any officer going without uniform just for the sake of redistributing budget. She also noted that she was to plan budgeting meetings with the VPs in the next week, and suggested that this discussion could be revisited after those meetings take place so that she can provide a comprehensive summary of where our money is going and whether teams would require a budget redistribution. CS confirmed that this would be a sensible resolution.

### Agenda item

**Sports Sub-Committee**

**Presenter**  
CS

**Discussions**

CS explained that the Sports Officers and VP Sports, Socials and Events had expressed a desire to set up a sports sub-committee with the college sports captains in their one-to-one meetings with him at the start of term, and confirmed that work had been begun on setting that up and team captains had been contacted. This sub-committee will be set up by CS and then left to meet autonomously.

SD requested that she would be able to join one of these meetings in order to discuss the issue of diversity in the college sports teams. CS confirmed that JCR Executive members would be able to participate in sports sub-committee meetings.

### Agenda item

**College Merch**

**Presenter**  
CS

**Discussions**

CS expressed a desire to review the existing college merchandise and potentially design some new merchandise items. This item is also tabled at College Exec, and Ali Moorhouse already responded
that alumni would want the existing merch to remain available, also mentioning that the JCR Executive would be responsible for marketing any new merchandise.

CS mentioned the possibility of a design competition open to County College members, but also expressed that he would like to offer a basic college varsity style jumper.

KA mentioned that first year students had been interested in purchasing County College merch, but were unimpressed with the current items on offer. She also noted that the Lonsdale College jumper may be something to look at for inspiration as a lot of students have expressed that they wish County had something similar.

JT noted that she had seen a lot of people wearing the existing jumpers, so it may be worth leaving them on the shop. She also stated that the shop is currently difficult to find.

SD noted that a lot of County College students are artists, so a collaboration with them or a design competition would be worth doing.

JW highlighted that a varsity style jumper was made available in 2018 but wasn’t integrated with the college shop and orders seemingly were made using a Google Form set up by the JCR.

IE suggested that perhaps a competition could be opened up for designs to go on the back of the jumper. IE also stated that we should monitor the sales of both old and new merchandise to determine which is worth ordering and keeping on the shop.

WO highlighted how similar the existing hoodies look to the JCR Executive jumpers and that this might be off-putting, and also noted that other colleges have ties available in their merchandise shops which may be something we could look into.

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**Discussions**

IE requested that JW follows up on the message from Bailrigg about promoting the Sugarhouse event on Saturday. JW confirmed a post is scheduled for Friday.

IE noted a message from one of the Rent Strike organisers asking if CS or another JCR Executive member would like to speak at Thursday evening’s Rent Strike Rally. CS confirmed he will respond to that message.

JW updated that he is meeting Grizedale’s Media and Communications Officers on Friday to plan social media content for the Take Me Out collab event.

CS drew attention to a change in the structure of College Exec. A written report summarising our past and future plans will be sent to the SCR and VPs in advance of each meeting, so that the time can be used more collaboratively.

HB confirmed that Fylde will be collaborating on our Household Speed Dating event, and requested that JW send any graphics over to their Media & Communications Officers.

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**Discussions**

The next meeting will take place on Friday 22nd January 12:00 via Microsoft Teams.