**St. George’s Students’ Union**

Meeting of the Executive XIII



MINUTES

22nd March 2016

*Boardroom H2.7&8*

**\* \* \***

1. **Business**
	1. Apologies
	2. Minutes from the previous meeting
	3. Matters arising
	4. AOB
2. **Reports**
	1. President
	2. VP (Finance & Student Activities)
	3. VP (Education & Welfare)
	4. General Secretary
	5. Events Officers
	6. Sports Officers
	7. Media Officers
	8. Heritage Officers
	9. Charities Officers
	10. Societies Officers
	11. Community Project Officers
	12. Technical Officers
	13. Equality & Diversity Officers
	14. Environment & Ethics Officers
	15. International Officers
	16. Webmasters
	17. Representation Officers
3. **Students’ Union Issues**
	1. Year Plan
	2. Is exec a clique?
	3. AGM and year reports
4. **Society Proposals**
	1. Conversion of Pride and SPA to ‘Welfare Support Group’

1. **AOB**
2. **Important Dates**

Part V – 22th April.

AGM – 23rd May

Open Prevent Meeting – 26th April

Advertising week – 23rd – 29th May

Nominations week – 30th May – 5th June

Campaigning week – 6th – 12th June

Voting week – 13th-17th June

Results day – 17th June

Awards weekend – 16th-17th April

1. **Date of next meeting**

5th April 2016

**1 Business**

**1.1 Present**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Steven Gilbert  | President | SG |
| Alice Walker-Earwicker | VP: F & SA | AWE |
| Kat Telford | VP: E & W | KT |
| Ruth Varney  | General Secretary | RV |
| Michael Lee | Chair | ML |
| Vafie Sheriff | Representation Officer | VS |
| Matthew Boon | Technical Officer | MB |
| Sagar Sharma | Media Officer | SS |
| Munavar Saqi | Media Officer | MS |
| Suchita Bahri | Media Officer | SuB |
| Lucy O’Reilly | Webmaster | LOR |
| Bukola Ogunjinmi | International Officer | BO |
| Theo Rennicks-Gordon | E & D Officer | TRG |
| Saad Muhammad | E & D Officer | SM |
| Hannah Jones | E & E Officer | HJ |
| Aniqah Rahman | CPO | AR |
| James Parkin | Sports Officer  | JP |
| Moneet Gill | Sports Officer  | MGi |
| Martin Gannon | Student Trustee | MGa |

**1.2 Apologies**

Mustafa Dashti

Francesca Humfrey

Seher Bashir

Chantal Liu

Sebastian Locke

Lucy Chapman

Cerys Bladen

Francesca Harris

Durva Patel

Greta Jata

Avin Philip

Bethany Agnew

Khadija Stone

Anya Brown

Joe Clark

Cameron Barclay

Alex Lisseter

**1.3 In attendance**

None

**1.5 Minutes from the previous meeting**

PASSED by simple majority.

**1.6 Matters arising**

From before xmas - **TO BE COMPLETED BY TUESDAY 15th MARCH.**

Societies Officers to file Karate Club constitution & handover forms and to update the mailing list.  ONGOING

Media Officers to ask Deborah Bowman if she will do an ‘Ask Deborah’ section for the newsletter with ethical scenarios etc. COMPLETED

Heritage Officers to email Ruth the dates for cobras to put in the year plan. ONGOING

From January:

Michael Lee to send Charities old RAG Mags. ONGOING

AWE to find out if we can use SGUL on social media with regards to Freshers’ Advertising. ONGOING

KT and AWE to set up a meeting with GenSoc to find out what they are doing and why they are keen not to expand and incorporate. COMPLETED

Steven and Kat to take forward the concerns about past paper questions, cheating and question banks to the university. COMPLETED

From 8th March

AWE to count RAG money and produce a total. ONGOING

Media and Webmasters to meet RE newsletter. ONGOING

Societies and Webmasters to meet about online forms for locker keys and handover forms. ONOGING

Webmasters and AWE to meet about advertising on the website. ONGOING

Ruth to send Webmasters a list of dissolved societies/council minutes. COMPLETED

Steven to find out if the Risk Register is confidential or can be shown to Exec. COMPLETED

Webmasters to set up a webpage for DAPS vision. ONGOING

AWE to make a budget and cost centre for DAPS vision ONGOING

Societies Officers to file DAPS vision constitution & handover forms and to update the mailing list. ONGOING

Societies officers and AWE to meet regarding opening awards nominations. COMPLETED

Societies Officers to open awards nominations before Easter. COMPLETED

**1.7 AOB**

Formal apology

Exec of the month

After-parties for shows

**2 Reports**

**President**

|  |
| --- |
| **Introduction**Hello. My name is Steven Gilbert and I am the President of the Students’ Union. It’s my job to represent the views of the student body to the union itself, the university and nationwide. It also my job to oversee the strategic and operational runnings of the Students’ Union. |
| Action points* Steven and Kat to take forward the concerns about past paper questions, cheating and question banks to the university. **Have made the initial contact. At the time of writing this, no response yet**
* Steven to find out if the Risk Register is confidential or can be shown to Exec. **Have spoken to Dheemal/Deborah Bowman (both Trustees) for advice and it’s thought that as the University make their RR available online we could do so with ours.**
 |
| **What have we done since the last meeting*** Met with Ken Morrison (University Lawyer) re. PREVENT compliance for Protest & Activism Forum
* Met with Ocean (cleaning providers) to work out a service level agreement (SLA) so that the SU gets value for money day-to-day and on events nights as we feel that the work being delivered is not up to a consistent standard/level of delivery
* Started amending the awards/elections FAQs part of the website for the upcoming voting seasons!
* Working with Alice/John/Beth/Nicola on our finance & Trustee communications plan
* Met with Andrew Dyer re. making the SU FIP more quantitative and less qualitative. This should give us proper targets in how to construct a good FIP and also to determine what our metrics of success (our key performance indicators – KPI) are
* Attended SGUL Senate and gave an oral report updating members on – Rugby success, INTO students, SU finance, and the Rob Lowe
 |
| **What have you got coming up in the next two weeks*** Working with Eddies Café with Alice to reassess how they’re profits have changed since they’ve changed their management structure (we don’t get the profits from Eddies but if they aren’t prosperous then they may leave so we don’t get rent money!)
* Alice and I are having our monthly catch up with Nicola
* Preparing for elections – setting dates and a new Returning Officer (Sophie Bowen is leaving at the end of April)
* Catching up on emails/projects as students go home for Easter!
 |

* SG gave a verbal summary of the report.
* The university didn’t like the idea of the question bank but we will continue to discuss it with them and develop a compromise.
* LOR: Are you changing AGM this year?
* SG: Yes. We will be sending out Exec and Year Reports in advance and then no verbal reports will be given. Question only. The year reps will be questioned in groups of their courses.
* AWE: I will also be publishing the numbers in advance so I won’t need to present the finances, only answer questions.
* MB: What is a risk register?
* SG: A document that states things how drastic the things are that put the SU at risk and the consequence if it occurring multiplied together.
* TNG: When do we need to write our handovers?
* SG: After the elections! But please feel free to start jotting things down.
* Passed.

**VP Finance and Student Activities**

* **No report received.**
* AWE gave a verbal report: the final accounts have be finalized this week by the auditors. They will be distributed to the trustees imminently. We have finished the accounts for the 1st quarter and are working on the 2nd quarter. I have contacted societies with the totals that they raised for their charities last year.
* SM: Have you counted the money we raised from our campaign week yet?
* AWE: Not yet. I always count money on the weekends and I haven’t had a free weekend yet.

AP – AWE to count the money E&D raised for student minds.

* MGa: is there a reason you didn’t submit a report?
* AWE: No.
* MGa: We gave you a warning at the last meeting. You lead the SU by example. I propose we don’t pass this report. This needs to change as these meetings are published and are the student body’s opportunity to hold you to account.
* KT: Research into other committees shows that they have terms of reference which state how many meetings and how many reports you can miss. I would like this to be formulated by Top4 then brought to exec.
* ML: In the future if Top4 don’t submit a report they will be asked to leave the meeting. Any ideas from exec?
* RV: The Sports Officers have the best report record. Why? What do you think about punishments?
* MGi: Pride. We do something every week and have continuity, so it is just a natural progression for us. It is also out of competitiveness.
* BO: Does this apply when only giving verbal reports? Is it only for Top4?
* ML: Only for Top4. Unless you think it’s too harsh? Unless you think it should be for all exec? They won’t have the chance to give a verbal report.
* KT: Why do you think we should leave the meeting? For the whole of the meeting?
* ML: Yes the whole meeting. It’s unprofessional. Not junior exec as they just won’t come. It’s a bit different.
* KT: This is a format that chair has chosen this year. The terms of reference would be long term.
* ML: I’m not talking about attendance I’m purely talking about reports. There isn’t a number you can miss, there should be one every week.
* Passed.

**VP Education and Welfare**

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| IntroductionHello, my name’s Kat Telford and I am your VP Education & Welfare. My role is to ensure that YOU feel supported in every aspect of your life here at St Georges so as to have the best student experience possible! I sit on academic meetings to ensure your education is the top priority, and I have an open door policy to provide students with support and advice. I also supply a free condom service for all students. So feel free to pop up and see me, my office door is always open and the kettle is always on! |
| Action points |
| What have we done since the last meeting* FINISHED WELLBEING WEEK!
* Had my birthday on Friday ☺
* Liaised with Terrence Higgins Trust and organised STI screening clinic for discos and Stay Smart Stay Safe campaign
* Ordered more contraception
* Provided support to students with the dissertation hand in
* Dealt with confidential student affairs
* Convened with Head of Exams to come to a conclusion regarding the communication and decision of OSCE’s being released early.
* Communicated with Senate regarding ongoing Action points.
* Organisation of opinion poll task group
* Clarified some DBS issues
* Met with SKIP
* Met with Tooting Show
* Met with IFEMSOC & GENSOC
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks* Senate Training round 2 preparations
* Preparations for next campaign: Stay Smart. Stay Safe.
* Catching up on emails
 |

* KT gave a verbal summary of the report.
* BO: Have they changed anything about the OSCE stations since the last meeting?
* KT: Yes. They have set it as 4 days. And the stations will be in alphabetical order, not the order you get them in.
* MG: If 4 days before your OSCE you have an exam, they will send the list after you start the exam so as not to distract you.
* JP: Is this for all years? How much information do they provide?
* KT: Yes all years. The task stays the same, but the content changes. Therefore cheating will be more obvious and more detrimental.
* JP: How much detail?
* KT: It will be bullet points of the titles of the stations.
* RV: As there is no Senate until 10th May how are you communicating this to year reps?
* KT: I will post on the Facebook group/emails.

AP – KT to email senate updating them on these developments.

* BO: What was the least successful thing in wellbeing week?
* KT: Amy Spatz’s mindfulness presentation when only 1 person turned up.
* Passed.

**General Secretary**

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| IntroductionHi I’m Ruth Varney and I’m the General Secretary. My role is organising meetings, booking rooms, coordinating with the Exec team & being the first point of contact for students. I am the non-sabbatical quarter of SU Top4 and I am head of the Communications Zone.  |
| Action pointsSend Webmasters the list of dissolved societies – DONE! |
| What have I done since the last meeting* Admin and answering questions.
* Senate
* Liaising with Socs/CPOs/Sports to chase the rest of non complying societies
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks* Typing up lots of minutes.
* Communicating with societies to get the rest of the handover forms in.
 |

* RV gave a verbal summary of the report.
* Passed.

**Events Officers**

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| IntroductionHello! We are Alia Nasir-Gonzalez, Francesca Harris, Lucy Chapman and Cameron Barclay, the Events Officers for the Student Union this year. Our job is to plan and organise many of the events hosted by the Student Union throughout the year, including discos and Freshers’ events. This involves advertising on social media and around the university, and being on duty during events. |
| Action points |
| What have we done since the last meeting* Wellbeing week comedy night
* St Patrick’s Day Disco
* Selected acts for the Showcase, contacted them and begun talks with Tech officers
* Looking into hiring a stage for the Showcase
* Designed tickets online for the Showcase
* Booked a photobooth for Part V, made a facebook event and put posters up
* Agreed with RAG that they will sell jelly shots at Part V (this was one of our requests from final year reps)
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks* Ordering alcohol and decorations for Part V
* Finalising details for Showcase – ordering stage & tickets
* Promo for Showcase – making a Facebook event and putting tickets up online
* Putting a subcommittee together to help us sell tickets for Showcase
 |

* No-one present to give a verbal summary of the report.
* Passed

**Sports Officers**

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| Introduction*Hello we are Moneet and James! Our role as sports officers is to oversee SGUL sports teams with their involvement in ULU and BUCS leagues and be the first point of contact for all sports events for the Students’ Union. We also co-ordinate the use of sports facilities (e.g the Rob Lowe) via liaising with sports captains and we will be representing SGUL on several different sports related committees (e.g Sports Centre Committee). Finally, we will be organising the 2015/2016 annual Sports Ball as well as the sports trials for fresher’s fortnight.* |
| Action points*None this week* |
| What have we done since the last meeting* *Fixture confirmations*
* *Started captain meetings*
* *Began organisation for online sports ball ticket sales*
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks- Fixture confirmations- Start selling sports ball tickets- Carry on with captain’s meetings- Start writing our handover |

* MGi gave a verbal summary of the report.
* Passed.

**Media Officers**

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| Introduction |
| Action points* None
 |
| What have we done since the last meeting* Newsletter
* Updated app
* Team meeting to discuss plan for upcoming newsletters
* Met with webmasters for a new template of the newsletter
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks* Ask Debohra section in the newsletter
* Use the sports fixture list in the newsletter
 |

* MS gave a verbal summary of the report.
* The app is the focus now and it now works on androids.
* AWE: Not on mine or Steven’s!

AP – Sports officers to collate a list of the end of season league positions from each sports team for the newsletter.

AP – Kat to Send Ruth the email address SGUL is trying to contact the media officers on.

AP – Ruth to contact IT about streamlining email addresses.

* SG: The app people rang me, I gave them your email address.
* RV: Did you get their number?
* SG: No.
* SBa: Do we need to do newsletters during Easter?
* KT: Yes.
* SBa: When will the last one be?
* SG: 31st July.
* Passed.

**Heritage Officers**

* **No report received**
* No one present to give a verbal report.
* NOT PASSED

**Charities Officers**

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| **Introduction:**Hi everyone, we are Beth, Avin, Khadija and Kate and we have been elected as the Charity Officers at SGUL for 2015-2016.Our focus as charities officers is raising and giving on behalf of SGUL for 4 chosen charities. This year we have chosen St George’s Hospital Charity and a Charity Society. We felt it important we represented you, so a vote for the two remaining charities will be cast in the first week of fresher’s during various events.We will give the student body the opportunity to raise money awareness through events and the opportunity to participate in volunteering through out the year.As charities officers we will also be organizing the much-anticipated RAG week for everyone to get involved in!If you have any questions feel free to email us or ask us in person, we don’t bite! |
| **Action points:*** none
 |
| **What have we done since the last meeting:*** Bake sale for aids orphan sorted out
* Fete for aids orphan sorted out
* RAG raffle
* Contacting people regarding giving food to the homeless on Fridays
 |
| **What have you got coming up in the next two weeks:*** Sorting out University challenge proposed by Heritage
* Finalise on sub committee
* Bucketeering in April
 |

* No one present to give a verbal summary of the report.
* KT: What do you mean by ‘sort out’ as mentioned 3 times in your report?
* LOR: When did the RAG raffle happen and when was it drawn? How was it advertised?
* Passed.

**Societies Officers**

* **No report received**
* No one present to give a verbal report.
* NOT PASSED

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| Introduction*Hello. We are Aniqah Rahman and Durva Patel, the Community Project Officers for the Student’s Union this year. Our role consists of representing all the community projects at SGUL, keeping them updated with important information, ensuring that there is a good level of communication between the projects and the students, and attending to any need or query they may have. We intend to advertise all volunteering opportunities and successes to ensure students and staff stay up to date.* |
| Action points |
| What have we done since the last meeting* *DISSERTATION!*
* *Dealing with issues regarding the access list for CP cupboard and keeping it updated.*
* *Chasing up CP regarding missed council meetings and risk assessments*
* *Advertising national awards SGSU awards for CPs*
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks* *Chasing volunteer of the month awards for Feb*
* *Advertising and keeping up to date our social media pages*
* *Completing dissertations!*
 |

**Community Project Officers**

* AR gave a verbal summary of the report.

AP – CPOs to clear CP cupboard ASAP.

* Passed.

**Technical Officers**

* **No report received.**
* MB gave a verbal summary of the report: Tooting show, with some mishaps, rehung the lights in Monckton, Musical, with afterparty and clear up mishap. T year ball is coming up.
* Passed.

**Equality and Diversity Officers**

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| IntroductionHey, We are Theo Rennicks-Gordon and Saad Muhammad, your SU Equality & Diversity Officers for 2015/16. Throughout this academic year we will have meetings with the Equality and Diversity committee, uphold the no platform policy and ensure equality on the interfaith forum. Our role is one that involves working with students through the Dignity Scheme being brought back this year and helping form institutional policies that’ll ensure St George’s stays equal and diverse. |
| Action Points |
| What have we done since the last meeting?* Had our Mental Health Week
* Successful bake sale and Gospel choir singing fundraising for Student Minds
* Very well received talk/performance from Dr Ahmed Hankir on mental health stigma
* Increased students’ awareness of the Equality and Diversity role through our quiz outside the library and presence ae events throughout our week.
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks?* Dignity Adviser Scheme advertisement
* Dignity Adviser meeting with Head of Counselling
 |

* TRG gave a verbal summary of the report.
* Passed.

**Environment and Ethics Officers**

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| Introduction*Hey friends, we’re Hannah and Greta and we are your Environment and Ethics Officers this year. Our role is mainly to make sure we can make Georges as sustainable and environmentally friendly as possible. We will do this throughout the year by reminding and encouraging staff and students alike via the various activities we’ll be holding such as in the Go Green Week and Ethics Week.*  |
| Action points* N/A
 |
| What have we done since the last meeting* Finished NUS Green Impact award
* Made posters for Go Green Week
* Made posters for Fresher’s Foundry
* Implemented our donation box
* Worked on Allotment
* Head Gardening sesh for Wellbeing Week
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks* Facilitate meeting with Liz Gilby for Allotment funding
* PROPER PLAN OF GO GREEN WK
* Possibly get audited?
 |

* HJ gave a verbal summary of the report.
* We have been sent some seeds and bee houses for the allotment.
* SG: What ethical things have you done?
* HJ: We have updated the food for thought page, more than was expected of once a week. Also, being environmentally minded is ethical.
* Passed.

**International Officers**

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| --- |
| Introduction*Hey Everyone! We are Chantal and Bukola, your International Officers.* *Our role is to represent International students at St. George’s, to ensure that the challenge of studying in a completely new country is as easy as possible for students from around the world. We aim to help international students feel comfortable, content, and integrated while at George’s. To achieve this, we will represent them in the SU and have regular meetings with the International Advisory Team. We will also be planning numerous events throughout the year, alongside the International Students Society.*  |
| Action points* N/A
 |
| What have we done since the last meeting* International Student Lunch 4

-11 March 2016* Promoted HOST UK during the student lunch with a soft launch
* Created a year plan for the remaining term in collaboration with ISS to avoid event clashes
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks* Thinking of new events to host and finalizing our year plan
 |

* BO gave a verbal summary of the report.
* SBa: What are you doing about the unsettled atmosphere amongst INTO students?
* BO: Before the last IMOG meeting, that INTO reps all met and put together and then took forward lots of action points. But it is difficult as we have been told they are doing something and there is not much else we can do.
* KT: Anyone with issues should see me.
* BO: With regards to the GMC complaint, you can see last year’s online which is similar to the one which will be published this year.
* Passed.

**Webmaster**

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| IntroductionHi, We’re Lucy and Jordan, Webmasters for 2015-16. This role involves overseeing the content of the website as well as making sure it is up-to-date and interesting. It also involves creating events, tickets and subs for SU activities.  |
| Action points |
| What have we done since the last meeting* Set up awards nominations on the website and advertised awards
* Taken down wellbeing week and replaced with Mental Health Week
* Put up travel info for NUS Green Impact award
* Tooting show tickets taken down/ childreach tickets put up
 |
| What have you got coming up in the next two weeks* Ensure nominations run smoothly
* Download and collate nominations packs for awards
* Put up Sports ball tickets
* Sort boat club fees
 |

* LOR gave a verbal summary of the report.
* We are working on making page for campaign and sports results updates.

AP – Kat to email final years of all courses to get them to ‘buy’ their free fast track Part V ticket and for 1 guest.

* MB: Final years of all courses?
* SG: Yes, including masters.
* Passed.

**Representation Officers**

* **No report received.**
* VS gave a verbal summary of the report: meeting physio reps about mums and dads and at senate topics discussed included: organizing end of year balls, mandatory lectures and NSS/SES.
1. **Student’s Union Business**
	1. **Year Plan – Ruth Varney**
* There have been some miscommunications about events and campaigns in recent months. Please do let me know everything you are doing as it is important the students hear about it!
	1. **Is Exec a clique? – Vafie Sheriff**
* VS: It has been suggested that exec is a clique as most of exec are Caucasian and the treatment between societies seems unequal.
* BO: Do those societies come to council?
* VS: They should have a chance to say what they think but might not want to say it in front of everyone.
* ML: If they don’t want to say it out loud they can send it in to chair to say anonymously.
* RV: We did take this topic to council. I do think exec is a bit cliquey and some societies do have an advantage because they are more aware of the workings of the union. However we have reached out to them to try and bridge this gap and no one came back to us. We are hitting a brick wall with outreach.
* MB: Some people have unrealistic expectations of the executive.
* SG: They should stand for election. I would like them to come and discuss this issues with me. There is a wide range of races in the room.
* MS: Our courses are busy so people are generally pretty passive about SU business. They only complain when they aren’t happy. Advertising should be better for elections on to exec needs to be better.
* SG: Last year the advertising was Use your SU stands for a week and loads of exec wore t-shirts around to advertise it. If people don’t agree advertising is good enough, give us exact feedback.
* SM: Are there any examples of ‘cliquiness’? Is this just individuals or large groups of people?
* VS: Yes, some people and societies feel they are treated worse because they are black by specific members of the Exec.
* RV: I have been trying to meet with some groups to deal with this misconception however it doesn’t seem to have worked. How about running a Facebook campaign of a post or poll which says ‘if you are part of this SU like this post’ as a challenge to see how many people will engage?
* KT: Discrimination is grouping people due to the actions of 1 person. And this is what is happening against the Exec in this case. The problem lies in how to deal with this and address these opinions.
* SM: This can all be cleared up easily.
* VS: Certain people feel the office if unfriendly because of Alice and Ruth’s ‘Resting Bitch Faces’.
* SM: Just talking to them can help.
* RV: I tried but it hasn’t seemed to help. For lots of people, once they set their views, they won’t change them irrelevant of what is said or done.
* MS: People at the top always get the abuse.
* ML: By the end of the year exec does become a clique, but that’s because we spend a lot of time together and work closely with each other.
* AR: People who won’t approach the SU will just spread information, as much as it is not necessarily true. I agree with Ruth’s idea.
* MB: Giving up free time doesn’t deserve abuse.
* TRG: A poll would be a good idea to reach out. Elections will be a great opportunity for this.
* VS: It’s large societies not just individuals.
* BO: Are we, as exec, doing something explicitly wrong? If someone approaches you about something in particular like this, sit down with them and solve it.
* VS: When people bring up topics such as this to individuals it is because they believe you are the only person they can trust. Talking them round may lose that trust as well and you can appear ‘brainwashed’.
* SM: Attaching exec and the word clique together is really dangerous as we are a welfare service.
* RV: I wouldn’t take that particular question to council. It will result in a lynch mob. Something but not that question.
* LOR: I think we aren’t a clique but it’s a perception thing.

Action Point – Ruth to add something about student outreach to the agenda for council.

* 1. **AGM and Year Reports – Ruth Varney**
* RV: AGM has now been set for the 23rd May. I will be shortly emailing you about year reports which need to be completed by the 30th April – that is 39 days from now.
* SG: Same as the 6Month reports as far as they should be at least a side of A4 prose.

**IV. Society Proposals**

**IVa. Conversion of Pride and SPA to ‘Welfare Support Group’**

* A statement provided by these 2 societies was provided and read out:

The Student Parent Association and Pride LGBT Soc would both like to apply for recognition as Welfare Support Groups, as detailed in the most up-to-date version of the Constitution. Both societies exist to provide peer support to students.

Unlike other societies, that aim to connect students with shared interests, these two exist to support students who share protected characteristics under the Equality Act (maternity and sexuality, respectively). We do not feel students should need to pay for this support – not even token payments.

Collection of subscription fees would require us to keep a record of members. We would prefer to be a support group open to all students, not only those who choose to commit as members. We also have concerns about keeping records of such highly-sensitive information. Some students do not want the university or SU to know their status as a parent, nor their sexuality. We do not want to be responsible for holding and storing such information. The dynamics of the SU mean that committees change regularly, and it would be difficult to abide by the Data Protection Act, as well as other confidentiality laws.

We would like to continue working closely with VP Welfare, and would love to strengthen our relationship with the E&D Officers. We feel that recognition as Welfare Support Groups would help to emphasise these bonds. Each year, we are seldom approached by these roles. Acknowledgement of our status as Welfare Support Groups would help highlight that we wish to work more closely with the SU to provide the strongest level of support that we can.

* TRG: Was it passed that they cannot be dissolved?
* RV: No.
* AR: Was it passed that Exec had to pick it up if the committee collapsed?
* RV: It’s not written in the constitution.
* KT: It is our legal responsibility joint with the University to do so.

**RV: I propose we convert the Student Parent Association and Pride LGBT Soc into Welfare Support Groups under the new constitution.**

Seconded – HJ.

For: 14 Against: 1 Abstain: 1

Action Point – Societies Officers to organise filing and mailing list to reflect this.

**V. AOBs**

**IVa. Formal apology**

* Following representation of exec in Tooting Show there were many upset members. Tooting Show committee have since apologised for any offense caused.
* JP: What happened?
* KT: there was a scene where cast members wearing exec top were being bullies. Exec were concerned this showed exec badly and would prevent students accessing support services.
* JP: What have we learnt?
* KT: Exec members are to consider giving out uniform carefully. Also, about educating societies about controversial topics & opening a discussion about representation.
* HJ: Was it meant to be a joke?
* KT: No it was meant to raise awareness of mental health. And they did run it past E&D.

**IVb. Exec of the month**

* January – International Officers.
* February – RAG Officers.
* March – Chair.

**IVc. After parties for shows**

Postponed until next meeting.

1. **Important Dates**

Awards committee weekend – 16th-17th April

Part V – 22th April.

Open Prevent Meeting – 26th April

AGM – 23rd May

Advertising week – 23rd – 29th May

Nominations week – 30th May – 5th June

Campaigning week – 6th – 12th June

Awards night – 10th June

Voting week – 13th-17th June

Results day – 17th June

1. **Date of next meeting**

5th April 2016