**St. George’s Students’ Union**

Meeting of the Executive

Minutes of the 1st Exec meeting

*28/08/2012*

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**MINUTES FROM 28/08/2012**

# Business

## Present

Daniel Trotman Chair DT

Katie Jones General secretary KJ

Esme Siriboe Charities Officer ES

Michael Lee Charities Officer ML

Dheemal Patel Charities Officer DP

Natasha Lee Charities Officer NL

Amarinder Ruprai Technical Officer AR

Eshan Ashcroft Technical Officer EA

Omar Abbassi Technical Officer OA

Elliot Mincher Events Officer EM

Jonny Hurst Events Officer JH

Alexander Read Events Officer AR

Steph Peters Events Officer SP

Onkar Rehal Equality and Diversity Officer OR

Mena Farag Equality and Diversity Officer MF

Martin Gannon Media Officer MG

Anjalie Rajapakse Societies Officer AR

Mateo Dworkin Community Project Officer MD

Reem Abdelgalil Community Project Officer RA

Zelda Ncube International Officer ZN

Jack Sugrue Heritage Officer JS

Claire Nichols Environment and Ethics Officer CN

Juliet Davidson Environment and Ethics Officer JD

Mathew Owen President MO

Lauren Wellburn VP Education and Welfare LW

Fahmin Khaleque International Officer FK

Mohamed Amer Sports Officer MA

Toby Flack Sports Officer TF

Nathan Eager VP Finance and Student Activities NE

Charlotte Cockerill Media Officer CC

## In attendance

Anna Eaton Mind Matters AE

Urooj Irshad Mind Matters UI

## Apologies

Ina Roman Societies Officer

Yan Leung Societies Officer

Joseph Bridgeman Societies Officer

Ray Sacks Heritage Officer

## Minutes from the previous meeting

PASSED by simple majority

## Matters arising

* Minutes have been amended
* Media officers have sent guide
* Allotment society still active can’t be dissolved
* Multi faith room still ongoing – black history is done however DJ was decided to be too expensive
* NE has explained that debit could be done but it depends on the reference that is put on it however it is a possibility. NG said it depended on what charities wanted to do, they would work together to decide if they want to do it.
* YL has emailed exec about fayre
* MO has booked curry.
* MO has not received ideas about video but it’s been busy so is ongoing
* Events clashes aren’t really a problem, E&E officers happy.

## AOB

Exec of the month to be confirmed

# Reports

## Vice - President of Education & Welfare

* PASSED

## General Secretary

* KJ asked MG if he could put the minutes and agendas on the website
* PASSED

## President

* MA asked if laser quest was being done, MO said yes it made a profit.
* MG asked for photos and videos from freshers MO said yes.
* PASSED

## Vice – President of finance and Student activities

* NE said he was sorry about the grammatical error
* PASSED

## Events Officers

* AR asked how he could access the online feedback. MG said he would show him and LW added she could show him paper feedback.
* CN asked when the Halloween disco was. AR replied that it was the 26th of October.
* PASSED

## Media Officers

* MG added that he worked with JH (of SGSU radiosoc) to get live broadcasts, and he was working with the Dragon to create a downloadable version of it and possibly an app.
* ES asked how she could access the RAG page on the website, MG said he would show her.
* PASSED

## Sports Officers

* TF added that it did not look possible to get the women’s football team to get into a league. TF said they would try to get them friendlies, NAMS and tournaments.
* PASSED

## Heritage Officers

* PASSED

## Community Projects Officers

* MD added thank you to exec for freshers work.
* PASSED

## Technical Officers

* JS asked why the music got very loud at the end of Charlie and Chocolate factory disco. JS asked if they could look at a way to keep decibels down.
* EA replied yes they would do that.
* PASSED

## Environment & Ethics Officers

* JD asked if the dates of go green week were okay. LW said they may be troublesome in terms of clashing with other events, JD apologised for not speaking to LW and LW said she had not received the email. E&E said they would meet with LW to resolve.
* PASSED

## Equality & Diversity Officers

* OR added that they had received some promotional material and that these handbooks would be photocopied and distributed.
* AR asked if they were in charge of all the events and MF replied that they were doing it in conjunction with come societies. LW added that ACAS had contacted the technical officers about the events also and that they were doing the majority of organisation.
* PASSED

## Charities Officers

* ML amended his report to say that direct debit donations were possible.
* MO asked the dates of abseiling for charities. MO asked for ideas from exec. KJ suggested before RAG JS added that it needed good weather.
* CN asked if they were planning a jailbreak and suggested a combination with abseiling

**ACTION POINT**

LW is to work with charities for an abseiling date.

* PASSED

## International Officers

* FK added that ISH stood for International Student House, and briefly explained it. FK added they were planning on taking the international students there.
* LW asked if they could meet to work with ISS to help the students meet the staff members.
* PASSED

## Societies Officers

* AR added that there could be a possible re-frreshers fayre.
* AR added that a lot of paperwork had been filed and were chasing up societies without paperwork. KJ added she could help with contact details.

**ACTION POINT**

KJ and societies and media are to work together to chase up societies contact details.

* PASSED

# Mind Matters Society Proposal

* AE and UI gave a brief presentation about Mind Matters explaining its aims and ideas.
* JD asked what the training involved and how much it would cost, and also about subs. UI replied that it was funded through Mind but also that there would be fundraising for them in return.
* JS asked if they had had talks with LW who provides the majority of counselling service / counselling service. AE replied that they had talked to the counselling service and student centre and all their feedback was positive. AE added that if they were official they would set up an action plan with everyone.
* LW added that counselling had said that peer counselling doesn’t often work due to confidentiality, and how do they see this working practically. UI rplied that it wouldn’t be based on a random approach that they would pick a specific room and date and establish a relationship before going deeper into potential problems. UI added that they were legally bound with confidentiality by a document from Mind, she added they would do lecture shout outs and offer contact. AE added that it was going to take a while for this to be built up and would work with the S.U to target the right people.
* AR asked aside from the counselling service would the society offer anything else. UI said they wanted to raise awareness about mental health issues in university and advertise the ways that they could help, in a lecture basis.
* AR asked if there was any legal obligation for them to be confidential, and that it was necessary. *This was answered in LW’s question.*
* ZN asked if the training meant that any student could sign up and if there would be a selection process. AE replied that it was quite flexible but there would be basic training from Mind, but wasn’t sure how mny counsellors they could process through the year but there would always be space in the society. UI added any course could join.

**Discussion concerning the Mind Matters Society**

* JS asked for clarification on Mentis aims. AR replied that it was much more a educational society specialising in psychology.
* MD stated that it would take a long time and that they haven’t started training yet. KJ said they may need the S.U approval in order to be trained.
* LW argued that George’s had a strong support service and that approval of this society may confuse channels that people need to get help. LW added that if they were interested they could get involved in SU promotion of services but didn’t see the need to confuse things.
* TF added that he agreed with LW and that they were covering a lot of things without being organised.
* JS agreed with LW and added that they hadn’t talked to counselling. He also doubted that they could socially mentor through events such as lunches.
* LW followed on from that and said that they had talked to counselling, but again it was adding in an extra step and adding in extra time could be negative in those processes.
* CN added that it seemed that they wouldn’t charge people and this would go against becoming society.
* KJ added that we had to decide whether what the university offered was enough for our students.
* JS replied that there was and that there were so many ways of feeding back information. KJ replied that these channels were not usually used for personal problems. LW added that there were services for everything they had mentioned.
* MA said it seemed that awareness was a problem. LW said it was and that she would happily work with them and increase awareness through them.
* JD said she agreed and it seemed strange to have specialised people and that giving that territory to a student that may not be able to deal with these problems.
* LW added that students becoming counsellors were already on stressful university courses.
* CN added that would they have authority to break the obligation of confidentiality in serious matters.

**PROPOSAL**

TF: I propose that we reject Mind Matters as a society of SGSU. MA seconded. TF made a one-minute speech. He stated that it seemed that there was an overlap and there were numerous reasons to refuse this society, which had already been discussed. **For – 12 Against - 0 Abstentions – 3**

An addition was made that we should remind them that there was no problem with them fundraising for Mind, and LW was happy to work with them in advertising student support.

***5. Roles and Responsibilities***

**5.1 Disco Duty**

MO quickly clarified some of the disco duty problems. MO reminded exec that the office was meant to be purely for drunk people to be looked after and it should not be used for exec members to leave their stuff in there or socialise in there. MO added that at the end of the duty RAG room should be cleared before officers left. MO also said that radios and keys needed to be given in at the end of duties. MO also stated that it was not allowed to be drunk on duty.

**5.2 Attendance**

MO said that if shifts were swapped then the Top 4 needed to be notified so that arrangements could be made.

**5.3 Representation**

MO reminded the exec that they were part of the S.U and the exec represents the university and the S.U and the exec needs to behave accordingly.

JS asked that everyone could wear their exec shirts only when on duty. MO asked about the idea of having one set of exec members on duty for the entire duty instead of a shift problem. OR said he liked the idea but he could see problems in attendance, if someone didn’t show up then 6 hours would have to be covered. SP replied that exec had been split into six groups of five. MG added that it would be a 4- hour duty as events work 8-10. DT added that it had been done before and that it seemed a good solution. KJ added that it would be easier from a top 4 perspective and that firm measures would be done

**ACTION POINT**

Measures on attendance to be discussed by top 4.

CN added that it would be easier from a shift point of view in terms of cloakroom management. JS said he wanted to know exactly how many discos he would have to work. DT suggested a vote.

**PROPOSAL**

KJ I propose that the exec vote for the new disco rota system for discos in the future. NE seconded. For-20 Against - 1 Abstentions – 7.

**ACTION POINT**

Top 4 to decide about duties for smaller events.

***6. Fire Evacuation Plan***

KJ said she would email the fire plan around the exec and would they please read it and know what they have to do.

***6. Guidelines on Dissolving Inactive Societies***

NE stated that he and the societies had gone through after council finding out which societies had not had any activity. NE wishes to make constitutional amendments to the constitution in order to better show which societies are active and which are not.

**ACTION POINT**

NE is to email KJ the measures that he wishes to implement, and to email it to exec and bring it up at the next exec meeting also to work on the wording. NE is also to meet with DT to work on wording for the constitution.

***7. Exec Members of the Month***

Charities Officers to be made exec member of the month due to the amount of money already raised and the new ideas already taken forward. MG was also commended on his work over Freshers and the barcode system and the website improvements. KJ was also mentioned and Events Officers were commended for raising record-breaking amounts for discos.

Charities added that if everyone could please join up to the movember page. Exec was reminded of the door code, the next exec meeting and council.