**Minutes from Council Meeting 10.02.15**

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1. **Present**

Gender Equality

SKIP

Swimming

Horse riding

Climbing society

Pole fitness

Volleyball

Hindu society

Geriatric society

Psychiatry society

Revue

ISOC

ACS

Arab society

Sri Lankan society

Fencing Society

Music society

Trustee – Mo Amer

Council Elect

Student minds

Musical society

1. **Apologies**
2. **Council Elect Report**

Council Elect gave a verbal report:

AWE explained that the last Exec meeting was a 6 month report and that Exec were asked questions.

AWE and BP encouraged everyone to read the minutes.

The sports ball date is 20/13th May

Go Green week

RAG week is next week

Minibus test was cancelled

New auditors that will save money

Estates have been contacted about fixing the blue unit

Survey about Council usefulness has been sent out

1. **Website update**

SG showed Council the current Website and explained that the SU were currently in talks with web designers to update the website.

SG showed the current proposed plan for the new website and showed Council the Cardiff SU website explaining that it was the inspiration for the new design.

SG showed the Council the new features that the website would have like the ‘whats on’ tab and ‘news’ tab as well as the sections that would be cut down on the Website such as the Advice tab.

SG he explained the aim was to make it more accessible and user friendly as well as to make students more aware of what the SU are doing. He explained we want to remodel the sports and societies pages. The aim will be to keep the pages up to date and have contact information.

DP explained that the website was very outdated compared to other SU’s. He said we still do many things with paper such as minibus approval. The aim will be to streamline processes and make information more accessible. He explained it is going to be a platform to advertise our venues for hire as well as get feedback. The case is pending approval from the trustee board and if approved should be completed in time for May/June elections.

1. **Blue Unit and storage**

CR explained that the Blue Unit was shipping container we own outside DR that performing societies store equipment in. He explained that the SU are low on space. Therefore we are going to use the blue unit to store old files as well as a stage with the aim of saving money. He explained he will be emailing the performing societies asking them what size stage they will need.

CR explained that if there’s anything else in that needs to be kept that he must be emailed.

SKIP asked to be emailed about the blue unit.

1. **AOB**

**Widening Participation:**

Ahmed Elamass (ISOC) explained that there has been an increasing effort to include students more. He said he had been in discussions with students who want to be involved more eg parents who struggle to attend certain events. He wanted to make a suggestion to widen participation and to increase the number of events that we hold for a bigger variety of people.

MA said it was an interesting point as we don’t have the data to know what events people aren’t attending and for what reasons. He said it would be useful to gather that data. MA suggested there was more engagement with events that were non-drinking. In terms of duties that Exec do – in both drinking and non-drinking events they are obliged to do both.

DP I agree with MA and think that we need to be told more what people don’t feel comfortable. We understand that a lot of events aren’t advertised as non-drinking events but still take place in the bar.

AE asked to clarify that if someone was to go for a role in the future – hat would I tell them about having to do event duties at drinking events. I understand that everyone has to do their fair share of work.

AR The thing is it depends on the Exec tem that they would be incvolved in as the events change year on uear. AR explained that everyone has to do duties as the SU needs the help but it depends on the team. AR explained that if they had any further questions it would be good to contact Top3 or Top4.

DP explained that it depends on the team you are in and a lot of the allocations are ad-hoc and we need people to fill in

Jane Barnfield (pole fit) suggested could it be created as a Exec role to liase with people who want to be involved with Exec or attend events and act as a liason?

AR explained that the role of VP ed and welfare as well as E&D is to protect people who have issues and are a point of contact for these types of students. Setting up a new role is a fair amount of work and the role would not be full enough.

NL explained that E&D were the role that Jane was describing and that they should ensure that the entire student body was represented. NL explained that if people felt uncomfortable to do disco duties it could be considered.

MA said it might be good to hear from the underrepresented zones such as parents but it might be hard to get a hold of them.

AR suggested setting up a forum on the website.

ACTION POINT: Forum on the website for E&D to set up

Sahan explained he agreed and it was a similar situation with a number of clubs and societies and that it would be a good idea to talk to the Exec about this

DP explained that the SU was a democracy and it should be that way

Aimen Gmati explained that he represents Arab soc and that they have expressed that they want to get involved but are put off buy certain things that it would be good if they could get involved.

DP explained that INTO students were brought up at the beginning of the year and a lot of them are under 18 but we encouraged them to get involved

AG Yes that is a good example of people we should hold non-drinking events for.

AR encouraged Council to spread the word about giving feedback.