



**YORK ST JOHN
STUDENTS' UNION**

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE SPORTS & SOCIETIES COUNCIL
Thursday 18 February 2021 at 16:00 via Zoom**

Present: Callum Campbell (CC) (Chair of Sports & Societies Council) (Chair); Jamie Andrews (JA) (President of the Students' Union) (Deputy Chair); Umeyya Atlif (UA) (Accounting); Chris Smith (CS) (Badminton); Dan Burton (DB) (Basketball); William Roberts (WR) (Boat Club); Maxwell Walters (MW) (Business); Jasmine Guest (JG) (Dance); Megan Gilmore (MG) (Drama); Bailey Barber-Scargill (BBS) (Esports); Harry Atkinson (Geek); James Allanson (JA2) (Historical Re-enactment); Harriet Lodge (HL) (Japanese); Jake Dunn (JD) (Men's Football & Futsal); Tom Harrop (TH) (Men's Rugby Union); Daniel Parker (DP) (Muay Thai); Amy Ounsworth (AO) (MPS); Jane Nesworthy (JN) (Cheerleading); Alex Hunt (AH) (Psychology); Millie Carr (MC) (Singing); Jess Thomas (JT) (Spiritual Wellbeing); Lauren Wyke (LW) (Swimming)

In Attendance: Dan Grayson (GIA) (Governance & Information Assistant) (Clerk); Zaki Kaf Al-Ghazal (ARC) (Advice & Representation Coordinator); Paul Murtough (SOM) (Student Opportunities Manager)

1. Welcome and Introduction

CC welcomed everyone to the meeting.

To receive apologies for absence

Hannah Cook
Maxwell Walters
Rebecca Lindsay
Lydia Hazeldine

Absent

Isaac Butterworth (Rugby League)
Hannah Cook (Linguistics)
Isobel Holland (Ensemble)
Rebecca Lindsay (Hockey)
Ed Priors (EP2) (Running)
William Hart (WH) (Tennis)
Amy Thompson (AT) (Veggie)
Kitija-Baiba Antonova (BioScience)
Ash Brett (Archery)
Millie Frost (African Caribbean)
Alicia Hoyle (Women's Football & Futsal)
Connor Kearney (Cricket)
Megan Ipsen (BSL)
Olivia Morrow (LGBTQ+)
Katy Nicholson (Christian Union)
Emily Pennells (Netball)
Ben Rusby (American Football)
Robyn Slater (Geography)
Charlotte Smith (CATTS)

2. Minutes of 03 December 2020 and Matters Arising – S&S/2021/02/01

The minutes of the Council's meeting held on 03 December 2020 were **agreed to**.

Item 5: Students' Union to create a list of fundraising events in 2021

Work on this is ongoing. The Student Opportunities Team will report back to the Council and circulate a list when one is available.

ACTION: Students' Union to create a list of fundraising events in 2021

Item 5: Students' Union to develop fundraising tips and ideas toolkit

A toolkit is being developed. The Student Opportunities Team will report back to the Council and circulate a toolkit when one is available.

ACTION: Students' Union to develop fundraising tips and ideas toolkit

3. Governance Working Group Measure – S&S/2021/02/02

GIA presented paper S&S/2021/02/02 – Governance Working Group Measure. The Council was asked to discuss and approve the Measure.

GIA explained that the Measure would establish a Governance Working Group for this academic year which would assist the Students' Union in its club and society governance review work.

A vote was taken on the Measure.

IN FAVOUR
20

AGAINST
2

ABSTENTIONS
1

The Measure was **agreed to**.

The Measure had received prior approval from the Student Council and so was promulgated.

4. Club & Society Support Package Measure – S&S/2021/02/03

JT presented paper S&S/2021/02/03 – Club & Society Support Package Measure. The Council was asked to discuss and approve the Measure.

JT explained that as a brand-new society, no support has been offered to the society as to how the Students' Union operates, nor has any training been provided. The Measure would compel the Students' Union to create a support package.

JA commented that this is a fantastic idea, which would allow for a uniform approach. The Council noted that more support should be provided through all-club and all-society emails, rather than the Students' Union relying on posts on social media, as not all committees have access.

A vote was taken on the Measure.

IN FAVOUR
20

AGAINST
2

ABSTENTIONS
1

The Measure was **agreed to**.

The Measure stands committed to the Student Council for approval.

5. Submitted Items for Discussion

Engagement. Representatives raised concern about the difficulties of members to engage, particularly with clubs, whilst provisions are online-only. JA noted that this has been feedback received at Zones and through other channels. Singing reported that they hosted a Zoom cook-along, and Swimming hosted Zoom workouts, amongst others. There was desire for inter-group collaboration.

Physiotherapy reported difficulties with engagement particularly with first-year students. Ideas were asked for. SOM noted that activities in usual years cannot proceed this year, but that no pressure should be put on members or the committees to engage. The Council suggested ideas including finding ways

to stay connected meaningfully, taking time to talk to one another and hosting conversations. It was noted that regular events and routine promotes engagement. It was also suggested that this could present clubs and societies the opportunity to try new activities.

Activities Dashboard & SUMS. Representatives enquired after SUMS refresher training. SOM agreed that refresher training can be provided.

ACTION: Students' Union to offer SUMS refresher training

Club Assistance. JN noted that there has not been much structure for non-BUCS sport in terms of definitive guidance and arrangements. Assistance would have been appreciated about the operation of the club this year, particularly from Students' Union staff. SOM noted that major issues can be reported to the President of the Students' Union or SOM. JN noted that she has received more support from Student Opportunities as a Chair of School than as a club captain.

JA asked if other clubs and societies felt the same. SOM asked what Representative's expectations are. LW commented that whilst clubs and societies are aware of the correct channels, no responses are received from staff. JA reported confusion as to who can be approached for what purpose, as clubs have been dissuaded by staff from contacting JA. JA reported that all clubs and societies are welcome to speak to JA for support, which he can escalate, as necessary. CC also noted that Representatives can approach him, and he can raise issues with the Students' Union.

6. Students' Union Items for Discussion

Activities Zone Feedback. Feedback collected at the most recent Activities Zone is being compiled and will be circulated in due course.

Brit Challenge. The Vice Chancellor and the Chief Operating Officer approached JA to ask if the Students' Union would take part, alongside the University, in the Brit 2021 Challenge. There was good interest in this challenge from the Council.

Club & Society Awards. The Students' Union's plan for these awards is that they take place virtually at the start of May, in a manner like the planned Elections Results Night. There will be no corresponding physical event.

Elections. A timeline has been created for club and society committee elections. The intention is to run a campaign promoting engagement in elections and participation in AGMs. The Students' Union suggests the use of SUMS to conduct voting. The Council discussed the benefits of this platform and enquired if the platform would be compulsory. SOM confirmed that it would not be. DP asked about clubs and societies with low membership rates and what support the Students' Union will provide. SOM confirmed the Students' Union would offer as much assistance and support, as necessary.

Colours. The arrangements for club and society colours were discussed. IB asked if membership is necessary to receive colours, which SOM confirmed is the case. HA asked if last year's colours are available to collect. SOM reported that they have arrived but need to be checked over.

Any Other Business

The Sports & Societies Council was asked if there were any other items of business to discuss not already covered elsewhere on the agenda.

Meeting closed at 18:15

Date of next meeting: To be confirmed

Signed _____ (Chair) Date _____