**SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**DATE: Monday 1 October 18**

**PRESENT: Waterside (Engine Shed)**

**MINUTE TAKER:**

**APOLOGIES: 3 Received, others late**

**ATTENDANCE: Societies Chair**

**Societies Committee Representatives**

**1/18 Introduction**

* 1. **Apologies**

Apologies received and accepted from

**Dr Who**

**MBA**

**Midwifery**

* 1. **Accepting Agenda / declaring conflicts of interest**

None received.

* 1. **Previous minutes/matters arising**
  2. **Chair Introduction**
     1. **Questions time- none**
     2. **Ice Breaker Activity**
        1. **Name, role, intro to society, choose an animal or object that best describes you and why.**
     3. **Emails: Reminder to email Chair Ahmed for Apologies and/or other enquiries only, unless its an emergency then you can also email KK**
     4. **Ground Rules.**

Chair: Ahmed grew up all around the world. Currently doing his Phd

Person to email for apologies. Need to be sent at least 12 hours in advance. Emergencies will obviously be considered at any time.

**2/18 Reports and questions**

**2.1. Vice President of Union Development**

Report:

Ryan Bradshaw: VPUD. Hasn’t been heavily involved before in societies but said he was very open to help and wants societies to come to him with questions and ideas.

So far he is building partnerships with the council and working on a parade in which musical societies can get involved in.

**Action: none**

**2.2. PTO Societies**

Report:

Jessica Burnside:

Wants everyone to know what societies are, what they can do, ways they can network.

Wants to do a monthly social event. The first one is Monday 29th Oct.

Wants more clarity for societies on what they can and can’t do

Give them a safe space to be themselves

**Action: none**

**2.3. Student Councillors**

Report: Haven’t done this properly before but will start it as it means society student councilors are more accountable and the Societies Committee is more informed on what is happening at Student Council level. The Society Student Cuncillors will feedback on Student Council meetings and the last minutes of the meeting.

**Action: all (to feed back next month)**

**3/18 Avenue campus first love society vote whether to close the society**

SU Societies PTO:

First Love AC shouldn’t have gone through in the first place, additionally now with the closure of Avenue Campus as a proper campus, it makes sense to close the society as it has too similar aims to First Love NUC.

AC First Love

Olivia: president- understands avenue is closing but according to the SU the two societies are the same but in practice feels they aren’t actually. They have different people coming to it and target different people. The people coming prefer the smaller group than the big society.

Also stated that the society started at Avenue by someone using the same name to attract new people but actually wanted to do other things and target Arts students. The society is more Arts focused and has a different feel to it.

Blended learning is about having smaller groups so good to have smaller groups and feel the society benefits from this. They are also hoping to meet in town so that the two societies aren’t at Waterside.

Q: Goes against the SU aims. Should the su not have realized when it started.

A: mistake of previous Societies Committee who ratified them

Q: Why is it different?

A: At first thought of starting it as leadership International as it is different to First Love NUC but only used First Love as a name as that was more recognized to get more members. In practice focuses on Arts students.

Feel the two groups can’t really be merged and do not want this option.

If there are similarities, then it is to do with being a Christian society and all Christian societies have some similarities.

Counterarguement: However the Christian societies have different affiliations, and so you don’t have the same soceities eg you wouldn’t have two catholic societies.

Asked for First Love NUC to speak:

AC First Love used to be part of them and then established a new society to do different things. There are some similarities but do different things. It is unfair for people who are part of that society to close it. Do not have much of a relationship with Park in the things they do.

Vote

**8 yes close**

**13 No keep open**

**1 abstain**

Chair stated this would now go to Student Council. This was disliked by many as they wanted this to be the final vote.

A student councilor stated that this was normal procedure that anything as big as this would always go to Student Council. The Society Student Councilors will be their voice on the matter and say Societies Committee voted to keep them open.

**4/18 Ratification of society proposals**

**Pending them doing the following:**

Art

* Unconditional (nothing else to do)

Craft

* Conditional- based on getting committee to reply to email once data has been shared to new website
* Conditional- committee need to meet with Karolin

Fashion

* Conditional- committee need to meet with Karolin

Nursing

* Conditional- committee need to meet with Karolin

Tourism

* committee need to meet with Karolin
* Need 5th person to reply to email

**Yes 22**

**No 0**

**Abstain 0**

**5/18 Deratification of old socs: Ryan**

**Will split the vote in two:**

First Vote: Deratification of old societies where accounts are closing

**Yes deratify 23**

**No 1**

**Abstain 0**

Second vote for societies we are voting to deratify but still keep the accounts open for one year

**Yes close 16**

**No 5**

**Abstain 1**

**6/18 Update on policies and changes**

The policies and procedures will be up on the website. They have been updated and what’s been done in practice has been formalized. Karolin asked everyone to read them once they are up. The important ones will be sent per email.

**Action: KR (send email of policies)**

**7/18 ToR attendance information**

Updated the old policy, voting now to accept the new updated ToR

**Yes 25**

**No 0**

**Abstain 0**

Vote about whether or not to keep the clause of attendance penalties.

**Yes to 3 times missed be deratified 11**

**No 12**

**Abstain 0**

Discussed what the alternative should be.

Agreed after discussion to keep the old system but not to deratify groups for the 3rd step but instead send an email to members with the VNC process and make them aware of the situation

**Action: KR (update policy)**

**8/18 Name Changes**

**9.1** Inspirational youth- Youth Revival

All agreed to not vote as they aren’t present

**9/18 AOB**

**Action: KR (Get tea)**

Want more explanations on voting and asked for people to not use jargon

Want tea

**10/18 Date of Next Meeting: 5 November 18 at the Engine Shed**

If you have any questions please contact Ahmed, the societies chair: [uonsocs.chair@northampton.ac.uk](mailto:uonsocs.chair@northampton.ac.uk)

**All dates of committee meetings at the Engine Shed**

1st October, 5th November, 26th November, 7th January, 4th February, 4th March, 25th April