STUDENT COUNCIL



MEETING OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL Thursday 6th December 2018

PRESENT: Number: 18

As in Appendix A.

MINUTES: K Macintyre (KM)

APOLOGIES: As in Appendix A

Council commenced at 18h20.

As per Student Council Bye Law V8-11-18 at Point 4.73, Quorum for Student Council shall be either 50% plus one of all Councillors, or 20, whichever is higher. It was noted that this meeting was not quorate having only 18 members present and therefore any **votes taken during this meeting will be indicative only and will be voted on at the next Council meeting.**

1. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None declared.

2. Approval of the Minutes from the meeting held on 11th October 2018 Accepted as read.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0

Vote Result: Proposal carried forward unanimously.

3. Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the Agenda None raised.

4. Apologies Received

President (RGK), Disabled Students Officer (JM), LGBTQ Students Officer (JH), Societies Representative (TEA), Societies Representative (FDC)

5. Motions:

A. Discussion Points

None Submitted

B. Bye-Law Amendments

B(i) Membership Bye Law

Proposed by RB. Seconded by: GL

The original bye law amendment was proposed as the associate membership bye law is confusing and unclear. VP-Union Development apologised for submitting his proposal incorrectly and wishes to put forward two procedural motions to change the proposal as follows:

1. Procedural Motion (6) Associate Membership

Submitted to amend the bye law amendment proposal at point 1.2.2.4 to include "If the Council believe there are too many applications to approve, then a procedural motion may be put forward to refer to Student Executive".

Questions:

No questions were asked.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0

Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.

A further Procedural Motion was put forward by VP Union Development to further amend by law amendment proposal.

2. Procedural Motion (6) Associate Membership

Submitted to amend the bye law amendment proposal at point 1.2.2.6 to change 'Students' Union' to 'Student Council' so the point should now read:

"The Student Council has the right to revoke an Associate Membership at any point necessary".

Questions:

No questions were asked.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0

Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.

The Chair moved to vote on the Bye Law Amendment proposal, taking into consideration the two procedural motions to further amend the proposal.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0

Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.

B(ii) Committees Bye Law

Proposed by RB. Seconded by: GL

This bye-law amendment proposal calls for the Societies Development Committee to be removed as the Committee has never met and the Societies Committee itself carries out all the duties necessary.

Questions:

Chair Education Committee asked what the Societies Development Committee does. VP Union Development replied that it was mainly for ratification of clubs but this can be done through Societies Committee.

No further questions were asked.

The Chair moved to vote on the Committees Bye Law Amendment proposal

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0

Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.

C. Policy Proposals

None submitted.

D. Officer Mandates

The Chair reminded Councillors that as the meeting was not quorate, any votes taken would be indicative only, and would have to be moved to the next Council.

VP Education – Separate Internet Networks – Faculty Advocate

Mandate to investigate separate internet networks for Halls of Residence and the rest of Campus.

Faculty Advocate explained that some research had been carried out by some advocates that led them to believe that students in Halls using the internet for social and video streaming was affecting the internet hub overall leading to the internet cutting out. They hypothesised that separating the networks might help.

It was noted that this issue had been brought up at Student Experience Committee. Research had shown hotspots on the network where Halls were indicating red, further adding weight to the argument for separating the networks.

Further discussion took place regarding logins and the potential for students to switch to whichever network would suit their needs, whether in Halls or not, including being able to login on when not actually on campus but in residences adjacent to campus as well.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the mandate.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

A series of Procedural Motions were submitted as follows:

Procedural Motions (12) - Officer Mandates

VP – Union Development – Campaigns – AU Chair
 AU requested VP Education to provide elected officers with a list of campaigns.
 AL (Sports Officer) replied that a meeting was planned for January with MIND, still waiting for a reply but hoping to plan 4 or 5 campaigns in the New Year.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

4. VP – Union Development – Sports Pitches –AU Chair AU requested VP Education to provide dates and times when the keys for the sports pitches are available for collection.

VP Union Development explained again that the issue of keys not being available is not of the Students' Union's making. The University are still in possession of the keys despite numerous attempts by Students' Union staff to obtain the keys. However, in anticipation of the keys being handed over, there is a plan to manage the bookings in the Engine Shed.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

5. VP Union Development and Sports Officer – Water Fountain in Sports Facilities –AU Chair Mandate to implement a water fountain in sports pavilion or sports dome.
VP Union Development agreed 100% that this is necessary and mentioned they would be meeting with Jane Bunce and could discuss this then.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

6. **VP Union Development** – Social Media for Sports Teams –AU Chair Mandate to increase social media exposure for all sports teams. VP Union Development commented that they are working on being able to have a member of staff to work full time on sports Wednesdays to facilitate increased exposure and is currently negotiating with the CEO to get this approved. In the meantime, VP Union Development will support this themselves until such staff is in place.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

7. Sports Officer – Titans Partnership - AU Chair

Mandate to communicate with Titans to chase up creating a partnership.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

8. VP – Union Development – Minibus Form - - AU Chair Mandate to have the minibus form updated.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

9. President – Cheerleading - - AU Chair
Mandate to reply to Cheerleading and chase up the location of their mats.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

10. VP – Union Development – Pay and Display Parking - - AU Chair Mandate to find out more about pay and display and when it will be implemented. AS VP Union Development is meeting with Jane Bunce they will attempt to obtain a reply then.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

11. VP Union Development and Sports Officer – Website and Memberships –AU Chair

Mandate to find out more about the website and more details about membership. VP Union Development and Sports Officer agreed. Progress on the website is slow and staff currently working on data input. They are also waiting for a development plan and waiting to hear about a possible launch in term 2.

AU Chair expressed their frustration. They are aware many people signed up during Union Day but there is no clarity as to who these people are. Sports Officer concurred saying they are aware of the issues.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 18 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

Updates and Votes Required from last Council (15th November)

1. President Mandate - Security

VP Education answered in President's absence as follows:

a. President to investigate security at the university

There are a number of policies that the university has that relates to security

These can be found at https://www.northampton.ac.uk/more/governance-and-management/university-policies-procedures-and-regulations/

Councillors were asked to consider specifically what policies that they would like the President to focus on and the outcome they would like to see. The President has been involved in a significant number of these policies over the last year, and the Students' Union is consulted on most of these policy changes.

The President will report at the January council to complete this mandate.

b. President to explore the idea of holding security open forums

A forum has been arranged to take place on December 13th.

c. President to explore if security can be stationed at ground floor security barriers

This has been raised at the Waterside Operations meeting, the university are considering the viability of doing this.

d. President to investigate ensuring Halls and houses are locked automatically

This has been raised and contractors are coming out this week to look at resolving the issue. This should be completed by the start of next term.

e. President to explore whether Police can walk around campus in their uniforms

The President has had a conversation with Lorna Clarke (Head of campus police) and they discussed how the campus have been trying different shifts, varying their attire. They are now in the process of reviewing what has been most effective.

The Chair moved to vote for this item to remain as ongoing until the next Council meeting.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 1 In Absentia: 0

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

2. VP Union Development – Art Shop

Mandate to explore how the Art Shop could be moved to Waterside.

VP Union Development has been in communication with the University. It has been suggested that a viable option may be to have a pop-up stall in the Creative Hub two days a week whilst the other 3 days of the week would be serviced by the Avenue shop. The Faculties and Deans are keen to have the service at Waterside and it is acknowledged that whilst there are many coffee shops on campus, there is no Art Shop provision.

Entertainments Officer left the meeting at this point having obtained prior permission from the Chair.

VP Union Development went on to say this would be a short-term solution whilst long terms plans are considered with the possibility of having something at the Platform.

The Chair moved to vote for this item to remain as ongoing until the next Council meeting.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

3. VP Welfare - Sanitary Bins

Mandate to consider how the university can provide sanitary bins in all female toilets across campus.

VP Welfare provided an update as follows:

Units are provided in all "everyone" and accessible toilets, with 50% coverage in ladies' toilets (designated by a sticker outside the cubicle).

Within the Senate Building coverage has been increased to all ladies' toilets following a survey completed with our provider at the end of October.

Education and Humanities representative disagreed that the Senate had been fully provided with sanitary bins. VP Welfare agreed to revert to the university.

The Chair moved to vote for this item to remain as ongoing until the next Council meeting.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

4. VP Welfare - Water Fountains

- a. VP Welfare to explore if the university can provide better signage for water fountains
- b. VP Welfare to explore if the water fountains can be monitored and filled more regularly

VP Welfare provided this response from the university:

- We are currently in the process of installing mains fed water fountains and dispensers in various locations throughout Waterside.
- Chilled water fountains are going in the Senate, Creative Hub and Sports Pavilion.
- Dispensers for chilled and ambient temperature water are going into the Learning Hub and Visitor Centre.
- Finally, on the first floor of the Learning Hub, near the Ground café, and on the ground floor of Senate, there will be dispensers for hot and cold water.
- These should all be ready for use in the next week or two subjects to final commissioning.
- c. VP Welfare to consider policy from CH & Co (catering company) to see why students should pay for tap water.

The Chair moved to vote for this item to remain as ongoing until the next Council meeting.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

5. VP Union Development – Uno Buses

Mandate to increase the frequency of the number 20 bus and to have double decker buses on the route to increase capacity.

Following update from last Council and meeting with Uno, VP Union Development provided further update as follows:

- Uno consider a double decker on the No 20 route is essential and are reworking their bus budget to reflect the costs of doing this but having an
 extra double decker on this service would more likely to charge £1 each
 way to cover the costs. This would provide a 20-minute service
 approximately rather than half hourly.
- The No. 19 service will be diverted past Avenue from January 2019, providing a further half hourly service. The charge for that can be 50p, but it is anticipated that many students will wait for the free bus but the service will be there if students want to pay 50p each way from January. This would provide 4 buses an hour instead of two at present if the timetable is orchestrated properly.

Mature Students Officer questioned whether there would be any assurances as to the spacing out of the buses rather than being just 5 minutes or 45 minutes apart or arriving one straight after another. It was acknowledged that ideally, they should be 15 minutes apart and not all on the hour to facilitate students moving for lectures between campuses.

The Chair moved to vote for this item to remain as ongoing until the next Council meeting.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.

6. Trustee's Report

As submitted by President.

The Chair moved that they were happy for this report to be discussed but felt that the report should be submitted in full as it was too brief. For example, it should include what the actions are that are mentioned.

Questions:

No questions were asked.

The Chair moved that the report be resubmitted for next Council.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0 In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Report carried forward to next Council meeting.

7. Finance Report

As submitted by President.

Verbal commentary given by the VP Union Development in President's absence as follows:

Board of Trustees Finance Committee met. The Charity is slightly under budget at present but it is important to note that the budgets were set before coming to Waterside and it was difficult to predict how business would be conducted once here. However, there is work going on to re-forecast these. The Finance Committee has reported that the financial position us currently stable and will be monitoring any changes going forward.

Mature Students Officer questioned a £1000 loss, consistently over last three months and stated they did not believe the organisation is as stable as they are being led to believe. VP Union Development explained that some of the loss has been mitigated by savings made from staff who had left and not been replaced. Mature Students Officer argued that if that was the case, the loss would be even greater and would not make any different in the profit forecast.

VP Union Development again stated that the budgets are being re-examined. Mature Students Officer called for an emergency meeting to resolve the issue as soon as possible.

At this point the Chair intervened, acknowledging that this was definitely something that need to be looked at but reminded Councillors that it would need to be voted on and cannot be done as this meeting was not quorate and could be discussed at next Council.

The Chair moved that the report be resubmitted for next Council.

Votes For: 15 Votes Against: 1 Abstentions: 1 In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Report carried forward to next Council meeting.

8. Green Impact Report

As submitted by VP Union Development

VP Union Development apologised for a report not being submitted before but explained there had been debate as to which Sabbatical Officer this item should become the responsibility of. It was explained that the Green Impact Committee is made up of a combination of both staff and officers and that a meeting has been arranged in the first week of January to see what is required to achieve Green Impact again. VP Union Development stressed that they were keen for this not be a tick box exercise but to make long lasting changes that can be taken forward and left in a good state for the next set of officers.

Mature Students' Officer questioned what the plan was in terms of submission as they felt this report was a pre-plan submission which, in terms of achieving Council deadlines was cutting it fine. They felt that Officers had been in post for six months already and achieved nothing so far.

VP Union Development replied saying that it had been decided that a Committee was the best way to do this and although it had taken some time to get it together, this had now been done.

The Chair asked Council to note the bye-law states Council need 3 reports to be submitted as a minimum, and there are 4 Council meetings left. Specifically need: 'once to submit the plan, once to submit an interim report and once to submit the final report'. VP Education commented that it had only just been decided which Sabbatical Officer would take on the leadership role for this, and although it is a priority, has been out of the hands of the VP Union Development until very recently.

Mature Students' Officer asked what the plan was to submit all three reports in the time stated by Council, in his belief that there were not enough Council meetings remaining in the year to achieve the requirement. The Chair confirmed that there are at least three meetings left. VP Education said the first meeting would be to submit the plan, the second meeting would be to conduct the work and prepare the submission and the third meeting would be to announce the results.

The Chair moved that the report be resubmitted for next Council.

Votes For: 15 Votes Against: 1 Abstentions: 1 In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Report carried forward to next Council meeting.

9. Officer Reports

The Chair noted that once again, a number of Officer reports had not been submitted in advance or on time for this meeting. On this occasion, the Societies Officer, Disabled Students Officer, LGBTQ Officer had not submitted reports on two occasions and are therefore being censured by means of an official warning. The Chair counselled members that it was the duty of Student Council to commend, censure or hold vote of no-confidence to remove officers.

The Chair noted that the International Office had not been present for two or more meetings and reminded Councillors they are well within their rights to remove that individual from post should they so wish.

At this point, the Sports Officer mentioned that the sports officer email account is not working very well and stated he had not been getting any emails from staff and this was a reason for his report not being submitted.

The Chair moved to hold an indicative vote of no-confidence to remove the International Students Officer from their post for non-attending of two or more meetings and for not having submitted two or more reports.

Votes For: 15 Votes Against: 1 Abstentions: 0 In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.

9(a) **President's Report**

As per report submitted but verbal update delivered by VP Education as below:

Key Items:

Spent time working on the BME proposal for Trustees, organising the security forum, security mandate, engaging with the local community, working on Platform marketing, the student BEATS project, NSS presentations, Town Council scrutiny panel, auditors, Trustee accounts.

Questions:

There were no questions.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0 In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Vote on Report carried forward to next Council meeting.

9(b) **VP Union Development**

As per report submitted.

Key Items:

Working on Refresher events for both the Charity and Platform. Charity events to take the form of non-drinking events e.g. Come Dine with Us, Film night, UV Zumba and so on.

Working on getting better price and value for wristbands.

Lee Craven – community events on campus to develop street party sensation. Sports partnerships – working on the Towcester venture for Varsity, and Freshfest as well as a Leisure partnership in town.

Getting together a team for campaigns for Exec for 2019.

Also working on the possibility of using a digital campaign for Union Day as an alternative to having a physical presence. In terms of Refreshers, perhaps this could be trialled with a digital campaign launch for signups to be done through the website through social media campaigns rather than a traditional Union Day.

Mature Students Officer requested the earliest draft of the Refreshers calendar for the MSA for stuff on this campaign.

Chair Ed Comm thanked VP Union Development for his efforts on the wristbands.

Questions:

There were no questions.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0 In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Vote on Report carried forward to next Council meeting.

9(c) VP Education

As per report submitted.

Key Items:

Advocates training – most advocates have now been trained although there are some still being nominated. There was a request from Societies Officer regarding academic societies but they did not attend the last Education Committee meeting. VP Education has met with the President and Post Graduate representatives and the Head of Post Graduate Research to try and assist them with the electoral processes.

Attended Governors meeting. Working with the \head of QAA to try and get more students in to be able to hold the university to account for their quality of teaching.

Organising a Christmas Crafternoon for Students who have children.

Ed Comm representative asked about reporting for advocates – in particular, the issue where people are afraid to report anything for fear of being targeted. VP Education stated that if issues remain anonymous, there are issues of how to get hold of students to properly represent them. VE Education is able to raise issues but when issues become really serious and need to be dealt with officially, it is difficult when there are no names to work with and keep updated.

Questions:

There were no questions.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0 In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Vote on Report carried forward to next Council meeting.

9(d) VP Welfare

Report submitted late but gave a vernal update.

Key Items:

Since last Council, has continued working on the Mental Health and Welfare agenda with Well Being Wednesdays and the Conversation Café continuing.

A meeting has taken place with the mental health working group with the university and the NHS.

Now focussing on mental health training in sports, LGBTQ and others as well as the SU Cook project with Changemaker.

Have been assisting with Visa issues for international students.

Work continues with the overall welfare agenda with the President to come up with an annual welfare events calendar which will be promoted not only to students but also to staff with event being advertised on the digital media screens.

8(e) Sports Officer

Report not submitted due to email issues.

Verbal update supplied.

Key Items:

Has met with Towcester today.

Have lost the partnership with the Saints although the university has taken what they wanted.

Questions:

AU representative asked if there was any possibility of being able to arrange some sort of transport to assist players moving between Waterside and Benham. Sports Officer agreed to investigate.

There were no further questions.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: 0 In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Vote on Report carried forward to next Council meeting.

- 8(f) Societies Officer Jessica Burnside None Submitted.
- 8(g) Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Students' Officer vacant role
- 8(i) **Disabled Students' Officer –** James Morrell None Submitted
- 8(j) Entertainments Officer Chris Watkins

Report received late.

Has been working on an SU app and had multiple meetings but now realise it is not achievable so trying to find other ways

Have been working on International Student engagement to encourage more participation. Have been working with VP Union Development on refreshers programme trying to arrange events at both engine Shed Avenue.

Mature Students Officer stated he hadn't seen the Entertainments Office engaging with anyone. VP Union Development clarified that Entertainments Officer was working on getting International Students to engage more with the Students' Union. Mature Students Officer went on to say he had not seen the Entertainments Officer go out to engage with any students.

Votes For: 16 Votes Against: 1 Abstentions: 0 In Absentia: 1

At this point, the Chair submitted a procedural motion.

12. Student Council - Meeting Adjournment - Chair Student Council

In accordance with Student Council Bye-Law v8.11.18 at point 4.61.13, the Chair moved to adjourn the adjourn the meeting.

At this point the Chair asked if there was anything urgent that needed to be discussed.

Mature Students Officer asked for an update or knowledge of the January Elections.

The Sports Officer asked when the voting pads would be returned. It was noted these have not yet been located since the move but given that the Morley Room has an in-built system, these may no longer be required.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the procedural motion.

Votes For: 17 Votes Against: 0 Abstentions: In Absentia: 1

Vote Result: Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 19h45.

Members in attendance overleaf:

APPENDIX A

MEMBERS ATTENDANCE:

Committee	Name	Initials	Role	Attendance
Executive	Raf Garcia-Krailing	RGK	President	Apologies
Executive	Ryan Bradshaw	RB	VP Union Development.	Present
Executive	Gemma Lovegrove	GL	VP Education	Present
Executive	Shangyin Ji	SJ	VP Welfare	Present
Executive	Jessica Burnside	JB	Societies Officer	
Executive	Chris Watkins	CW	Entertainments Officer	Present
Executive	Alex Lopez	AL	Sports Officer	Present
Executive	James Morrell	JM	Disabled Students' Officer	Apologies
Executive	Jonathan Vobe	JV	Mature Students' Officer	Present
Executive	Imane Tiahi	IT	Internat. Students' Officer	
Executive	Vacant		Changemaker Officer	
Executive	Jack Hill	JH	LGBTQ Students' Officer	Apologies
Education	Komal Salah Ud Din	KS	Business and Law	Present
Education	Sadie Wood	SW	Health and Society	Present
Education	Rhianna Hodgkins	RH	Education and Hum.	
Education	Sam Dorywala	SD	Education and Hum.	
Education	Louise Dowson	LD	Education and Hum.	Present
Education	Amber Rawlins	AR	FAST	
Education	Sam Arnold	SA	FAST	Present
Education	Ben Gibson	BG	FAST	
Non Portf.	Zoe Pape (Chair)	ZP	Non Portfolio Rep	
Non Portf.	Ade Adebowale	AA	Non Portfolio Rep	
Societies	Ahmed O. Basil	AOB	Societies Rep	Present
Societies	Taryn Astle	TEA	Societies Rep	Apologies
Societies	Deniz Jordan Bal	DJB	Societies Rep	
Societies	Fergal D Clancy	FDC	Societies Rep	Apologies
Societies	Karolina Baran	KB	Societies Rep	Present
AU	Sebastien Antaki	SA	AU Rep	
AU	Katy Baker	KB	AU Rep	Present
AU	Tom Weaver	TW	AU Rep	
AU	Kate Parsons	KP	AU Rep	Present
AU	Natasha Weasley (Dep Chair)	NW	AU Rep	Present
AU	Scott Hinsley	SH	AU Rep	
AU	Kieran Malkin	KM	AU Rep	
Volunteering	Sarah Crooks	SC	Vol. and Soc Ent. Rep	Present
Volunteering	Hannah Joes	HJ	Vol. and Soc Ent. Rep	
Volunteering	Samantha Hernandez	SH	Vol. and Soc Ent. Rep	Present