

## MEETING OF THE STUDENT COUNCIL Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**PRESENT:**     **Number: 19**  
                  As in Appendix A.

**MINUTES:**    K Macintyre (KM)

**APOLOGIES:**  As in Appendix A

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Council commenced at 18h10.

As the Chair has sent their apologies, it was necessary to obtain approval from Council from the Deputy Chair to sit as Chair and also vote to approve another Council as temporary Deputy Chair.

The Deputy Chair moved to vote on Deputy Chair standing as Chair for this meeting.

Votes For: 19            Votes Against: 0           Abstentions: 0

**Vote Result: Proposal carried forward unanimously.**

The Chair offered the Councillors the opportunity to volunteer as Deputy Chair. The Chair - Education Committee was nominated and the Chair move to vote.

Votes For: 19            Votes Against: 0           Abstentions: 0

**Vote Result: Proposal carried forward unanimously.**

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 19 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 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018**  
Accepted as read.

Votes For: 19            Votes Against: 0           Abstentions: 0

**Vote Result: Proposal carried forward unanimously.**

**3.     Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the Agenda**  
The next Council will begin with the Annual General Meeting which should provide an overview of the year's business and include Trustees Report, Financial Reports and Affiliations.

**4. Apologies Received**

Non-Portfolio Rep (Chair(ZP); Ed Comm – Health and Society Rep (SW), Ed Comm – FAST (AR), Volunteering – Vol and Soc Ent. Rep (SC).

**5. Motions:**

**A. Discussion Points**

**1. Price rises on textiles, fabrics and equipment**

Proposed by: Ed Comm FAST Rep (AR)

Seconded: Ed Comm FAST Rep (SA)

There are multiple concerns in that the shop has still not been re-located to Waterside and now prices have been increased because students are not using the shop at Avenue very much. Students are aware suppliers have not put their prices up. Students are being forced to go direct to the suppliers to get more favourable pricing. They are questioning if the pricing would not be resolved by the shop coming to Waterside. Students want an update from VP-Union Development as to why this has not happened.

VP-Union Development replied saying investigations had taken place with the Arts Faculty and the Students' Union management with particular reference to the location of arts courses next year. The Students' Union looked at the feasibility of moving the Art Shop part-time to Waterside but the logistics and resourcing would prove too much. The University will have a plan by April and the Students' Union and VP-Union Development has been advised by them, that a plan, wish list or campaign needs to be formulated and communicated by then.

Even though the President made an argument for bigger suppliers being able to provide better pricing due to being able to buy in bulk and therefore being able to pass savings onto customers, VP-Union Development was still required to look further into the pricing issues

No further discussion.

Questions:

No questions were asked.

The Chair moved to vote on the discussion point resolving that "Price increases should be revised and returned to reasonable pricing and students be made aware of the reasoning behind the price rises".

Votes For: Votes For: 19

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

**Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.**

2. After-hours parking for disabled visitors

Proposed by: Ed Comm B&L Rep (KS)

Seconded: Ed Comm FAST Rep (SA)

During the recent holidays it became apparent that disabled visitors were not permitted to park on campus even when the car parks were empty and the disabled bays were vacant, forcing disabled visitors to park in the vicinity of the campus and make their way on foot or the best way they could, onto campus.

The President expressed his concern but tried to explain that the issue is caused by the University having to pay a tax for vehicles parked on campus. The President recommended holding a campaign to try and get this changed so that visitors can access the car parks more easily.

VP-Education also highlighted the varying bits of information being fed from the university. Initially there was security placed at the barriers who said the blue badge holders in possession of a blue badge had more right to park. Then it the requirement was changed to having to have a document from assist and now it appears the requirement has changed again.

The MSA Officer asked if it was common knowledge how much tax the university was having to pay for this parking. The President explained that when the campus was in the planning stage, all these sorts of things would have had to have been considered, in consultation with the wider community. The MSA Officer suggested there might be something in the university's accounts that would give the information he was asking for.

Questions:

There were no further questions.

The Chair moved to vote on the discussion point resolving that "It is requested to provide disabled parking to visitors during term time as well as during holiday periods".

Votes For: Votes For: 19

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

**Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.**

3. Students locked out of accommodation

Proposed by: Ed Comm B&LRep (KS)  
Rep (AR)

Seconded: Ed Comm FAST

The issue was raised where students are being locked out of their accommodation for whatever reason and then being sent to the Visitor Centre, who send them to the Senate Reception who then tell students to wait outside their accommodation. Upon doing so, students are being left out in the cold for long periods of time. Students want to either be allowed to wait for security at the student village reception or if directed to wait outside, that security do not delay in letting the back into their accommodation.

Questions:

There were no questions.

The Chair moved to vote on the discussion point resolving that “It is requested to investigate careless behaviour of security so that students living in Halls can live with ease”.

Votes For: 19      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 0

**Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.**

4. Bus Routes

Proposed by: Ed Comm H&S (AS)

Seconded: Ed Comm FAST Rep (SA)

It was explained that conversations had already been held with the VP-Union Development and that Councillors were being asked to request that an additional stop between Avenue and Abington Square is added on the no. 20 service, including weekends so that students do not feel it necessary to walk across the Racecourse after dark. Additionally, if there was a service similar to the 19A that was running from Park, that would be agreeable.

There are also frequent issues with the regularity of buses, where 2 are due at a particular time and none turn up, including on the weekends where the first bus of the day on a Saturday for example, has turned up half an hour late.

No further discussion.

Questions:

There were no questions.

The Chair moved to vote on the discussion point resolving that “There should be an investigation on the current bus routes and time and active seeking to amend them more appropriately”.

1. Procedural Motion (12) Buses

Submitted to amend the discussion point to make it more specific, to resolve “No. 20 service to run on the weekend and additional stops between Avenue and Abington Square and for the 19A service, to be free between Avenue and Waterside and pay for stops at Kingsthorpe and to investigate bus irregularities.

Questions:

No questions were asked.

Votes For: 19

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

**Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.**

## 5. NUS Referendum

Proposed by: Mature Students' Officer (JV)      Seconded: VP-Education (GL)

This year is NUS Referendum year. Mature Students' Officer is of the opinion not many students are aware of this or the benefits of it and is suggesting three campaigns to communicate what the NUS (National Union of Students) is, what the NUS does and what the NUS does in relation to the Students' Union.

The Mature Students' Officer said he had been in touch with the NUS who indicated they would speak to the Head of Charitable Services at the Students Union. The Mature Students Officer pointed out that there is a requirement for 2.5% of the student population to vote in order for the vote to be deemed quorate and that did not happen with the recent bye-election.

The VP-Education mentioned that the sabbatical officers had already discussed the topic and agreed that some form of campaigning was required and that Councillors and Sabbatical Officers need to be pro-active with this particular issue.

The Mature Students' Officer also mentioned that a date for the Referendum should be set at this Council meeting or the next Council meeting at the very latest.

The President pointed out that as this meeting was not quorate, there could not be a valid vote taken to move on this point. He suggested setting a date at this meeting for ratification at the next Council meeting.

The question was asked as to why three campaigns were needed rather than one that covered all the points above. The Mature Students' Officer pointed out that the last campaign was always biased but that the first two could be combined but his main focus is at getting full engagement of students in a way that builds up to the vote.

Clarification was asked in terms of the possibility of 3 campaigns over 3 days and the question raised about the level of time commitment of the sabbatical officers to what the Mature Students' Officer was demanding. The Mature Students Officer said the time commitment would be worth it but that he was advocating for a 5 or 6-week period of campaigning prior to the vote taking place, rather than 3 days.

It was pointed out that many third-year students were working their dissertations and would not engage with the process any way. It was clarified that the campaign would not be aimed at 3<sup>rd</sup> year students but everyone. It was also noted that the NSS is also taking place and students would begin to disengage if there was too much pressure being put on them.

It was suggested that should Councillors think the Students' Union should stay with the NUS, then the campaign/s should be done at the same time as the main elections in March when there are other campaign activity taking place, the website is up and running and there is appropriate staff resourcing to assist.

The Chair suggested this discussion be halted at this point.

The Chair then moved to vote that the argument be moved to the next meeting as there was no quoracy here.

Votes For: 15      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 4

**Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.**

6. Elections and Candidate Information

Proposed by: Mature Students' Officer (JV)      Seconded: Ed Comm B&L Rep (KS)

It was explained that background information on nominees in the election process should be collected and disseminated to provide a fairer playing field for all candidates. This relates specifically to previous roles nominees may have had and what their goals are.

It was suggested that this be done only when officers are asked to face a vote of no confidence.

It was further suggested that should voter want to vote for a particular person, it is up to the voter to go and find the information or ask the nominee in order to make an informed decision rather than staff being asked to collect and publish such information.

It was generally felt that there is no need to publicly humiliate nominees and that having a bad reputation should naturally preclude them from getting a higher vote percentage. If such information was required, it would be up to the nominee as to whether they wished to publish it on their biography or not.

It was suggested that nominees be given a score, like a credit rating. Having a good rating would not necessarily reflect whether you are a good person or not, but could reflect how good you are at doing a particular job.

It was further suggested that anyone who has a vote of no confidence raised against them be prevented from standing again.

The Chair brought the discussion to a close and made the suggestion that the discussion had provided good food for thought to the Sabbatical Officers to take away and think about for the next meeting.

There was no vote taken.

7. Domestic Flights

Proposed by: Mature Students' Officer (JV)      Seconded: VP-Union Development (RB)

The Mature Students' Officer opened the discussion on this topic by asking for a clear statement that the Students' Union will not use domestic flights. There was some discussion on flights in and out of Northern Ireland and that there is very little other option to getting there.

It was pointed out that on some routes flights are significantly cheaper than using trains or vehicles and it was suggested that financial viability should be taken into consideration.

It was also asked whether the discussion point was requesting a statement to be made or whether there should be some sort of policy put in place, which already exists with the Green Impact Programme.

Questions:

There were no questions.

The Chair moved to vote on the discussion point resolving that “with regard to international travel, planes are an essential tool with alternative to use”.

Votes For: 8

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 11

**Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.**

## **B. Bye-Law Amendments**

### **B(i) Membership Bye Law**

Proposed by RB. Seconded by: GL

It was noted that the Associate Membership bye-law amendment submitted to the previous Council meeting was withdrawn and is hereby re-submitted.

The original bye law amendment was proposed as the associate membership bye law is confusing and unclear. However, upon reflection, there are more amendments and a further three procedural motions are submitted to make these amendments to the submitted proposal.

## **2. Procedural Motion (6) Associate Membership**

Submitted to amend the bye law amendment proposal at point 1.2.2.6 to change the word ‘must’ to ‘may’; to add a new point at 1.2.2.7 – ‘The Right to Appeal’ and at 1.2.2.8 – ‘To have an Appeal Board that consists of a Sabbatical Officer, a Part Time Officer, two staff members and a minute-taker and the Sabbatical Officer acting as the Chair.

Questions:

A question was raised as to how the associate membership term would run, either accordance with the academic year or from January to December. It was noted that the intention is for the membership to run for an academic year.

No further questions were asked.

The Chair suggested that a vote be taken on the proposed amendment and procedural motions as a whole and as this was only an indicative vote, Councillors indicated their approval.

3. Procedural Motion (6) Associate Membership  
Submitted to amend the bye law amendment proposal to include new point 1.2.2.9 that associate membership rates may be set at different levels.

The Mature Students' Officer explained that difference charges would be levied against different groups such as university staff, alumni, senior citizens, families, spouses etc.

Questions:

No questions were asked.

4. Procedural Motion (6) Associate Membership  
Submitted to amend the bye law amendment proposal to include new point 1.2.2.9.1 to add level of membership for Alumni and 1.2.2.9.2 to add new point for level of associate membership for families/spouses/civil partners etc.

Questions:

No questions were asked.

The Chair moved to vote indicatively on the Bye Law Amendment proposal, taking into consideration the three procedural motions to further amend the proposal and asking the VP-Union Development to return the complete bye-law amendment proposal to the next meeting.

Votes For: 14

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 5

**Vote Result: Vote carried forward to next Council meeting.**

#### **B(ii) Committees Bye Law**

Removal of Societies Development Committee

Proposed by RB. Seconded by: GL

This bye-law amendment was submitted at the last meeting that was not quorate and therefore brought back to this meeting for approval. This meeting is again not quorate and therefore no vote was taken.

#### **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.



Mandates from the previous meetings will be re-visited at the next quorate meeting and put to the vote then.

1. **VP – Union Development** – A House without Rules is Chaos – The Last Straw  
Proposed by: Mature Students' Officer (JV)      Seconded: Ed Comm B&L Rep (KS)

This mandate is regarding the Straws Policy that was put in place in 2018 with operating guidelines published on the NUS website. It has been noted that the policy is not being upheld by staff, in particular those at Avenue Students' Union with plastic straws being openly made available for use by placing them on the bar counter.

The Mature Students' Officer demanded that a meeting is held to hold staff to account for not complying with the policy and that Council policy in this regard is clearly explained to them.

The VP-Union Development agreed he has seen this himself and said that compliance with the policy is up to the staff and that he would go and speak to the staff and get the issue sorted out.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the mandate.

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

**Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.**

2. **VP – Welfare** – Moulton College Info Report  
Proposed by: Mature Students' Officer (JV)      Seconded: Ed Comm B&L Rep (KS)

This mandate maintains that the Council has not addressed the Moulton College 'situation' all year and the Mature Students' Officer requested an update on the relationship with Moulton College. The President thought that having only one course running at the moment, a break in the relationship be the best thing to do as they are not being effectively supported by the Students' Union. However, VP-Welfare countered that there were 9 courses running.

The Mature Students' Officer explained that this was a mandate for the VP-Welfare to go and visit Moulton College to investigate what systems are in place for supporting them and to find out why the relationship has failed in order to ascertain what went wrong and if the relationship is not to continue, how best to separate. It was not clear what roles they have, either Education Officer or Activities officer etc as these are not available on the website.

The question was asked why this mandate was only for the VP-Welfare and not all the officers. The Mature Students' Officer explained that no-one is spending any time there at all and that he didn't mind if other officers went to Moulton with the VP-Welfare

Other Councillors agreed that it was about providing support to the students there.

The Chair moved to vote to accept the mandate.

Votes For: 17      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 2      In Absentia: 0

**Vote Result: Mandate carried forward to next Council meeting.**

The Chair reminded Councillors that mandates from the previous meetings would require a vote and these would be taken at the next quorate meeting.

### **Updates and Votes Required from last Council (15<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup>.

- 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 re-working 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.**

### **Updates and Votes Required from last Council (6<sup>th</sup> December)**

#### **Procedural Motions (12) – Officer Mandates**

5. 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.**

6. 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.**

7. 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.**

8. **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.**

9. **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.**

10. **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.**

11. **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.**

12. 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.**

13. 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.**

## 6. **Trustee's Report**

As submitted by President.

The President apologised that a short summary had been submitted previously for the Trustee report but explained that the Trustees had not yet met when Council convened and therefore there were no minutes that could have been submitted at the time. The President also explained that the Heritage Committee has also not met for some time but he was sure that a meeting had been set to happen in the next few weeks. A report would be forthcoming after that.

Questions:

No questions were asked.

The Chair moved that the report be re-submitted for next Council.

Votes For: 19                  Votes Against: 0                  Abstentions: 0                  In Absentia: 0

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

## 7. **Finance Report**

As submitted by President.

The President asked Councillor if the report was taken as read, as he assumed it had been read by everyone and was willing to field any questions. He offered to make himself available outside the meeting should anyone not feel comfortable with asking whilst in Council.

The Mature Students' Officer asked if the Mature Students Association had its own budget line. The President replied that he was not sure and would take advice. The Mature Students Officer felt that the Associations' budget should be separate from Societies.

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

Votes For: 19      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 0      In Absentia: 0

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

## 8. **Green Impact Report**

As submitted by VP Union Development

VP Union Development stated he had sent out the latest checklist on progress for this year's project. He mentioned that the Green Impact Committee had been formed and had met and most of the work had been identified and was well on the way to being completed. He mentioned he had been working with the University on the issue of water fountains, working with the bus Company Uno on Green Impact issues. Working is being done to put together a campaign based on healthy eating, food wastage etc and an event with foodie stalls offering local, ethically produced food, cooking demos, cost-effective shopping etc that should appeal to a wider audience.

The Mature Students Officer asked which of the SDG's the Committee was focusing. The VP-Union Development pointed out the link on the spreadsheet would answer that.

The Mature Students Officer asked how long is there left to complete and submit the project.

The VP-Union Development said he would give an update on the timescale at the next Council meeting.

The Chair moved that the report be re-submitted for next Council.

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

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

## 9. **Officer Reports**



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

As per report submitted.

The President informed Councillors that he had been working on a number of good project and making good progress, most notably the website is now moving in the right direction.

He mentioned he was working on a missive welfare campaign with the branding coming along and a campaign plan being produced for the remainder of the year.

The majority of the Sabbatical Officers have been doing NSS shout outs this month.

An internal audit of the Students' Union's governance and financials processes and procedures had been carried out by the university's auditors as part of their 3 year rolling audit plan.

Had a good meeting with the local Sea Scouts group and trying to find links to work together.

The new BME Sabbatical Officer role was passed by the University Governors at their last meeting and will now be available for election in March.

A question was raised as to if the website was now up and running properly. The President explained that the front end functionality should be ready by the end of January and that the main issue was data not being available as well as issues with the opt-in service.

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

Votes For: 19

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

In Absentia: 0

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

9(b) **VP Union Development**

As per report submitted.

Key Items:

Working on a few things currently but the main focus since the last meeting has been on Refresher events for both the Charity and Platform which is now almost at an end.

Now working on Union Day in the Learning Hub. Still issues with online sign-ups but there were paper sign-ups which captured some information.

Looking forward to the Akala SU Talks event aimed at trying to engage the BME population and looking further forward to preparing for the Gareth Thomas event in February.

Still negotiating with the Towcester facility to try and increase the sports facilities we have available to use.

The question was raised as to what happened to the query from AU Rep regarding transport to Benham. VP-Union Development suggested asking for the use of the Students' Union minibus. It was agreed for the Councillor and VP-Union Development to pick this up outside of the meeting.

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:

Christmas Crafternoon took place just before Christmas which was a success but only after chasing after security to open the building.

30 advocates attended the VC's Drinks event at which the VC went around and thanked each Advocate personally which was good for them.

Have been working with the new PTO's to try and help and support them.

Have worked on a new set of promises as manifesto is complete.

Working with the new Women's Officer on Students' Union membership.

Using the Learning Hub space to get Executive Officers out there and talking to students.

Providing exam study support and working on student complaints and appeals.

Working on the Education on the Edge Campaign and NSS shout outs.

Going out to local secondary schools to tell them about the work of the Students' Union.

Questions:

There were no questions.

Votes For: 19

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

In Absentia: 0

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

9(d) **VP Welfare**

As per report submitted.

Have been on holiday most of the period since the last meeting but have been working on the student mental health agenda.

The International Students had their Christmas lunch.

Wellbeing Wednesdays are still going with the PAT docs and Conversation Café but timings have had to change for those.

Preparing for the Students Union Mental Health Day in March.

Working on First Aid training and Mental Health for sports teams.

Working on the Welfare Agenda and Strategy for the new year focusing on students and student staff.

Questions:

There were no questions.

Votes For: 17      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 2 In Absentia: 0

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

8(e) **Sports Officer -**

Sports Officer is on placement so President gave verbal update on his behalf.

Sports Officer has been:

Supporting sports teams with kit issues and Akuma

Speaking to teams on contract details and providing advice etc.

Working on revising the Disciplinary bye law

Working on ensuring there are more events for non-sports people to participate in

Working on Union Day and Refreshers

Questions:

No questions raised.

Votes For: 19      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 0      In Absentia: 0

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

8(f) **Societies Officer – Vacant**

Previous Officer has resigned.

8(g) **Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Students' Officer**

New Officer – welcomed to the meeting.

8(i) **Disabled Students' Officer – James Morrell**

None Submitted

8(j) **Entertainments Officer**

Has been working with the VO-Union Development on Refreshers events such as Bonkerz Bingo etc.

Looking at taking future events to Platform .

Busy at Christmas with assignments.

Questions:

No questions raised.

Votes For: 17

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 2

In Absentia: 0

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

8(k) **International Students' Officer**

Not present and no report submitted. Had a Vote of No Confidence at the previous meeting but as not quorate – vote still to be ratified.

8(l) **LGBTQ Officer**

At this point there were general questions raised as to censures for non-submission of reports and non-attendance.

The Mature Students Officer requested that the LGBTQ Officer and Disabled Students Officer be censured pending confirmation of attendance and report submission.

The Chair moved to vote given that the vote would only be indicative and had not been formally submitted in the correct manner and seconded appropriately.

Votes For: 9

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 10

In Absentia: 0

**Vote Result: Vote was NOT carried to next Council meeting.**

8(m) **Mature Students' Officer**

As per report.

Trying to set up meetings for initial MSA meetings before March.

Supporting students with issues.

Attended the International Students Christmas meal.

Working on leaflet for mature students

Votes For: 19

Votes Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

In Absentia: 0

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

8(n) **Womens Officer**

Introductions as this is first Council meeting.

Has been working with GL since being elected.

Hoping to get together a womens' only group.

Writing a blog.

Has been talking about International Womens Day and what's involved.

Creating a newsletter for all students regarding events, links, social media etc.

Votes For: 19      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 0      In Absentia: 0

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

10. **Committee Meetings (ratify minutes)**

10(a) **Education Committee**

No report submitted.

Working towards solving variety of issues including space in the library, issues with the Deans and multiple amendments to Council.

Votes For: 19      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 0      In Absentia: 0

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

10(b) **AU Committee**

As per report.

Reminder to VP-Union Development and Sports Officer about the mandate on cheerleading mats which is still outstanding. The President agreed to investigate.

2 representatives from the Saints came into explain their ticket officer. Each sports club will be given a code for the purchase of £5 tickets – the more tickets a club sells the higher the possibility of access to hospitality and complementary drinks.

A student (CvL) had complained about the lack of engagement by the Students Union on Open Days.

Core Committee positions were discussed and consideration given to the idea of a welfare role. This was debated and discussions are still ongoing.

Women's Basketball requested that match officials be paid in cash. This is currently being investigated.

Car parking has now been resolved to a certain extent. 2 cars are now allowed per team, to request to park on Electric Avenue.

Three more representatives required to represent AU at Student Council.

Votes For: 19      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 0      In Absentia: 0

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

10(c) **Societies Committee**  
No report submitted.

VP-Union Development attended to speak about the welfare role. The Committee didn't see the need for another role and a lot of people felt training for all the roles would be more beneficial rather than having a specific role for welfare.

Societies Varsity was discussed.

Ratified Metal Society.

Global Leadership.

De-ratified Cinema society.

Votes For: 19      Votes Against: 0      Abstentions: 0      In Absentia: 0

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

10(c) **Volunteer and Social Enterprise Committee**  
As per report.

Mini-Union Day was attended. Only got 3 people in 4 hours to sign up for Rotaract. It may have been the location of the stand (next to Rugby) which might have put people off.

Student Volunteer Week taking place 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> February. Starting to get our groups thinking about what they want to do for that.

Green Impact – will be a focal point for the Student Volunteer week as well.

Ratification of new student group – Student newspaper Northampton Student News – could be ways to work with the Womens Officer and VP-education.

The welfare officer role was discussed. The Committee felt that their group is so small, they would not be in favour of it being made a committee role.

Societies Varsity will see a collaboration from VSEC in attendance.

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

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

## **11. Any Other Business**

Two Volunteers (as per the Constitution) were asked to put themselves forward for seats on the Board of Trustees Appointments Committee to interview two potential eternal trustees. Volunteers were noted and will be contacted with dates and times in due course.

STaR Awards nominations are open both online and forms. Councillors urged to put their nominations forward.

Reminder that Akala will be speaking on Tuesday evening in the \engine Shed and all are welcome to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 19h50.

Members in attendance overleaf:

## APPENDIX A

### MEMBERS ATTENDANCE:

| Committee    | Name                        | Initials | Role                        | Attendance |
|--------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Executive    | Raf Garcia-Krailing         | RGK      | President                   | Present    |
| Executive    | Ryan Bradshaw               | RB       | VP Union Development.       | Present    |
| Executive    | Gemma Lovegrove             | GL       | VP Education                | Present    |
| Executive    | Shangyin Ji                 | SJ       | VP Welfare                  | Present    |
| Executive    | Vacant                      |          | Societies Officer           |            |
| Executive    | Chris Watkins               | CW       | Entertainments Officer      | Present    |
| Executive    | Alex Lopez                  | AL       | Sports Officer              |            |
| Executive    | James Morrell               | JM       | Disabled Students' Officer  |            |
| 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     |            |
| Executive    | Josh                        | J        | BME Students' Officer       |            |
| Executive    | Hollie Travill              | HT       | Women's Officer             | Present    |
| Education    | Ana Sara                    | AS       |                             | Present    |
| Education    | Komal Salah Ud Din          | KS       | Business and Law            | Present    |
| Education    | Sadie Wood                  | SW       | Health and Society          | Apologies  |
| Education    | Sam Dorywala                | SD       | Education and Hum.          |            |
| Education    | Louise Dowson               | LD       | Education and Hum.          | Present    |
| Education    | Amber Rawlins               | AR       | FAST                        | Apologies  |
| Education    | Sam Arnold                  | SA       | FAST                        | Present    |
| Education    | Ben Gibson                  | BG       | FAST                        |            |
| Education    | Lilliam Kuroma              | :LK      | FAST                        | Present    |
| Non Portf.   | Zoe Pape (Chair)            | ZP       | Non Portfolio Rep           | Apologies  |
| Non Portf.   | Ade Adebawale               | AA       | Non Portfolio Rep           |            |
| Societies    | Ahmed O. Basil              | AOB      | Societies Rep               |            |
| Societies    | Taryn Astle                 | TEA      | Societies Rep               | Present    |
| Societies    | Deniz Jordan Bal            | DJB      | Societies Rep               |            |
| Societies    | Fergal D Clancy             | FDC      | Societies Rep               | Present    |
| Societies    | Karolina Baran              | KB       | Societies Rep               |            |
| 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       | Apologies  |
| Volunteering | Hannah Joes                 | HJ       | Vol. and Soc Ent. Rep       | Present    |
| Volunteering | Samantha Hernandez          | SH       | Vol. and Soc Ent. Rep       | Present    |