**Student Council 14 December 2017**

**MAIN COUNCIL BEGINS**

**VOTING IS IN PERCENTAGE %**

1. **Declaration of conflict of interest: No**
2. **Approval of the minutes from the last meeting: 88 yes 0 no 12 abstain**
3. **Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda:**
4. **Apologies received**

* Arte (Non-Portfolio Councillor) – reason: unknown
* Jemma Vobe (Ethics and Environment Officer) -reason: unknown
* Francine Smith (Mature Students’ Officer) – reason: away with family
* Rebecca Chapman (Postgraduate Students’ Officer) – reason: unknown

1. **Officer reports**

**November reports:**

Short discussion required on last month’s reports:

* **President**

Compton house – 100% yes

* **Vice President Union Development**

Focus: SU storage which is an ongoing issue – 100% yes

* **Vice President Education**

Created a video which had over 1,000 views. Report – 100% yes.

* **Sports Officer**

People voted for students to be recognised for their hard work in their teams. Get prizes sorted. 88% yes 12% abstain

* **Societies Officer ABSENT.**

Make sure there is suitable for space for societies at Waterside. Communicate with societies better through Facebook. Creating a survey to find out how societies have changed student’s lives. Advertise UNION day and societies on Facebook. Create videos about joining societies and how to find information about societies. Increase engagement with the SU. In January shes hoping to find a solution to helping students with mental health issues.

68% yes 24% no 8% abstain.

* **Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Students’ Officer**

Planning back history month and how to improve. Mental health within the black community. How we can continue events in black history month – 100% yes.

* **Disabled Students’ Officer**

Mental health day event. Looking into awareness courses for mental health and waiting on confirmation from councillors for the training to be done. Attended a forum for disability and liberation event in London about disability issues. Continue to be with disabled students and talking about issues. 100% yes.

* **Entertainments Officer**

Not very eventful and began planning events to run at Pav every week. Organise more meetings to help get more student opinions of events they wanted into insane Tuesdays, karaoke etc. Promote platform material with James Channon. Working on societies night. Launched the scheme successfully. Begun the capture the flag event. 96% yes 4% no.

* **Ethics and Environment Officer – ABSENT**

Attended the food waste conference. Creating more environmentally aware on campus. Advertise food bank project. Vegetarian/vegan society? The shop is becoming more ethically and asked for the list of products. Green impact meeting – 4 meetings attended. Approaching new students and got 700 new members on facebook.

96% yes 4% no.

* **International Students’ Officer – not submitted**
* **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) Students’ Officer**

Brunch is going strong and running well. Met with Chris from diverse church can help the students here and set her up with people to talk about religion. Putting together a policy in sports. Anti-discrimination policy. Attended liberation conference and trained to have conversations about LGBT issues. Hosting more quiz nights at the Boston.

100% yes.

* **Mature Students’ Officer – REVIEW REPORTS AT NEXT MEETING.**
* **Moulton College Officer – not submitted & NOT ATTENDED MANY MEETINGS.**
* **Postgraduate Students’ Officer – ABSENT**

Help those who are applying for postgraduate study and also international students. Create a more postgraduate community. Organised a meeting with the head of postgraduate courses.

79% yes 4% no 17% abstain

*Note: Create a split role?*

* **Women’s Officer** – not submitted
* **Changemaker Officer**

Going to be a change in future’s week. Attended liberation training and talking to students about how they were engaging. Decide what workshops to run with students such as foodbanks.

100% yes.

**December reports:**

* **President**

Development of the new shop at waterside campus. Managed to win the bid. Develop it and get a student centric shop. Using questions and answers from students to develop a strategy. Looking at value for money for waterside and having students apply for bursaries because some students don’t have the opportunity right now to have a bursary: 100% yes

* **Vice President, Union Development**
* Report circulated late due to late submission. Chair permits the late submission due to VPUD providing evidence of a typo in the Council’s email address.

Only 80% of university staff managed to complete survey. Can do a mock working week for all societies sports and volunteering. Working on keeping insane Tuesdays. Working towards a new SU logo. Sports kits.

People will get to see the SU logo before its confirmed.

100% yes.

* **Vice President, Education**

Finalised course rep training and elections in November. 391 reps elected. Still have more reps coming in. Go karting – course rep conference offsite. Launched a campaign to welcome international students which addressed the importance of international students.

Can collect a handbook from Danjie in the office if they couldn’t attend the conference.

100% yes.

* **Sports Officer**
* Report submitted late – reasons given were accepted by Chair.

Got a ‘this girl can’ water bottle if they nominated. Got feedback from teams how to progress forward because there is not a lot of space for coaching at waterside campus. There was a big decrease in people joining sports teams this year. Capture the flag event in January is being discussed with Kelly. 92% yes 8% no.

* **Societies Officer**
* No report submitted
* **Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Students’ Officer**

Attended conference. Working with people outside of the university and talking to people who have got internships with big companies and thinking about gaining partnership with some people with the University. Speaking to BME students about ideas for community development. 100% yes.

* **Disabled Students’ Officer**

Waiting on dates for the courses still to be confirmed. Want to start running a forum for students, meeting once every few months to discuss issues properly. Talk about exam provisions. 100% yes.

* **Entertainments Officer**
* Report submitted late – reasons given were accepted by Chair.

Started the events at Pav. Using the events as a test for Waterside. Working with marketing to start up properly in January. Insane Tuesdays mixed feedback, start publishing themes a month in advance due to some students having children etc, need to plan ahead. Platform is almost ready to open, launching in January. Help organise the 12 days of Christmas with ellie. Encourage more societies to engage with the union more. Get the marketing ready for the capture the flag event to launch.

100% yes

* **Ethics and Environment Officer**

Created a food waste survey. Get a community fridge in place. Advertised about food bank projects. Created events each week like vegan challenge. Union shop – create a leaflet about ethical products and will give them out at her animal event. Attended mental health panel. Discuss issues about insane tuesdays. Building a case against terrible bus service.

100% yes.

* **International Students’ Officer**

Attended nus international conference in London. Make the video to talk about experience of international students. Worked with different societies and organising an event. European officer.

96% yes 4% abstain.

* **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) Students’ Officer**

Developing an information pack to give to students if people come to her and ask questions about what things mean. Train residential life on some things. Attended a council about how they create impact on the world. Secure a deal with stone wall for places at a reduced cost. Got a few events in place but just have to market them now. End of term event with the societies (Christmas party).

*NOTE: Sophie did a great event with helping the homeless when it was snowing, she got in touch with people and got food, blankets, hot drinks etc for the homeless people when the weather was bad on the weekend and this should be done more often.*

* **Mature Students’ Officer – REVIEW REPORTS AT NEXT COUNCIL.**

Emailed 3 universities. Planning events for students with children. Did an event the weekend which turned out really well.

100% yes.

* **Moulton College Officer – NOT ATTENDED MANY MEETINGS.**
* **Postgraduate Students’ Officer**
* No report submitted
* **Women’s Officer**

Meeting with Raf about concerns raised about sexual assault on campus. Created a survey on this. Spoke at an event. Wrote a statement about the #MeToo campaign because some students used it as a way of communicating their concerns. Spoke to course reps about campaigns. 100% yes.

* **Changemaker Officer**

Put the wrong colours down the column which she has apologised for. Wrote a blog on the equal access campaign. Working with rosie on improving changemaker. Had a stall at the birthday. Question time conversational café to engage around issues.

1. **Trustee report**
2. **Food Policy – Oct**
3. **Discrimination Policy – Nov (Sophie Turner’s)**
4. **Email Policy (Rebecca Chapman)**
5. **Plastic Straws Policy (Jemma Vobe)**
6. **Subtitled videos Policy (Raf)**
7. **Initiations Policy (Alex Lopez)**
8. **Plastic Bag policy (Jemma Vobe)**
9. **University’s Support Services Policy (Rebecca Chapman)**

*Raf: ALL Bye Law amendments and policies were passed.*

1. **Finance report – 100% yes.**
2. **Green Impact Report – In the new year.**
3. **Motions**
4. **Discussion Points**

* *Attainment Gap (Esther Olorunsomo)*

There is an issue which the student union aren’t doing anything about. What do we think as a council that we can do? Staff have also made comments. Also been speaking about maybe employing a more diverse range of lecturers.

Tackle this by doing a survey about what made students want to leave or want to stay. From this, we can increase things by seeing what made students stay.

Raf had a chat with the only full time BME officer in the country and got some interesting points from him.

We should really appreciate Esther and what she is doing and also the students that fall under the demographic.

With surveys we can only get so much feedback.

Suggestion: Best way to go maybe go forward is speaking to lecturers who are involved in intense BME courses and get students on board as they are the primary people that students talk to.

David: just get it out the public.

Sophie: the university do not want to promote anything which makes the university looks bad so we need to be careful about how we word things on the website as it will drive students away.

* *Insane Tuesday (Sophie Turner)*

Some of the themes have been noted as inappropriate such as the ‘sausage fest’ and need to resolve the marketing of insane Tuesdays. Discussed each theme and what had been reported about it.

Advertise more than a week in advance.

One of the main problems was that some charities do not want to be associated with alcohol.

David: tried to keep it fun and active and different each time but do apologise about the themes if they have offended anyone.

Some students have problems with it being right by accommodation and it’s a big problem because of students studying and trying to sleep etc.

* *Equal Access (Kelsey Clarke)*

The policy: 335 students/staff supported this.

Kelseys policy should NOT be turned into a mandate.

Vote for davids motion of policy to become a mandate: 24% yes 56% no 20% abstain.

Vote for Mandate as well as a policy: 92% yes 8% abstain.

Vote the policy through: 92% yes 4 no 4% abstain

* *Racial Segregation (Kelsey Clarke)*

Raf: nervous about the wording of ‘brothers and sisters’.

Vote to mandate an international officer: 79% yes 17% no 4% abstain

* *European Part-Time Officer (Rafael Garcia-Krailing)*

Vote to accept this as a bye-law amendment: 100% yes

The bye-law amendment: split the international role into 2 roles.

What would be the implication of it when the UK leaving the EU? There will still be an EU, just because we won’t be apart from it, it won’t make a difference.

Might have too much of a division, some students might say ‘none of these represent me, so can we have another role’ such as a Chinese officer maybe.

Brexit can be a problem in a couple years, but we still have these few years and it’s what students want NOW, not in a couple of years.

**Vote to accept the role: 84% yes 16% no**

1. **Bye-Law Amendments**

* Education Bye-Law Amendment (Caitlin Ward)

96% yes 4% no

* European Part-Time Officer Bye-Law Amendment (Raf Garcia-Krailing) – Done already

1. **Policy Proposals**

* Equal Access Policy Proposal (Kelsey Clarke) – Done already
* Racial Segregation Policy Proposal (Kelsey Clarke) – Done already
* ~~Equality and Diversity Policy (Jemma Vobe)~~ – removed
* Plastic Cups Policy Proposal (Jemma Vobe & Raf Garcia-Krailing)

The price of the new cups have increased.

Don’t see the point of having the policy when its not even for that long.

* Pronoun Policy Proposal (Sophie Turner)

88% yes 4% no

1. **Officer Mandates**

***New***

* President mandate on Policy Book (Sophie Turner)

***Updates*** required from last Council meeting, on mandates:

1. All Sabbs – Updates Regarding Waterside, specifically:

‘To create a document which lists all of the questions which has been asked by students on waterside and then list the answers given. This then needs to be made available through the SU website.’

1. VP Education – Video Mandate, specifically:

‘VP Education needs to create a video for Course reps so that they know how to complete the following on the SU website:

-How to access the VPE officer report

-How to access the Education Committee minutes, and where applicable Faculty rep reports

-How to access any policies, mandates, bye-law amendments or discussion points that are education based on the website.

-How to find contact details for the Faculty reps, VPE and the Student Voice coordinators.’

91% yes.

1. President – World Mental Health Day, specifically:

‘That the President, for World Mental Health day in 2018, needs to create a campaign with others highlighting the following:

-the services available for students such as Nightline, Counselling, PAT’s etc

-That the SU sees the person rather than the mental illness and that it is an open and welcoming community.

-A petition or other form of activism to try and secure an additional counsellor due to excessive and therefore ineffective waiting times.

**-**a video which includes the exec team as this mandate has not been completed by the 2016-2017 exec team.

This campaign should include Park, Avenue and Moulton College.’

1. **Committee meetings (ratify minutes)**

* **Education Committee – 91% yes 4% no 4% abstain**
* **AU Committee** – 100% yes
* **Societies Committee –** 96% yes 4% no
* **Volunteer and Social Enterprise Committee**

1. **Any other Business**

N/A