



council minutes

5th week Michaelmas 2003

Friday 14th November 2003, Wadham: Old Refectory

Meeting opens 16:45

Chair: Meeting opens. Any matters arising from previous minutes.

No.

Chair: Rules of interpretation.

Pass.

Chair: Ratifications.

Pass.

Elections In Council

RO: Junior Tribunal and Reserve Panel – candidates please come up to hust.

Declarations.

Chris Hind:

No.

Adam Temple:

No

Catherine Quarini:

No

RO: Anybody want a hust.

No.

Sabs Reports

Chair: Sabs reports, anything to add?

HPL: Meeting for NUS reps. Relations to OUSU. About 20 colleges affiliated to NUS but OUSU seems to be doing an awful lot of the liason on their behalf. Our idea is that we can affiliate centrally with a provision for individual affiliation if common rooms so wish. Please could we have some feedback on this. I want to see whether there is any point pursuing it.

RD: Publications Complaints Board – handles all OUSU complaints. We need some people to sit on it – if you enjoy dealing with complaints.... Please tell your friends. Email finance@ousu.org it's really important.

RB: Housing Bank – talking with city council and Brookes and local FE college et cetera we will be able to have a web housing bank. Should also be a quality control thing. Should be great.

CW: Didn't submit a written report – I was off sick last week. Nightbus is sadly still in garage but I'm working on it. Should be running by next week. Save Women's Colleges Campaign – please pick up ribbons and petitions from me now. Have been in contact with Hilda's about what they did last year. We want a really big campaign. Large demonstration in 8th week.

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DP: Street Drinking Ban – KA won't serve outside because they need a licence and the landlord didn't apply for a licence. Ban has been brought in because of concern in wider community that people weren't safe in some areas due to alcohol related problems. Has been successful over the past year. If you are in certain areas then the police can tell you to get rid of it – if you say no then you can get a fine of up to £500. We need a balance that is not too authoritarian.

LM: Two divisional board reps still available – very important. JCC reps Wednesday 7th week.

JHB: Fashion show Wednesday 7th week at Oxford Union – please come along it will be great. Tomorrow please give us money or come and join us on Cornmarket doing a collection. Tour of the North – please come. Getting arrested – have to raise £500 in aid of Deafblind UK please help get me out! Rag Exec elections and charity nominations are both on Monday – very important take a look at website.

CW: OUSU Women's Campaign Ann Summers Party – Wednesday 7th week. Great event – tickets from me or womens campaign officers.

Questions

Louise Radnofsky (Univ):

Which sub liasing with city council?

HPL: Not assigned.

Jonty Oliff-Cooper (Magdalen):

Alternative Careers Fair – what's happening and do you want money?

JHB: It's going ahead. Yes.

AG: Library opening hours?

LM: Bloke won't reply to emails.

Exec Reports

JB: Queer Rights still needs co-chairs. Please raise awareness email me if interested.

LR: Wine and cheese evening tonight at Kellogg please come along.

RW: Please can common rooms forward information.

LW: OUSU reps social is in 7th week. Dominic leaving as OUSU reps co-chair so we need a new one.

RD: Disabilities co-chairs still needed! Please can CR equal opps and welfare officers come along. Thursday 4pm OUSU offices. One World as well.

Questions

James Coatsworth (Mansfield):

Does Matthew Richardson feel that his manipulation of an OxStu article was a sensible, mature and responsible thing to do?

MR: Anybody can walk into the publications room – security needs dealing with.

Emergency Motions

Kent County Council

Louise Radnofsky (Univ):

Kent still has section 28. We want to get rid of it.

Chair: Any short factuals?

Dominic Curran (St Hugh's):

Where is the day of action?

LR: Protesting and march in Kent.

Motion Passes.

St Hilda's

Helen McCabe (St Hilda's):

Some good stuff has happened but the rest of concerns haven't been dealt with.

David Fellows:

What's the main issue?

HM: Our representation.

Nem Con

Opposition to all.

Motion of censure in Matthew Richardson:

Omar Salem (St Hugh's):

People should be held accountable for what they say in our name.

MR: All blown out of proportion. I still believe marches are ineffective. I support the failure of the march. I still think that it is a bad idea. F&F is running out of ideas. I think my comment raised the issue that new ideas are needed. I am in favour of direct *and effective* action. Only four out of 16 voted to censure me. If you do support this motion then you will be sending a simple message to new executive officers that they cannot speak freely about OUSU policy.

Louise Radnofsky (Univ): Does the "demo" count as a "march"?

OS: Yes.

Move to debate. Passes.

Ros Dampier:

Everyone seems to be laughing. Boils down to the role of the executive. The job is that they should follow policy in public and this will send a message to future executive officers. Censure is appropriate.

HPL: Matthew did not address the role of the exec in his speech. He should deal democratically with any qualms he has about F&F. Please vote to censure.

Move to vote. Passes.

Stuart Colville (Queen's):

Can we have a secret ballot?

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Why?

SC: Lots of us have to work with Matt. Confidentiality would be good.

LR: Some people in this room have to sleep with Matt. A lot of people represent campaigns.

OS: We should hold people accountable.

MR: I was following policy. This is a democracy and I was entitled to say that.

For: 45

Against: 20

Abstention: 1

Chair: Is there still opposition to the acceptance of the Freshers' Fair report?

Yes.

Laura West (St Catz):

Please read it and ask questions. Stallholders regulations say that they agree to abide by OUSU policy.

Linsey Cole (St John's):

How far has the admin progressed?

LW: It's ongoing. Some colleges haven't paid. Please do.

Rosie Buckland (St Hilda's):

Why is it written in two parts?

Saro McKenna (Trinity):

Organisers write it in two sections. I feel it is comprehensive.

Anon: Is it true that CR's couldn't attend it they didn't provide stewards?

LW: We didn't have enough stewards so there was a possibility of cancelling it.

Anon: Are you going to make any recommendations for stewarding in future?

SM: The report makes a recommendation. Stewards are important.

Ros Dampier (St Hilda's):

There is an issue with the recommendation that CRs are forced to provide stewards. OUSU have to provide the service and Freshers Fair advertisers ought to organise it. We shouldn't force them.

SM: This is just opinion. It's nothing binding so please approve it.

RD: I accept that it is an opinion. However, when we accept the report council is saying that they agree with it. Thus if we don't we shouldn't pass it.

Move to vote. Fails.

Chair: < reads from SO that we can ask for it to be re-written >

SM: I would be willing to change it.

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Matthew Richardson (SPC):

Are you telling Saro that she is not allowed to think anymore? Have you gone mad?

Laurie Burton (Wadham):

This seems like a sensible recommendation so pass it.

RD: Problems arose from late appointment we have managed in the past so we should be able to cope and therefore we should not force them.

Move to vote. Fails.

Adam Turnbull (Balliol):

I was upset by this because in Freshers Week we have a lot of other things to organise and the President of a CR should not be given extra work. That's why we have organisers. Don't accept this.

Chair: Have received an amendment. Strike "should" and replace with "could".

Move to vote. Fails.

Conor O'Neill (Wadham):

Problem arose from late appointments. This happens all the time in OUSU so it is an important point that Ros rose.

Move to vote. Passes.

LW: Let's just vote and go home.

Report accepted

Election results

RO: Junior Tribunal – Chris Hind 24, Adam Temple 12, Ron no score. Both elected.
Reserve Panel – Catherine Quinn 31, RON 1. CQ elected.

CfE

HPL: Have been looking into it and they seem quite good now.

Tom Packer (St Cross):

Has the CfE run people in elections?

HPL: Yes.

Linsey Cole (St John's):

How does CfE promote itself?

HPL: Printed material.

Stuart Colville (Queen's):

Is it associated with far-left groups?

HPL: Some members are.

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GS: What does CfE provide that we can't provide ourselves.

HPL: Support.

OS: What change has come about to allow us to affiliate?

HPL: They follow exactly the same policy as us?

MR: Does it have policy on Oxbridge grant?

HPL: Don't know.

Daniel Rees (Merton):

Can we legally do this?

HPL: Yes.

Michael Girling:

Is there a precedent?

HPL: Yes.

Tom Packer (St Cross):

Have they done bad things?

HPL: Yes.

Charles Adams (SEH):

What are the leaflets like?

HPL: Very good. There are some in OUSU, take a look.

LR: What structures are in place for us to have an influence?

HPL: We can re- or dis-affiliate? We get a vote at conference.

Marilyn Thompson (Mansfield):

Why did we disaffiliate?

HPL: It ran out.

Tom Packer (St Cross):

Is it true that they run joint with SWP for NUS positions?

Daniel Rees (Merton):

How can we support an organisation that runs a joint slate with SWP?

HPL: Irrelevant.

Saro McKenna (Trinity):

This year they were not joint slate.

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Matthew Richardson (SPC):

This is controversial because some CRs won't want this.

John Blake (St Hugh's):

Does an enormous amount of good things. They support our campaign. We need to unite and for only £50 it is great deal.

Move to vote. Passes.

OS: CfE is going to make sure that our policy goes onto a national level. Don't worry about links with other organisations. They will

TP: We wouldn't give money to other organisations like this.

For: 31

Against: 13

Abstentions: 5

Louise McMullan (Wadham):

Read the motion. NUT do a lot of good work. Solidarity is good.

Ros Dampier (St Hilda's):

My mum thought National Curriculum was very detrimental so support this.

Daniel Rees (Merton):

We shouldn't be concerning ourselves with this.

Dan Paskins (Magdalen):

It's nearly six lets go home.

Move to vote. Fails.

John Blake (St Hugh's):

At TU meeting we saw them say the damage that was done. The people being affected will eventually be here so it is relevant to us. It does destroy teaching.

Ros Dampier (St Hilda's):

Lots of people say that we are on the wrong issues. NUT are well placed to know about this and because the kids directly feed into higher ed we should support it.

James Coatsworth (Mansfield):

Lots of teachers don't like it because it tests their ability to teach which they don't like.

RD: SATS were introduced to test both teachers and students. But now they just undermine the love of learning which they should have and therefore they will be less likely to come to university. Don't debate the merits of SATS we should support the NUT.

Move to vote. Passes.

LM: Solidarity is good.

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DR: We should concentrate on our issues.

Passes.

RB: Very simple – read motion – co-ordinate letter writing campaign. One of the surgeries contacted me. Support doctors – will have directly affect students.

Conor O'Neill (Wadham):

How much do students cost compared to manual occupations?

RB: Point of sliding scale – students not separate. Walton street want this clarified – want to draw attention to student specific issues.

MT: Shouldn't a student area show up as a high stress area and then this would be taken into account?

RB: Capitation weighting means that surgeries with lots of students – means lots of young people – don't get enough money. Will adversely affect provision for students.

Move to debate. Fails.

RD: I've got a questions

CO'N: We are contradicting ourselves if we say that we know better than the BMA yet we will take as red what the NUT tells us.

RB: *We should support the BMA. We are expressing concerns and are showing solidarity with doctors that have approached me.*

JB: The point of having solidarity is to show support and we should do this if we feel that this is relevant.

Move to vote. Fails.

Conor O'Neill:

Table to next council and research.

RD: This is important and has been researched.

Move to table. Fails.

Nancy Mendosa (Balliol):

Primary care isn't great in Oxford.

RD: Surgeries this will advantage are not the small ones where the students go. It will cause an immense problem for students so please vote for it.

RB: All info is in the motion. We're not asking for much, just that they look at the capitation weighting of students. It's a good idea.

Omar Salem (St Hugh's):

We haven't researched and considered enough.

Passes.

AOB:

RD: DA on Thursday.

