

7th Week Hilary Term 2017 *Minutes*

TIME: 5:30pm

DATE: Wednesday 1st March 2017

LOCATION: The Bernard Sunley Building, Lecture Theatre, St Catherine's College

We aim to make Council as accessible as possible, and ensure that it is always in accessible venues. However, if there are any accessibility requirements that we are not meeting for yourself or others, please contact:

OUSU's Democratic Support Officer, Josh O'Connor:

01865 611831 | dso@ousu.ox.ac.uk

Current OUSU Council Discretionary Fund: £620

If you have any questions about OUSU Council, please feel free to contact:

Chair of OUSU Council:

chair@ousu.ox.ac.uk

a. Minutes of the previous meeting

b. Matters arising from the minutes

c. Elections in council

d. Reports from and questions to the Sabbatical Trustees, Executive Officers, Representatives of the OUSU Campaigns and RAG (Raise and Give)

e. Items for resolution

1. Bye-Law Amendment 2nd Reading
2. Encouraging reflection on social responsibility and property ownership
3. NUS Motion's Arising from Executive

Below the Line*

4. Delegate appointment of Junior Tribunal to OUSU Executive
5. Constitution of Oxford Students' Disability Community

f. Items for debate

g. Any other business

* We mark some items as "below the line" if we think they are uncontroversial – these will not be discussed unless someone in Council requests this, and at least 1/4 of voting members present agree.

Please Note:

OUSU's team will be filming elements of Council as part of a new marketing and communication plan to promote OUSU Council. If you are not happy to be filmed or would like to remain out of the footage please contact:

Matt Tennant, Membership Services Manager: msm@ousu.ox.ac.uk or

Jo Gregory-Brough, Communications Manager: commsmanager@ousu.ox.ac.uk

a. Minutes of the previous meeting

b. Matters arising from the minutes

c. Elections in Council

Chair of Council – to chair meetings of OUSU Council (and Council's Steering Committee) for Hilary Term 2017.

Returning Officer – to oversee all elections, including the By-Election for VP Graduates, any cross-campus referendums, and Elections in Council. To serve for Trinity Term 2017.

Deputy Returning Officer – assists the Returning Officer in overseeing the by-election for VP Graduates, referendums and Council. To serve for Trinity Term 2017.

Scrutiny Committee (x2) – to interview the Sabbatical officers and write a termly report to Council, in order to scrutinise the officers' work. To serve for a year until the end of Michaelmas Term 2017.

Steering Committee (x1) – The Steering Committee has particular responsibility for compiling the agenda for Council meetings, and considering proposals relating to OUSU's governing documents.

JSc(EC)SM (Joint Subcommittee of the Education Committee with Student Members) (x1) – The principal committee for OUSU's relationship with the University. Responsible for reviewing the democratic procedures of the Student Union, such as our elections and budget. Must be filled by a graduate student. To serve for two meetings (one in Hilary Term 2017; one in Trinity Term 2017).

Language Centre Committee (x2) – One of these positions must be filled by a graduate student. To serve from Michaelmas 2016 to Trinity 2017.

Jack Hampton, OUSU: Praises Fraser's hard work being RO and chair. Encourages students to run for the elected positions in Council.

Marina Lambrakis, OUSU: We need an RO, Beth Currie has offered to RO as a Sabbatical Trustee.

No objections seen

Fraser, New College: Please run for chair

d. Reports from and questions to the Sabbatical Officers, Executive Officers, Representatives of the OUSU Campaigns and RAG (Raise and Give)

SEE REPORTS

Sam Banks, Merton: Where online is the information for nominating for elections in Council?

Jack Hampton, OUSU: We'll look into it but there should be a nomination form online

e. Items for Resolution

1. Bye-Law Amendment 1st Reading

Council Notes:

1. Appendix 1: New Media Board Governance
2. Appendix 2: 1st Reading of updated Byelaws.

Council Believes:

1. In line with the current governance for the Media Board, finding ex-editors from the Oxford Student (Newspaper) and Oxide Radio, often who have graduated, is logistically difficult and causes delays in appointing editors.
2. Therefore, the updated membership of the selection panel which will consist of: a Sabbatical Trustee, a student trustee, a representative of the Chief Executive and the current editors of OxStu and Oxside.
3. Updated Media Governance allows easier selection of key student positions for Oxford Student and Oxide Radio.

Council Resolves:

1. To accept the 1st Reading of the Media Board Governance
2. To accept the 1st Reading of the updated Byelaws
3. To bring Byelaws back to 7th Week Hilary for 2nd Reading.

Proposed: Orla White, OUSU

Seconded: Jack Hampton, OUSU

Friendly amendment: remove resolves 3 and change instances of 'first reading' to 'second reading'

Orla White, OUSU: Change the governance to allow for easier selection of key student positions.

No questions, no opposition, motion passed

2. Encouraging reflection on social responsibility and property ownership

Council Notes:

1. That the housing crisis in Oxford is acute. Both students and staff suffer from the lack of affordable housing. The housing crisis is experienced by all members of the community of Oxford. In its most severe form, we have seen the housing crisis lead to vastly increased - and visible - rates of homelessness.
2. That the Oxford colleges and the University, through prudent management of past generations, have accumulated, in many cases, very large property and land portfolios. Guy Shrubsole has estimated these property values to meet the sum of at least £1.3 billion.
3. That some colleges have not been transparent about the land and property that they own, and have failed to respond to FOIs sent in by external persons, in particular Guy Shrubsole.

Council Believes:

1. OUSU council believes that the management of this property should include a duty of social responsibility to the Oxford community given the aforementioned issues that it faces.
2. We believe that the University could do more to work with the city of Oxford in tackling the housing crisis.
3. As a first step, the colleges and university ought to examine their portfolios to see where in the local Oxford city to see where empty property and extraneous space and land without **immediate** future plans attached could be used to
 - i. help ameliorate the housing crisis in its most severe form, namely, homelessness;
 - ii. **and provide for valuable social enterprise and community space for students and local residents, on a temporary/meanwhile basis.**

Council Resolves:

1. To mandate the OUSU VP for Charities and Community to encourage JCR and MCR Presidents or relevant committee members to enquire within their Colleges about property portfolios by the 2nd week of Trinity Term.
2. To mandate the OUSU VP for Charities and Community to encourage JCR and MCR Presidents or relevant committee members to send Freedom Of Information enquiries to the relevant College staff members if the colleges are not forthcoming with information regarding their property portfolios by 4th week of Trinity Term.
3. To mandate OUSU VP for Charities and Community to also encourage JCR presidents or relevant committee members to hold conversations with colleges about creative and socially responsible use of spaces, including empty spaces, that might enable addressing social needs in the Oxford area. For example, allowing disused spaces to be used by the local community as exemplified by the successful collective action of Iffley Open House.
4. **Mandate VP Charities and Communities to encourage JCR presidents to sign a letter of support that calls on the University & Said Business School to work with residents and volunteering Iffley Open House (now Osney Open House) to ensure all 20 residents can remain in their current space, or, if they cannot, to provide a suitable alternative until the end of April.**
5. **To mandate VP Charities and Community and VP Graduates to pursue this work with the University and the University Estates.**

Proposed: Miriam Stewart, St Peter's College

COUNCIL AGENDA

Seconded: Mabel Taylor, St Peter's College

Miriam Stewart, St Peter's College: This motion is to mandate the VP CC to encourage CRs to think speak to their colleges about their property portfolios. Also to follow up on FOI requests to the colleges which haven't been fulfilled.

Motion to give speaking rights, Mariam Steward: I'd like to give Andy speaking rights who is local resident who works with iffley open house.

Andy: Just here to answer questions. Iffley open house has become Osney open house.

Alex Curtis, St Catherine's College: I am supportive of the motion. How much thought have you given thought to the land the college own and the food wastage coming from the colleges and how that can be put to better use?

Miriam Steward, St Peter's College: It is difficult to know how much food waste a college has. Homeless people often find their need for food I not as poorly addressed as their need for shelter.

Andy: There are groups of volunteers who give out food to the homeless daily. The focus of the motion is on the nature of a large landowner organization.

Will, New College: Asked for more clarity on resolves 3

Miriam, St Peter's College: To ask them not to take steps to evict people who have nowhere else to go.

Andy: As students you have power over colleges to highlight issues. A much better position than local rough sleepers and local residents to find out which buildings are being used for what.

Ava Scott, Hertford College: There are a lot of risks, colleges will be sensitive to the health and safety risks associated with providing a space. There should be some support for providing this support. How to provide that support to JCR presidents?

Miriam, St Peter's College: I would be happy to provide training drawing on past experience from our conversations with Wadham College and the University.

Two friendly amendments received: Amend believes 3, add resolves 4 and 5.

???: How many spaces are there in oxford?

Miriam, St Peters' College: We don't know for sure because of the lack of transparency

Andy: Loads.

Miriam, St Peter's College: We have 200 volunteers and we work with On Your Doorstep

Craig, St John's College: Any colleges who haven't responded to FOI requests

Miriam: St Peter's has responded fully, St John's has refused, we've not contacted individual colleges but that is because we want JCr presidents to do that from within.

No opposition, Motion Passes

3. NUS Motion's Arising from Emergency Executive Committee

Motions passed by emergency executive committee will be discussed

Proposed: Jack Hampton, OUSU

Seconded: Marina Lambrakis, OUSU

Jack Hampton, OUSU: These are the 1400 words worth of motions we're going to submit to NUS Conference. We submitted them because the deadline was yesterday. These were decided at Exec. We can now get Council's approval/disapproval of these motions. We can't amend these motions but that can be done later.

Scholarships for International Students

???: Change the title because it doesn't relate to the motion

Jack Hampton, OUSU: That point was also raised in exec and we plan to do that.

PASSED

Hate Crime reporting

Jack Hampton: This is asking for the better publications and resources of what NUS are doing

PASSED

It Stops Here/ Sexual Violence

PASSED

HE Zone: JoJo don't know much about quality: what a wonderful world HE could be

PASSED

Jack Hampton: This is an amendment to get NUS to work on the TEF and campaign on unconscious bias and provide feedback on teaching inequality.

Welfare Zone: Mental Health and Hardship

PASSED

Society and Citizenship Zone: 'Placement, Apprenticeships, and Education for Good'

PASSED

Society and Citizenship Zone: Brexit Means Brexit

PASSED

FE Zone: Putting learners at the heart of the Post 16 skills plan

PASSED

National demonstrations – reach out to our allies

PASSED

Organising an Exciting, Visible Demo

Tom Turner, St Catherine's College: Organising a demo on a weekday isn't great for those with lectures on a weekday. Seems to be saying if things get violent we should let them?

Jack Hampton: If we submit the motion we will be at the table to amend it. Therefore we can pass it and amend it at the next stage. Also please note this motion was cut down to meet the word count.

Ava Scott, Hertford College: Is it needed to submit a motion which we don't agree with to be part of the discussion earlier when all SUs get a chance to amend at conference?

Jack Hampton: By submitting a motion we get to be part of the group which decides which motion is sent to conference. I can report to council what that motion will be and then you can mandate me how to vote/amend at conference. I'd like the ability to communicate the needs of disabled students in the forming process of this motion.

John, ????: Could you not amend the motion on the floor and withdraw this motion now?

Jack Hampton: Yes we could, we won't have a say on what the motion that goes to conference looks like.

Eden: Remember this was two paragraphs originally and when it was reduced it slightly changed the context

Sam Banks, Merton College: NUS conference is on the 25th-27th and Council is on the 26th

Jack Hampton: I will report back how we are going to arrange consulting with the student body on the motions at NUS conference

Move to vote

33 votes for, 5 votes against, 5 abs

PASSED

Student Welfare and Mental Health Survey

PASSED

Support for the IAPT program

PASSED

BELOW THE LINE

4. Delegate appointment of Junior Tribunal to OUSU Executive

Council Notes:

1. There must be a Junior Tribunal for the upcoming VP Graduate By-Election
2. The alumni office is working to contact potential members
3. It will not be possible to find members until after 7th week Council

Council Believes:

1. Junior Tribunal should be appointed before Trinity Term

Council Resolves:

1. To delegate the appointment of Junior Tribunal to the Executive Committee as they will meet after 7th week Council and before Trinity Term

Proposed: Beth Currie, OUSU

Seconded: Orla White, OUSU

No opposition, Passed

5. Constitution of Oxford Students' Disability Community

Ratifications of constitution in appendix

Proposed: Sandy Downs, OUSU

Seconded: Sam Pugh, Pembroke College

No opposition, Passed

f. Items for debate

g. Any other business

Orla White, OUSU: The Oxford Bus Company are striking so please avoid using the buses.