

# OUSU

## council minutes

**7<sup>th</sup> week Council held at 5.30pm on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> November  
90 High Street, Univ College**

- a. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- b. Matters Arising from the Minutes
- c. Ratifications in Council
- d. Elections in Council
- e. Reports from the Sabbatical Officers
- f. Reports from the Executive Officers who wish to make reports
- g. Questions to Members of the Executive
- h. Emergency Motions
- i. Passage of Motions Nem Con
- j. Motions of No Confidence or Censure
- k. First readings of Motions to Amend the Constitution or Standing Orders
- l. The Budget or Amended Budget
- m. Motions Authorising Capital Expenditure
- n. Other Motions
  - i. motions affecting ousu members as ousu members
  - ii. motions affecting ousu members as students at Oxford University
  - iii. motions affecting ousu members as members of the student movement
  - iv. motions affecting ousu members as residents of Oxford
  - v. motions affecting ousu members as residents of the United Kingdom
  - vi. motions affecting ousu members as citizens of the world
- o. Any Other Business

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### **b. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

No matters arising

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### **c. Ratifications in Council**

#### **I. Ratifications to Elections Committee:**

Madeline Stanley (LMH)  
Stuart Togneri (Non-OUSU Member)

**Proposed: Ollie Linch (Lincoln College)**  
**Seconded: Joseph Wales (St Hugh's)**

Ollie Linch (Lincoln)

In order to run elections put Madeline Stanley on Elections Committee, I am sure you can all understand why, and in order to do the mail merge of voter codes put business manager Stuart Togneri on it too.

Passes

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### **d. Elections in Council**

#### **3 members of OUSU for Steering Committee**

Do people want to hust for this?

Yes.

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):

Answer to standard questions. No, Liberal Democrats, Oxford Liberal Democrats and Amnesty International.

This is the Steering Committee, which has just been created, and I have been quite heavily involved with its creation, so I think it would benefit for having me on it for next term.

Stephen Greatley (St Hilda's):  
No, No

I am 2<sup>nd</sup> yr French and German student at St Hilda's didn't get involved in OUSU last year, but would like to get more involved. I think I would be reliable, good at working with other people, have to work as part of team. Think would allow me to get more familiar with what's going on at OUSU. Really appreciate it if you could vote for me.

Jim O'Connell (Univ):  
No, Labour Party and OURC

I have been colleges OUSU rep, quite a lot of experience of seeing the constitution work in practice, learnt a lot from seeing these processes. One thing that Martin the previous chair of council did well was make small changes to motions which made them work better before they came to council think I could do quite well at this too.

Questions:  
Is there any motion you think is inappropriate for council to discuss?

Jonny Medland (The Queen's)  
No think council should be able to discuss what it wants to.

Stephen Greatley (St Hilda's)  
Don't think there is anything shouldn't discuss but would advise people to read what is brought to council carefully.

Jim O'Connell (Univ):  
Should be able to bring whatever want but if racially abusive or stupid then will advise them not appropriate.

Is this a ploy for you to extend your power?

Stephen Greatley (St Hilda's):  
Yes

Jim O'Connell (Univ):  
Maybe

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):  
Yes

Only few days between meeting and council, how are you going to cope with constraints?

Jim: O'Connell (Univ):  
Think will cover well fine am working well with little sleep. Think important that OUSU reps have info in a timely fashion.

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):  
Structure meet on Thursday, agenda Friday, common room meet at weekends. Really up to common rooms what they want to discuss, system designed to facilitate.

Stephen Greatley (St Hilda's):  
Am used to working to strict deadlines, so don't see as a problem.

The meeting room is heavily overbooked could you host in your own office?

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):  
No problem

Stephen Greatley (St Hilda's):  
Could use St Hilda's JCR

Jim O'Connell (Univ):  
No office but could maybe co-ordinate by Blackberry

### **3 members of OUSU for Budget Committee**

Hust requested

William Hartshorn (Hertford):  
Not yet, Labour party

I think I could do a good job on budget committee my JCR is concerned about the OUSU budget, need to be careful not to over budget, Think new mechanism good as will give greater scrutiny

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):  
Answer to standard questions. No, Liberal Democrats, Oxford Liberal Democrats and Amnesty International.

I designed this one as well, am on OSSL board, think really important transparent, been involved for 3 years. Scrutiny of budget important to give confidence in what we are doing.

Questions:  
What is your budget experience?

William Hartshorn (Hertford):  
Managed Hertford's Freshers Committee budget, in addition also go through with treasurer the way funds are spent.

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):  
JCR President in 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Observer at university council, so helped scrutinise this I suppose and on OSSL board.

### **2 members of OUSU for Rules Committee**

I student for the Joint Committee of University Council with Student members

Ollie hands over to Joseph Wales.

Ollie Linch  
No, Oxford Conservative Association, Oxford University Labour Club and the Oxford University Liberal Democrats.

Really good idea, thought that there was an absence in VP grads, this is something think important, will turn up and will make contributions.

Jonny Medland (The Queen's)  
JCCSM is a University Council with student members it deals with issues that relate to the relationship between OUSU and the university and is one of the main ways we get to influence the university

Daniel Lowe (St Edmund's Hall)

What is your student status in MT10?

At the moment may be out of office for MT09. Sorry should have mentioned.

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## **i. Passage of Motions NemCom**

### **I. Presidential Rule of Interpretation**

#### **Council notes and approves:**

1. The Presidential Rule of Interpretation below regarding full membership of OUSU and the status of deferred students.

**Proposed:** **Stefan Baskerville (Univ)**

**Secoded:** **Madeline Stanley (LMH)**

There is some uncertainty as to who constitutes a full member of OUSU, which pertains to the category of deferred students.

Article K of the OUSU Constitution defines a student member as:

"... any person who, having been matriculated, is residing to fulfil the conditions laid down by decree of the University for the purposes of any degree or diploma of the University."

This definition is the basis for this interpretation, despite being at variance with the University's definition of Student Member.

Students who have deferred their studies or suspended their status cannot be *residing to fulfil the conditions* (which I take to mean residency requirements). He/she may be living in Oxford but such resident is not *in order* to fulfil any conditions laid down by the University. I therefore make the following interpretation:

**Students whose status is currently under suspension or have deferred for any reason are not full members of OUSU.**

Stefan Baskerville  
University College  
OUSU President  
4<sup>th</sup> November 2009

Passes NemCom

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### **2. Motion to Review Student Engagement with the OUSU Electoral Process:**

Opposition moves to full debate.

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### **3. Associated Organisations**

#### **Council notes:**

1. OUSU is associated to The Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art Students Association.
2. OUSU is associated to Westminster College JCR.
3. Neither of these organisations exist.
4. That the process for changing the Schedules of Associated Organisations is laid down in the OUSU Constitution Article J 2.1 (c).

#### **Council believes:**

1. That OUSU should not be associated with organisations that no longer exist.

2. That it would be a good thing if OUSU's Schedules referred to the Constitution in an accurate manner

**Council resolves:**

1. To remove The Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art Students Association from the list of Associated Organisations from Schedule 2.
2. To remove Westminster College JCR from the list of Associated Organisations from Schedule 2.
3. To remove

Schedule 2 A.1.1 *This schedule may be amended as specified in Article 1.2(c) of the Constitution.*

To insert:

Schedule 2 A.1.1 *This Schedule may be amended as specified in Article J 2.1 (c) of the Constitution*

**Proposed:** **Jonny Medland (The Queen's)**

**Seconded:** **Madeline Stanley (LMH)**

Passes nem com

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#### **4. Schedule 4- The Financial Standing Orders**

**Council notes:**

1. That at the moment there are two contradictory processes detailed to change Schedule 4.
2. That the list of Publications given in Schedule 4 is out of date.
3. That the list of publications at the moment includes a description of the purpose of each publication.

**Council believes:**

1. The contradiction in this Schedule should be removed.
2. That the list of publications in this schedule should be up-to-date.
3. That it is not necessary to detail the purpose of each publication in the schedules.
4. That if changes Standing Orders are passed for the final time in Termly Council, it will be necessary to detail in this schedule which Publications shall be exempt from OUSU Policy in that they shall be bound to provide authoritative and non-directional advice and support.

Council resolves:

1. To Strike the current Schedule 4.  
To Insert the following Schedule 4:

##### **A. Financial Standing Orders**

###### **A 1. Nature of Schedule**

*1.1 These schedules shall be amended only by a motion passed by a simple majority at OUSU Council.*

###### **A 2. Bank Accounts**

*2.1 The following Current Accounts shall exist:*

- i.Oxford University Student Union
- ii.Oxford Student Services Limited

*2.2 The following Deposit Accounts shall exist:*

- i.Oxford University Student Union
- ii.Oxford Student Services Limited

### **A 3. Publications**

3.1 The following publications shall be produced in line with Standing Orders and shall in all cases be bound by OUSU Policy:

- (i) Alternative Prospectus
- (ii) Oxford and Cambridge Careers Handbook
- (iii) Oxford Handbook
- (iv) Fresher's Guide
- (v) Living Out Guide

3.2 The following publications shall be produced in line with Standing Orders and shall be exempt from OUSU Policy in that they shall be bound to provide authoritative and non-directional advice and support:

- (i) Survival Guide
- (ii) Student Parents' Guide
- (iii) LGBTQ Handbook
- (iv) Women's Handbook

**Proposed:** Jonny Medland (The Queen's)  
**Seconded:** Madeline Stanley (LMH)

Passes NemCom

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## **5. Schedule 5- Job Descriptions**

### **Council notes:**

1. That the Job Descriptions in this schedule are out of date.
2. That this schedule does not specify any procedure by which this schedule may be amended.

### **Council believes:**

1. That the Job Descriptions in this Schedule should be up-to-date.
2. That this schedule should specify a procedure by which this schedule may be amended.

### **Council resolves:**

1. To Strike Schedule 5 as it stands and Insert

## **Schedule 5- Job Descriptions**

### **A Job Descriptions**

#### *A 1. Nature of Schedule*

*1.1 These schedules shall be amended only by a motion passed by a simple majority at OUSU Council*

#### *A 2. Sabbatical Officers*

##### *2a) OUSU President*

*The responsibilities of the OUSU President shall be:*

*1. To liaise with OUSU's constituent and associate organisations, maintaining channels of communication between them and OUSU.*

*2. To enable and organise co-ordination between such organisations as requested by the organisations.*

3.To provide support, information and training for constituent/associate organisation Presidents and OUSU reps.

4.To liaise with and represent OUSU and its members to committees of the University and other external groups, including those relevant groups working at a local authority level.

5.To deal with all enquiries from the media, and OUSU's response to them.

6.To co-ordinate campaigns relating to areas such as student finance (along with the relevant committees), and co-ordinate OUSU's general campaigns strategy.

7.To liaise with relevant OUSU Committees and to liaise with graduate officers about graduate affairs.

8. To organise OUSU Council meetings and other general meetings, and ensure publicity for them.

9.To liaise with the NUS and with individual student unions across the country (including Oxford Brookes University S.U. and CUSU)

10.To deal with constitutional business, including making presidential rules of interpretation when required.

#### 2b) OUSU Vice-President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities)

##### A. Elected Posts

The responsibilities of the OUSU Vice-President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) shall be:

1. To campaign on student welfare and welfare related issues, in conjunction with relevant OUSU committees, groups and campaigns and officers where appropriate.
2. To liaise with and represent OUSU and its members to committees of the University and other external groups.
3. To contribute to production of OUSU's publications where appropriate.
4. Providing support, information and training for student welfare providers, including but not limited to welfare officers and LGBTQ officers. This will include:
  - i. At least (and usually more than) two training sessions per term, including at least one session and preferably two sessions per academic year on listening skills.
  - ii. Sending out weekly welfare mailings to student welfare providers and others who have a valid interest in student welfare issues.
  - iii. Maintaining the appropriate e-mail discussion/information lists and web-pages.

This work will often be done in conjunction with other OUSU officers and staff.

5. To be responsible for ensuring that the Student Advice Service is compliant with the Data Protection Act and other relevant legislation, and to be the Data Protection Officer for the Student Union.
6. To have ultimate responsibility for the conduct and responsibilities of the Student Advice Service and to have ultimate jurisdiction over the structures of the team.
7. To co-ordinate and supervise the work of OUSU's Student Advice Service in conjunction with other sabbatical officers and staff. The Vice-President (Welfare & Equal Opportunities) shall be responsible for an annual review of confidentiality policy and working procedures.
8. To assist in the general running of the Student Union in cooperation with the President, other sabbatical officers and members of staff.

#### 2c) OUSU Vice-President (Women)

The responsibilities of the OUSU Vice-President (Women) shall be:

1. To have overall responsibility within OUSU to represent women and the interests of women in all aspects of OUSU's work and to ensure that women students are encouraged to play a full role in the Student Union, the University, and constituent organisations.
2. To represent the Student Union and women students to relevant University committees and other external committees.
3. To work with the other OUSU officers to ensure that women's issues, views and opinions are recognised and reflected throughout the work of OUSU.
4. To oversee the work of the OUSU Women's Campaign and OUSU Promoting-Choice Committee, and liaise between these committees and the OUSU Executive.
5. To edit and publish the Student Parent Handbook (which must incorporate information about pre-school childcare, out of school childcare, student parent finance, children with special educational needs and useful contacts) biennially. To run an event for student parents each term, maintain resources for student parents and be able to provide individual support to student parents.
6. To provide a point of reference, liaison, information and support for women's officers (and other officers concerned with women's issues) in the constituent organizations.
7. To promote a harassment-free environment in the Student Union and support the work of constituent organizations in this area.
8. To be available to give confidential welfare advice to women students.
9. To campaign on issues which relate to the interests of women students (e.g. academic achievement, safety, etc).
10. To campaign on issues concerning the admission of women to the University, and oversee the organisation of the annual Women's Open Day.
11. Oversee the content of certain publications (e.g. the Women's Officer Handbook (in the years in which it is produced); the Unplanned Pregnancy: Your Options Booklet; the OUSU Guide to Eating Disorders; the OUSU Student Parent Handbook; and Love Without Chains, the guide to support for survivors of abuse.) and organise their distribution.
12. Liaise with relevant external organisations (e.g National Union of Students Women's Unit; Oxford Brookes Students Union Women's Officer).
13. Oversee the running of the Safety Bus, and ensure that it runs in compliance with all relevant legislation.

2d) OUSU Vice-President (Graduates)

The responsibilities of the OUSU Vice-President (Graduates) shall be:

1. To campaign on issues of particular relevance to postgraduates, in conjunction with relevant OUSU and University committees.
2. To liaise with and represent OUSU and its postgraduate members to committees of the University and external groups,
3. To work with the Presidents of Graduate Common Rooms. To be responsible for the maintenance of related electronic mail lists and web-accessible databases and to be responsible for the coordination of Post-Graduate Assembly.
4. To contribute to OUSU publications that focus upon graduate concerns.
5. To be the sabbatical officer nominally responsible for international students and mature students, to liaise with the co-chairs of OUSU's International Students Campaign and Mature Students Campaign and to oversee their work.

. 2e) OUSU Vice-President (Access & Academic Affairs)

The responsibilities of the OUSU Vice-President (Access & Academic Affairs) shall be:

1. Access

- a) Lobbying: to serve on all major University Access Committees and Working Parties, providing a dedicated, full-time voice to access issues.
- b) Publications: In conjunction with editors, to oversee the production of the Alternative Prospectus.
- c). Target Schools: To support and supervise the work of the Target Schools Scheme scheme in Oxford.

2. Academic Affairs

- a) Campaigns and lobbying: To take responsibility for leading campaign work on issues such as study skills, libraries and facilities, appeals structures, examinations and marking schemes, potential changes to the tutorial system and graduate teaching and support.
- b) Co-ordination and Support: To provide support, resources and advice for JCR Academic Affairs Reps and Departmental JCC Reps, as well as the Undergraduate Divisional Board Representatives; and to enable the Student Union to accumulate University-wide expertise to assist these student officers in their work.
- c) Publications: To supervise the Committee's production of the Academic Affairs Handbook.
- d) Representation: To offer representation to JCRs and MCRs on behalf of students on Academic matters, and to act as the SU representative in University-level Committees and appeals.

2f) OUSU Vice President (Charities and Community)

The responsibilities of the Vice-President (Charities & Community) shall be:

1. Students:

- a. To serve as the political representative for students' views on ethical, environmental and social matters, providing expertise and engagement with relevant issues.
- b. Represent student views to relevant university committees, and be well-informed and engaged with the issues at hand.
- c. To communicate regularly with common room charity. RAG, and Environment and Ethics reps to support their work, enable coordination between common rooms and the sharing of best practice.

2. OUSU:

- a. To coordinate and oversee Oxford RAG organising RAG elections; charity nominations and allocations; the stall at Freshers' Fair; overseeing the content of all RAG publicity, publications and website; liaising with the Advertising Coordinator regarding advertising issues; ensuring financial scrutiny (with the accounts staff)
- b. Coordinate OUSU Environment and Ethics campaigns as chosen by the Environment and Ethics committee. To oversee the Environment and Ethics committee organising Environment and Ethics elections; the stall at Freshers' Fair; overseeing the content of all Environment and Ethics publicity, publications and website; liaising with the Advertising Coordinator regarding advertising issues; ensuring financial scrutiny (with the accounts staff).
- c. To chair weekly Charities Committee meetings working closely with elected charity/RAG reps from common rooms to enable coordination between common rooms and sharing of best practice.
- d. To liaise with the OUSU executive to ensure the implementation of sustainability into the work of OUSU.

e. *Focusing on the implementation of environmental, social and ethical policy*

f. *And assessing the environmental and social sustainability of the OUSU office.*

g. *Work with other sabbatical officers in the OUSU team where appropriate, e.g. to tackle issues of ethical issues in the curriculum.*

h. *In addition to these responsibilities specific to the role of Vice-President (Charities and Community) the incumbent will also assist in the general running of the Student Union, in cooperation with the President, the other vice-presidents and members of staff.*

### *3. University:*

a. *To act as the student representative on relevant university committees and university-level projects including, but not limited to, the Environment Panel Committee and the Socially Responsible Investment Review Committee.*

b. *Push forward and support the university in its efforts to reduce energy use, integrate awareness of sustainability into academic curricula, and invest more ethically.*

c. *To organise—in partnership with the Oxford University Careers Service and the Oxford Hub—a careers fair focussed on ethical and community job opportunities and coordinate an organising committee for this fair.*

d. *Promote Oxford University as a centre of excellence in holding up high ethical standards and addressing ethical issues consciously with responsibility, intellectual rigour and courage.*

### *4. Oxford Hub:*

a. *To work closely with the Oxford Hub to encourage the student involvement in volunteering projects, to increase local volunteering opportunities and the coordination between student charitable organisations.*

b. *Facilitate the Oxford Hub in providing support, assistance and information to any individual student or club/society within the university involved in charitable work.*

c. *To sit as an Advisory Board member for the Oxford Hub.*

### *5. Local:*

a. *To improve OUSU's links with the local community by attending (where relevant) local council meetings, local committee meetings, liaising with local representatives and directly coordinating joint initiatives between the local community and the student-body.*

b. *To work with the Oxford Hub to ensure the provision and promotion of local volunteering opportunities*

### *6. National:*

a. *Liaise with the national RAG network and individual RAGs across the country with the view to improve the work of RAG in Oxford.*

b. *Liaise with the national Environment and Ethics and individual Environment and Ethics equivalents across the country with the view to improve the work of Environment and Ethics in Oxford.*

c. *Network and liaise with other student unions both in this country and others, and other relevant student campaign networks, both to share best practice and to provide inspiration and mutual support and ethical, environmental and social campaigns that reflect the desires of the student body.*

## *A 3. Executive Officers*

### 3a) Rent and Accommodation Officer

1. Maintain and regularly update a database of current rents for all Oxford colleges.
2. With the help of the President, produce the 'Rent Support Pack' giving advice to those negotiating rent deals on behalf of common rooms and distribute to all Common Room Presidents and other Common Room officers involved in such negotiations
3. Support students dealing with private accommodation by working with the Vice-President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) to produce the Living Out Guide and convene housing advice surgeries.
4. Maintain information and advice on rent and accommodation on the OUSU web-site.

### 3b) International Students Officer

1. Provide support to Common Room International Students Officers and to Common Room initiatives to support international students.
2. Work with the OUSU President to assess applications for the Oxford Student Scholarship scheme.
3. Maintain information and advice for international students on the OUSU web-site.
4. Liaise with the international student community to identify problems facing international students and work with them to resolve them.
5. Provide administrative, campaigning and other support to the International Students Campaign.
6. Work to further the interests of international students in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.

### 3c) Community Outreach and Charities Officer

1. Work with the Vice-President (Charities and Community) representing OUSU in the local community, coordinating projects and attending local council meetings.
2. Help build and maintain links with the local community and Liaise with universities across the country sharing ideas charitable best practice.
3. Provide administrative, campaigning and other support to the RAG executive committee.
4. Work with The Oxford Hub to create and promote volunteering opportunities for students in the local community.
5. Actively encourage student involvement in local charities and support groups
6. Work with the Vice-President (Charities and Community) to build links with charity/RAG reps in common rooms across Oxford to provide information, resources and support to them.
7. Work with the Vice-President (Charities and Community) the Oxford University Careers Service and the Oxford Hub to organise a careers fair focussed on ethical and community job opportunities.

### 3d) Health and Welfare Officer

1. Provide administrative, campaigning and other support to the Welfare Committee.
2. Work with the Vice-President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) to develop and publish online the Survival Guide and Eating Disorders Guide.
3. Work with the Vice-President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) to further the health and welfare interests of students in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.

### 3e) Access and Admissions Officer

1. Provide administrative, campaigning and other support to the Target Schools co-chairs.
2. Help to organise Target Schools events.
3. Attend open days, alongside the regional conferences for which it is financially viable for them to attend.
4. Work with the VP (Access and Academic Affairs) in sourcing information for the Alternative Prospectus, including keeping the relevant pages on the website updated in years between print runs.
5. Maintaining a section on the web-site which details all the ways to get involved in access initiatives across the University.
6. Provide information and support to common room officers responsible for access and admissions.
7. Work with the Vice-President (Access and Academic Affairs) to further the cause of fair admissions in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.

### 3f) Environment and Ethics Officer

1. Work with the Vice-President (Charities and Community) to provide administrative campaigning and other support to the Environment and Ethics Committee.
2. To organise and facilitate Environment and Ethics meetings with the Environment and Ethics executive.
3. To work closely with and provide an active support to elected/appointed environment and ethics representatives from affiliated common rooms to enable coordination between common rooms and the sharing of best practice.
4. To provide support for campaign groups and individuals interested in environmental, ethical and social justice campaigns and issues.
5. Work to further the interests of social, environmental and ethical responsibility in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.

### 3g) Academic Affairs Campaign Officer

1. Provide administrative, campaigning and other support to the Academic Affairs committee.
2. Work with the Vice-President (Access and Academic Affairs) to further the academic interests of students in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.
3. Work with the VP (Access and Academic Affairs) to support Common Room Academic Affairs officers, JCC reps and Divisional Board Reps by ensuring that lists of people in these positions are kept and any relevant information is sent to them.
4. Maintain information for the above representative positions on the OUSU web-site.

### 3h) Women's Campaign Officer

1. Provide administrative, campaigning and other support to the Women's Campaign, Promoting Choice campaign and Student Parents Committee.
2. Work with the Vice-President (Women) to further the interests of women in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.
3. Work with the VP (Women) to produce online the following publications: Guide to Unplanned Pregnancy, Eating Disorder Guide and the Student Parents Guide.

### 3i) Common Room Support Officer

1. *Maintain the central database of common room officers.*
2. *Convene meetings of OUSU Reps committee.*
3. *Create resources for common room officers as their needs dictate; publish these resources on the OUSU web-site, updating when necessary.*
4. *Provide information to common room OUSU Reps and support their involvement in OUSU.*
5. *Help the President with publicity, including sending out emails.*

3j) *Black and Minority Ethnic Students' and Anti-Racism Officer*

1. *Represent the interests of Black and Minority Ethnic Students to the OUSU Executive and University.*
2. *Lobby for the interests of Black and Minority Ethnic Students in all areas of the student experience including (but not limited to) access, academic affairs and welfare.*
3. *Support the OUSU Cultural and Racial- Awareness and Equality Campaign in their work.*
4. *Liaise with BME and Anti-Racist student societies and groups within the University.*
5. *Support Common Room Ethnic Minorities Representatives (or equivalent) in their work and arrange regular meetings between them.*

3k) *Students with Disabilities Officer*

1. *Represent the interests of Students with Disabilities to the OUSU Executive and University.*
2. *Lobby for the interests of Students with Disabilities in all areas of the student experience including (but not limited to) access, academic affairs and welfare.*
3. *Liaise with the University Disability Office on a regular basis.*
4. *Support the OUSU Students with Disabilities Campaign in their work.*
5. *Support Common Room Students' With Disabilities Officers (or equivalent) in their work and arrange regular meetings between them.*
6. *To be a member of the OUSU Equal Opportunities Executive and attend meetings.*

3l) *LGBT Officer*

1. *Represent the interests of LGBT Students to the OUSU Executive and the University.*
2. *Lobby for the interests of LGBT Students in all areas of the student experience including (but not limited to) access, academic affairs and welfare.*
3. *Work with the University Diversity and Equal Opportunities Unit.*
4. *Work with LGBT groups and networks within the University.*
5. *Support Common Room LGBT Officers and arrange meetings to exchange best practice and support them in their work.*

### *3m) Mature Students Officer*

- 1. Represent the interests of Mature Students to the OUSU Executive and University.*
- 2. Lobby for the interests of Mature Students in all areas of the student experience including (but not limited to) access, academic affairs and welfare.*
- 4. Support the OUSU Mature Students Campaign in their work.*
- 4. Support Common Room Officers with responsibility for mature students in their work and arrange regular meetings between them and raise awareness of mature students issues in JCRs.*

### *A3 Graduate Officers*

#### *3a) Graduate Academic Affairs Officer*

- 1. Work with the Vice-President (Graduates) and the Vice-President (Access and Academic Affairs) and the to further the academic interests of graduates in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.*
- 2. Attend meetings of Post-Graduate Assembly and keep the Assembly informed of their work.*
- 3. Further the involvement of graduate students in OUSU, through common room outreach and other activities.*

#### *3b) Graduate Health and Welfare Officer*

- 1. Provide administrative, campaigning and other support to the OUSU Welfare Committee.*
- 2. Work with the Vice-President (Graduates) and the Vice-President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) to further the welfare interests of graduates in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.*
- 3. Attend meetings of Post-Graduate Assembly and keep the Assembly informed of their work.*
- 4. Further the involvement of graduate students in OUSU through common room outreach and other activities.*

#### *3c) Graduate International Officer*

- 1. Provide support to Graduate Common Room International Students Officers and to common room initiatives to support international students.*
- 2. Work with the OUSU Vice-President (Graduates) in preparing the international graduate induction procedures.*
- 3. Maintain information and advice for graduate international students on the OUSU web-site.*
- 4. Liaise with the international student community to identify problems facing graduate international students and work with them to resolve them.*
- 5. Provide administrative, campaigning and other support to the International Students Campaign.*
- 6. Work to further the interests of international students in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.*
- 7. Attend meetings of Post-Graduate Assembly and keep the Assembly informed of their work.*
- 8. Further the involvement of graduate students in OUSU through common room outreach and other activities.*

#### *3d) Graduate Women's Officer*

1. Provide administrative, campaigning and other support to the Women's Campaign, Promoting Choice campaign and Student Parents Committee.

2. Work with the Vice-President (Women) to further the interests of graduate women in OUSU, the Colleges and the University in accordance with OUSU policy and Council mandates.

3. Attend meetings of Post-Graduate Assembly and keep the Assembly informed of their work.

4. Further the involvement of graduate students in OUSU through common room outreach and other activities.

**Proposed:** **Jonny Medland (The Queen's)**

**Seconded:** **Madeline Stanley (Lady Margaret Hall)**

Passes NemCom

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## 6. Permanent Committees

### Council notes:

1. The proposed New-Policy Making Structure.
2. That the proposed new Steering Committee may refer motions for consideration to Permanent Committees.
3. Meetings currently held by Sabbatical Officers to support Common Room Academic Affairs reps, Common Room Access reps, Common Room Welfare reps and Common Room Equal Opportunities reps.

### Council believes:

1. That Steering Committees may wish to refer motions relating to Academic Affairs, Access, Welfare and Equal Opportunities to a committee.
2. That, as such, OUSU would benefit by having permanent committees dedicated to these issues which could then discuss any motion referred to them by Steering Committee.
3. That the meetings held by Sabbatical Officers to support Common Room Academic Affairs reps, Common Room Access reps, Common Room Welfare reps and Common Room Equal Opportunities reps should be integrated into the work of a formal Committee.

### Council resolves:

1. To establish an Academic Affairs Committee, an Access Committee, a Welfare Committee and an Equal Opportunities Committee, which shall be Permanent Committees of OUSU.
2. To integrate the support provided by Sabbatical Officers to Common Room Academic Affairs reps, Common Room Access reps, Common Room Welfare reps and Common Room Equal Opportunities reps into the work of these Permanent Committees.

**Proposed:** **Jonny Medland (The Queen's)**

**Seconded:** **Madeline Stanley (Lady Margaret Hall)**

Passes NemCom

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## 7. Sky TV: subscription costs

### Council notes:

1. That a number of Common Rooms in Oxford subscribe to Sky TV as a service to their members
2. That Common Rooms do not benefit financially from this arrangement.
3. That Sky TV treat Common Rooms as commercial operations, like Pubs and Bars, and accordingly charge a commercial rate of approximately £4,400 annually.
4. That, relative to Common Room expenditure, this is a significant amount of money.

**Council believes:**

1. That Sky TV have failed to distinguish between student-run, membership-based college Common Rooms and full-scale commercial operations such as pubs or bars.
2. That Sky TV have failed to understand the Oxbridge collegiate system.
3. That £4,400 is a significant financial burden for Common Rooms.
4. That Sky TV are not charging Common Rooms appropriately;
5. That many students benefit from and enjoy the services offered by Sky TV.

**Council resolves:**

1. To mandate the OUSU President and the Common Room Support Officer to contact Sky TV on behalf of the Common Rooms to negotiate a fairer charge for their services.
2. To invite each Common Room President to add their signature to the initial correspondence.
3. To coordinate these efforts with the CUSU President.
4. To encourage other Universities in the UK with a similar problem to join our campaign.

**Proposed:** **Jack Matthews (St. Peter's College)**  
**Seconded:** **Stefan Baskerville (University College)**

Passes NemCom

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**8. Reduction of Unwanted Printed Material**

Opposition

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**9. University Sports Review****Council Notes:**

1. That in September the Committee to Review University Sport reported to University Council.
2. That the committee's report is now available on the University Intranet at <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/council/c0996>
3. That the recommendations from the committee include a near-doubling of the college capitation fee which helps fund university sport, that the main provision for university sport remains in central Oxford.
4. That the current plan for raising £30 million to fund necessary capital expenditure is that this be achieved through a campaign led by the Development Office.
5. That a possible alternative to Council Resolves 4 (mentioned specifically in the report) is to fund the costs of borrowing the £30 million by charging individual students £150 per year for the next 30 years.

**Council Believes:**

1. The report identifies some important issues and rightly concludes that university sport needs to be both better funded and more effectively governed.
2. That £150 per year is a significant amount of money for individual students to pay to help fund university sport.
3. That alternative means should be found to amortise the costs of borrowing £30 million over a 30 year period.

**Council Resolves:**

1. To support in principle the recommendations of the Committee to Review University Sport.
2. To oppose the possibility of a regressive per capita levy on individual students of £150 per year for the next 30 years.
3. To mandate the OUSU Executive to communicate these policies to the university.

**Proposed:** **Jonny Medland (The Queen's)**  
**Seconded:** **Stefan Baskerville (University)**

Passes NemCom

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## **10. Timing of NUS Invoices**

### **Council notes:**

1. That OUSU Council agreed unanimously in Trinity 2008 that the cost of affiliation to NUS should be shared between all Common Rooms affiliated to OUSU.
2. The affiliation fee for each particular affiliated Common Room is currently calculated by dividing the total cost of affiliation by the number of students in affiliated common rooms and multiplying by the number of students in that particular common room.
3. That currently the fee for each Common Room therefore cannot be calculated until student numbers from every common room are known, and thus the invoices cannot be sent out until the last College Secretary has replied with student number information.
4. That invoices for NUS affiliation fees for 2008/9 were not sent out until after the end of Trinity 2009.
5. NUS has changed its arrangements for billing NUS affiliation fees over the last few years. Fees are now based on student numbers for 2 years ago. Reasons given for this are that it assists Unions to plan, as they know their affiliation fee in advance and that it aids the swifter billing to Unions who often did not know their actual student numbers until December.

### **Council believes:**

1. That sending out invoices after the end of the academic year to which they apply is not desirable.
2. That it is better for Common Rooms to receive bills for the current year as early as possible, to allow best administration of finances.
3. That the NUS affiliation fee could be calculated using the previous year's student numbers, allowing bills to be sent out with OUSU affiliation invoices during Michaelmas term, as soon as the current student numbers for any one particular common room are known.

### **Council resolves:**

1. To calculate NUS affiliation fees for Common Rooms based on the previous year's student numbers.

**Proposed:** **Stefan Baskerville (University)**

**Seconded:** **Jonny Medland (The Queen's)**

Passes NemCom

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## **11. Oxford City Council Landlord Accreditation Scheme**

### **Council notes:**

1. That thousands of Oxford students rent accommodation in the private sector.
2. That Oxford City Council is launching a landlord accreditation scheme in January.
3. That consultation on the scheme is currently open and closes on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November.
4. That the President and Vice-President Welfare and Equal Opportunities have begun consulting with students and common rooms about students' experiences of renting accommodation in the private sector.

### **Council believes:**

1. That students' interests are served by policy measures which improve the quality of accommodation in the private sector and raise the standards to which landlords and lettings agents must adhere.
2. The landlord accreditation scheme has the potential to be one such policy measure.
3. That further work may need to be done with the City Council in ensuring standards are maintained by lettings agents as well as landlords.

### **Council resolves:**

1. To mandate the President and Vice-President Welfare and Equal Opportunities to write a submission to the City Council consultation, to include reports on students' experiences of renting and any relevant recommendations to improve the scheme.

**Proposed:** **Stefan Baskerville (University)**  
**Seconded:** **Dani Quinn (Merton)**

Passes NemCom

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## **12. Discounts on Buses**

### **Council notes:**

1. Many students, especially medical students, have to travel far out of the centre of town for certain courses, as part of their degree.
2. That currently students have to pay the full fair for these journeys, which over time can add to up a very large financial burden on students.
3. That many students are getting taxis for their journeys, as this can often be cheaper than the bus.
4. That Oxford Brookes students currently get a discount on all Oxford Bus Company buses.

### **Council believes:**

1. That all students in Oxford should be able to get a discount on buses in Oxford.
2. That getting the bus is more environmentally friendly than getting a taxi.

### **Council resolves:**

1. To mandate the OUSU President and the Common Room Support Officer to work with the bus companies in Oxford to get a discount for Oxford University Students.

**Proposed:** **Jack Matthews (St. Peter's College)**  
**Seconded:** **Stefan Baskerville (University College)**

Passes NemCom

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## **13. Motion to establish OUSU's stance on bad things**

Opposition

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## **n. Other Motions**

### **2. Motion to Review Student Engagement with the OUSU Electoral Process:**

#### **Council notes:**

1. With a few exceptions, the level of attendance at OUSU hustings has been extremely low this term
2. The introduction of Alternative Hustings in Michaelmas Term 2008 as a way of "boosting student interest" in OUSU elections.

#### **Council believes:**

1. That all democratic institutions should strive to engage their constituents in the electoral process.
2. That the current hustings procedures as a means of helping students make an informed choice between candidates are not fit for purpose.
3. That there are a range of options which could potentially improve this situation, including: greater use of online media, incentivising students to attend election debates and improved notice of timings.
4. That these and any other potential improvements should be explored.

#### **Council resolves:**

1. Mandate the OUSU President and Returning Officer to initiate a full review of how candidates currently engage with the electorate, specifically in relation to hustings and other ways in which the electorate are enabled to make an informed choice between candidates.
2. Report recommendations back to OUSU Council no later than 7th Week of Hilary Term 2010.

**Proposed: Jason Keen (St John's)**  
**Seconded: Will Hartshorn (Hertford)**

Jason Keen (St John's)

I am bringing this after attending the hustings this term. Lack of students attended, my frustration peaked at alternative hustings. Alternative hustings only 3 ordinary students turned up. What frustrated me is the resignation; we have to put hand on heart to say we are engaging students with electoral process, at this time can't say this. Returning officer should consult; changes could be made to timings. Incentives there really are no incentives. There should be carrots; with OUSU's commercial connections should be a big central hust. Also online, Cambridge can watch online. Turn out has dropped.

Jesse Harber (St Hilda's)

Is it a sign of general disinterest, could we not have a look at the wider electoral regulations, should we not expand to all other parts, we do have very strict election rules.

Jason Keen (St John's)

Full review of all rules, time consuming for sabs, if council think should expand to other things apart from hustings could do.

Lucas (Merton)

What was the turn out?

Madeline Stanley (LMH)

15.4%

Mark Brackell (Lincoln)

Took me an hour to vote, so many positions we elect people for. Reviewing husts think important. Is part of a bigger problem think needs addressing.

Jason Keen (St John's)

This is a big issue goes beyond elections as whole, but think we should start with hustings.

Speech in opposition

Kat Wall (LMH):

I am going to play devil advocate, there are huge problems with turnout, and engagement completely accept problems. Gone through again and again what we can do to improve. Did a huge review. Just to make council aware, done inordinate amount to publicise, been out there, all of part time exec positions run for this time, which has never happened before. Not a huge achievement but we are moving forward.

OUSU is all of us, its actually dependent on all of us, not just when there is an election. This is our student union if we care about it, has to be ongoing.

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds Hall):

Sab time is so pressure, just made jokes about Jonny not sleeping. Having this will not help. A lot discussed of this has been discussed at Elections Committee people don't want to be videoed. Mandating a review of a process that is seen to be getting better not a good use of Sabbatical time.

Dani Quinn (Merton)

No harm in what Jason suggesting, see no harm in Pizza at hustings. Having a review would meann more people could feed into the process.

Jason Keen (St John's)

Agree with what said where improved. Reason I suggested just hustings was that there could be a small improvement, which could improve whole system

Leonie Northedge (St John's)

Think significant improvements could be made with information provided about when husts are going to be held, I was only advised a few days before, which made it difficult to advise and publicise.

Will Hartshorn (Hertford):

Proposes move to vote.

Move to vote seconded.

Jason Keen (St John's)

Specific would improve process the President and RO have to start process and I am happy to work on it if really improve would add to process.

Kat Wall (LMH)

Think important all of us in this room have to make better.

In favour.        40  
Opposition:       1  
Abstention:       2

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## **8. Reduction of Unwanted Printed Material - opposition**

### **Council notes:**

1. That OUSU regularly produces large volumes of printed material for delivery to large segments of Oxford's student population via their college post rooms.
2. That much of this material is immediately discarded by the students who receive it.

### **Council believes:**

1. That unwanted mail is an annoyance to students.
2. That unnecessary printed material bears an environmental cost incompatible with Oxford's environmental obligations.
3. That the financial cost associated with production and distribution of unnecessary printed material represents waste in the OUSU budget.

### **Council resolves:**

1. To maintain a list of colleges and common rooms that have resolved not to receive bulk mailings.
2. Not to send bulk mailings to members of such colleges and common rooms unless such members have individually requested that they receive future mailings.
3. To maintain electronic versions of all bulk mailings (in plaintext or HTML if possible, and PDF otherwise), and make these versions available to all intended recipients of the mailings.
4. To coordinate with colleges and common rooms that have resolved not to receive bulk mailings in order to publicize electronically-distributed materials and to provide limited numbers of printed copies as appropriate.

**Proposed:     Rob Shearer (Linacre)**

**Seconded:    Ruben Kubiak (Linacre)**

Rob Shearer (Lincoln):

OUSU got in touch to arrange drop off of OCCH, porters know how this works most end up in trash. Got back in touch with OUSU, said just send a few, the courier showed up with boxes. Didn't take any at all as courier wouldn't open the box. Stuff like this, we complain about mailings, nothing gets done. A lot of stuff gets sent out would work better if electronic, every one has an email address, OUSU should take responsibility.

Speech in Opposition

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds):

Can think of 58,000 reasons why we should send careers guide to every member; this is an enormous revenue maker. Not a massive environmental impact, we have a mandate to print on recycled paper, can't because can't afford. To quote the International Student Officer didn't know where to buy toothpaste. When Freshers' arrive have loads thrown about them. If just give a little card it is not going to get through, why is a common room trying to protect students from this. Individual students can opt out. It is about protecting the minority.

Ed Brown (Corpus):

Thinking of printing on recycled. Better for environment to have as a pdf. This motion doesn't say no guides going out at all, just less so proportionate to what is going out.

150 careers guides doing nothing, think should object to this happening on a regular basis. Think would be better if sent online. Guaranteed to hit everyone's inbox. Have thought of demand, not annoying people.

Sarah Hutchinson (St Cross):

Not dealing with OCCH, want to talk about Freshers' guide and International Students Guide, was emailed to every international students and up on website. We were deluged at induction, with international students wanting hard copies. People feel the need for this guide. Send Freshers' guide straight to UK students can't afford to send this out. Difficult to contact all students electronically as people change email addresses. Reticent to say should only be sent electronically. All students have a lack of clarity about how welfare provisions are provided, more information we can get to them directly the better.

Ed Brown (Corpus):

Should be just less sent out. International should obviously go out. This is just stuff going out on mass. Copies left ridiculous no need for this.

Alice Heath (Univ):

OCCH trade off money makes for OUSU and environmental trade off, don't care because makes money would be interested to hear how much.

Stefan Baskerville (Univ):

Some things have to remain confidential as it would damage us commercially this is one thing, as if we want to put out to tender it disadvantages us if companies know how much this is as brings in very significant amount of money. You can guess by looking at careers in the financial table.

Ed Brown (Corpus):

Would it go up or down?

Stefan Baskerville (Univ):

If you were a company, and we had said we would do our best to deliver a copy to everyone, I think you would find it a significant problem if common rooms have opted out. I apologise for miscommunication at Linacre, don't think motion addresses this particular issue. May be a communication issue on our side. The financial importance can't be an open question on line and opt out. Second point of principal, delivery of welfare guide and international guide, not services to common rooms, but to its members which is every student, if you are at a college which votes against, this is not a clear principal want to act on. We are increasing electronic distribution, will benefit us lots going on line. This doesn't benefit us best or address Linacre's problems.

Rob Shearer (Linacre):

This seems an attempt to stop OUSU taking responsibility. OUSU is selling its access to Oxford for cash, this is problematic, this isn't our choice colleges choice. Our own porters have rejected things from development office. OUSU has a privileged place, and I think they've gone to far, would like a compromise. We pass this motion or nothing.

Leonie Northedge (St John's):

Dealing with two issues, bulk mailings of welfare and then OCCH, think wider issue with careers guide, think needs making more relevant, think that there is the potential to make it more relevant.

Katherine Terrell (St Hilda's)

Object to the suggestion that selling OUSU for money, know that I as a member of OUSU want it to have more money, wider issues, no solutions. Two issues, common rooms shouldn't prevent their students from receiving welfare guides.

Sarah Hutchinson (St Cross)

Addressing issue, which is important, making it sound that you just get a stack and leave it in your common rooms, you should ensure students get them. If you pidge them to them more will be read if there not just in a corner of the JCR.. OUSU's welfare publications shouldn't be compromised, the core services should be able to be delivered.

Jessie Harber (St Hilda's)

Also think that although Katherine is correct that OUSU's interests are there, OUSU is not just selling as advertising space. People have to find careers; it is a service to students to offer them advice on getting careers. The Welfare Guide, Freshers' Guide and the International Handbook many not designed to be read cover-to-cover, but valuable for students even if they just throw them in a corner and then later need. Could be wastage but would be irresponsible to deny the provision of this guide.

Move to vote

Summary speech

Rob Shearer (Linacre):

Colleges do know how to get these to students, we can ask them and hand them over. All arguments against seem generic; don't think there really is an actual argument. These things are better electronic, should be looking at getting them all online. There has been no single amendment made to this, although lots of opposition. If don't pass, my students aren't going to get anything.

Speech in Opposition

Three reasons against this

1<sup>st</sup> welfare

2<sup>nd</sup> occh

3<sup>rd</sup> practical

Welfare on demand people very vulnerable they don't necessarily want to ask for help. Is a resource that they should have anyway irrespective of their common room.

OCCH trying to make more useful going forward, in OUSU reps meeting beginning part useful indeed, need to get to your students and advise what is good about it.

Nonsense mailing miscommunication, can work on it going forward, could be improved going forward. We will work on the practical considerations.

In favour: 4  
Against: 29  
Abstentions: 4

Motion fails

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#### **14. Motion to establish OUSU's stance on bad things**

##### **Council notes:**

1. The decision in 5th week Trinity 09 policy lapse to retain the OUSU policy which condemns terrorism in all its forms
2. That this decision was supported by the argument that not having a policy sends out the wrong message, and could lead to conclusions that OUSU implicitly supports terrorism in all its forms

**Council believes:**

1. That terrorism is a terrible thing.
2. That there are other terrible things in the world, including, but not limited to, murder, assault, tax evasion, fraud, deception, parking in disabled spaces, hate crimes and vandalism.
3. That OUSU mustn't appear to condone murder assault, tax evasion, fraud, deception, parking in disabled spaces, hate crimes and vandalism.

**Council Resolves:**

1. To condemn murder assault, tax evasion, fraud, deception, parking in disabled spaces, hate crimes and vandalism, in all their forms, in order to send out a clear message on OUSU's position.

**Proposed:** **Liz Neate (Hertford)**

**Seconded:** **Sarah Burton (Hertford)**

Liz Neate sends apologies

Sarah Burton not in attendance.

Chair:

Will anyone step in.?

No one steps in.

Motions fails

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**o. Any Other Business**

Stefan Baskerville (Univ):

Some of you are interested in HE funding and proved it by handing out leaflets or coming to London. Aaron Porter NUS VP for HE, who is half way through his term, they established three year campaign strategy is coming with power point knows an awful lot will answer questions on Friday 2.30pm Exeter college. Someone in lodge pointing way. Will be very interesting. Next steps for fairer funding.

2<sup>nd</sup> is that our counter parts in Cambridge are doing a town takeover on Thursday, doing funny things, variety of things and holding a student noise debate in evening. Told that these debates have been good and heated. I feel guilty as we can't go because we have JCCSM if anyone wants to go, I will give you details.

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**Results of Elections**

Chair of Council: Joseph Wales elected

JCCSM - Ollie Linch elected

Budget Committee Will Hartshorn and Jonny Medland elected

Steering Committee Stephen Greatley, Jonny Medland and Jim O'Connell are all elected.