



## c o u n c i l minutes

**7th week Council Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> November, held at the Maplethorpe Room, St Hugh's 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 osu members as osu members
  - ii. motions affecting osu members as students at Oxford University
  - iii. motions affecting osu members as members of the student movement
  - iv. motions affecting osu members as residents of Oxford
  - v. motions affecting osu members as residents of the United Kingdom
  - vi. motions affecting osu members as citizens of the world
- o. Any Other Business

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

#### **I. Electoral Regulation**

Council notes and approves the following Regulation, issued by the Returning Officer at 1pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> November:

Reg.6.11

Candidates may not post on the wall of other candidates' Facebook groups, save where both candidates are on the same slate.

**Proposed: Joseph Wales (St. Hugh's)**

**Seconded: Matthew Scroggs (St. Hugh's)**

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): There is one ratification in council, since I proposed it I cede the chair to Jack Matthews

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): Can I have a speech in proposition.

Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Essentially as RO I issued a regulation as I thought it was a good idea. It was an OK idea. Please ratify it.

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): SFQ?

Rob: Would this ratification count in the next elections?

Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): No, only in that election. There is no obligation for the next RO to issue similar ratifications

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): Any opposition?

Chris Smith (Keble): We need to have a talk about what a facebook group is as it has changed. If you write on someone's wall, everyone can read this. Facebook as it is now constructed can be used as a form of email list

Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): The reason it is Facebook groups is that the standing order says Facebook group, and specifies this is not a fan page  
The second emergency motion that has been brought forward, will particularly look at FB groups and this may be something that goes there?

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): Any further questions? No. We will vote

In favour: 34

Against: none

Abstain: one

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): The ratification passes and I cede the chair back to Joe

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## d. Elections in Council

**The following positions will be elected in OUSU Council of 7<sup>th</sup> week. To nominate for any of these positions please e-mail a completed nominations form to [motions@ousu.org](mailto:motions@ousu.org) as soon as possible, as the deadline for nominations is midday on Tuesday, November 23rd**

**3 Divisional Board Representatives (2 for each Division – 1 graduate & 1 undergraduate).** Divisional Board Reps are responsible for representing their peers directly to the heads of faculties and division. Successful candidates will serve for **ONE YEAR**, and further information can be obtained from Alex Bulfin, VP (Access and Academic Affairs) at [access@ousu.org](mailto:access@ousu.org).

Vacancies still available: Postgraduate Humanities Rep  
Postgraduate Maths, Physical and Life Sciences Rep  
Undergraduate Medical Sciences Rep

**Complaints Committee (1 vacancy)** Complaints board deals with any complaints raised through OUSU's statutory complaints procedure. Successful candidates will serve for **ONE YEAR**, and further information can be obtained from Jack Matthews, the Common Room Support Officer, via [commonrooms@ousu.org](mailto:commonrooms@ousu.org).

**JCCSM Representative (1 vacancy).** JCCSM is the University's committee responsible for overseeing the work of OUSU. Successful candidates will serve for **ONE YEAR**, and will be responsible for representing the views of students on the activities of their student union. Further information can be obtained from David Barclay via [president@ousu.org](mailto:president@ousu.org).

**Budget Committee (2 vacancies).** Budget Committee is responsible for overseeing OUSU's budget, and for discussing and scrutinizing any changes to it. Successful candidates will serve for **ONE YEAR**, and further information can be obtained from David Barclay via [president@ousu.org](mailto:president@ousu.org).

**Rules Committee (2 vacancies; matriculation requirement).** Rules Committee usually meets once each year, during Hilary Term, to set the Regulations for Student Members. This includes rules on trashing, student societies, and rowing times. Candidates must have been matriculated for **THREE TERMS** (not including the current one), and may not have previously served on Rules Committee, and will serve for **ONE YEAR**. The Returning Officer is happy to discuss this role, and can be contacted via [ro@ousu.org](mailto:ro@ousu.org).

**Bi-elections for Part-Time Executive.** Job descriptions can be found in the Standing Orders. For further information contact the Returning Officer via [ro@ousu.org](mailto:ro@ousu.org) or David Barclay via [president@ousu.org](mailto:president@ousu.org).

**International Students Officer**

**Students with Disabilities Officer**

**Black and Minority Ethnic Students and Anti-Racism Officer**

**Mature Students Officer**

**Graduate Academic Affairs Officer**

**Graduate Women's Officer**

**External Trustee Candidates.** OUSU Nominations Committee submits the following candidates for approval by OUSU Council as External Trustees:

Sarah Walker  
Richard Jackson  
Paul Silk

RO, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): We will deal with those on the pink slip. Does anyone want to hear a hust?

Daniel Lowe (VP Charities and Community): We can only do husts from those that are here

Yuan Yang: I can give apologies for Tania Beard who couldn't be here

RO, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): (Reads out the names on the ballot paper. None of the candidates for Humanities Postgrad Rep are present. The rest are present)

RO, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Please read the Election Booklet and then vote in the normal manner

A booklet of External Trustees is given. The Nominations Committee have been looking for candidates, and have shortlisted these people. There is a blurb about them here. Please use the light blue ballot paper and tick yes or no for each candidate. If a candidate gets a majority of yes's then they become an External Trustee. If a candidate gets a majority of no's then the Nominations Committee must bring back two people for that position.

David Townsend (St John's): Can we ask questions to clarify?

David Barclay (President): I will introduce each candidate. I am Chair of the Nominations Committee. We will still have the ultimate power and they will not be making decisions on policy, but will provide specialist knowledge that we can benefit from. We are looking for people from different specialities, from business strategy experience to senior higher education experience.

On the HE management side we had the current registrar at the University, but unfortunately she pulled out. If we had known we could have started to get someone else. We will get someone else. We have many contacts in the University that are helping us find someone

Sarah Walker as you can tell is from a strategic finance side of things. A recent Oxford graduate, nailed her exams, has had a good career. She is our finance candidate

Richard Jackson is a big dog in the treasury department. I've meet him and he is very helpful.

Paul Silk made the Welsh Government work. He brings HR, management and specifically political knowledge. Please vote. As chair of the nominations board are there any questions?

Jonny Medland (Wolfson): If we get them for advice then could we get law advice?

David Barclay (President): They can never be the same as professional legal advice. If you have professional legal advice and then it goes tits up then you have insurance. With trustees you do not have the same protection, however it will be much cheaper as we can ask what to do and don't need to always talk to a lawyer. But it is not as good as professional advice on tap.

Jonny Medland (Wolfson): What about the ones we didn't accept?

David Barclay (President): We basically want to set up an advisory board with all the people that were interested. Lawyer, accountants, investment people. We thought we could set up a Friends of OUSU group. People like the former CE of JP Morgan were interested, but yes we will use them

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): We've already had termly reports and questions. I apologise I have no RO report however this will be submitted in HT 1<sup>st</sup> week as with most previous ROs... with one exception

## **RESULTS FROM ELECTIONS IN COUNCIL**

### **Divisional Board Representative – Humanities Postgraduate**

Nathan Levin – Elected

### **Complaints Committee**

Joseph Wales – Elected

### **JCCSM Representative**

Martha Mackenzie – Elected

### **Budget Committee**

Martha Mackenzie – Elected

Chris Smith – Elected

### **Rules Committee**

Lukas Wallrich – Elected

### **Graduate Women's Officer**

Tania Beard – Elected

### **External Trustees – All Accepted**

Sarah Walker

Richard Jackson

Paul Silk

## **c. Emergency Motions**

### **Ruling on Emergency Motion**

A motion has been submitted for consideration at Wednesday's meeting of OUSU Council after the deadline for motions, and I am required, under Standing Order B.1.2.d, to rule on whether the subject of the motion has "substantially arisen" since the aforementioned deadline.

The subject of the motion in question is the adoption of a code of conduct for users of the Safety Bus. Since the deadline for motions, the Proctors have required that this code be considered by Council as soon as possible, and, in any case, by the end of this term. I therefore rule that the motion meets the requirements laid down in Standing Order B.1.2.d, and I order that it be added to the agenda 7<sup>th</sup> week's Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Joseph Wales  
Chair of Council

### **I. Safety Bus Code of Conduct**

#### **Council Notes:**

1. The good work of the OUSU/OBSU safety bus.
2. That some people require the safety bus as they are in a vulnerable position and unable to get home because of alcohol consumption.

#### **Council Further Notes:**

1. Brookes students who damage the safety bus are fined by OBSU.
2. OUSU has no way of fining its students.
3. The cost of adequately cleaning the seats of the safety bus, if soiled, is £50.

#### **Council Believes:**

1. All users of the safety bus should be treated equally and face the same penalty for damage, regardless of their institution.
2. In the absence of malicious intent, fines should reflect the cost of rectifying any damage.
3. Where damage is intentional or in the event of verbal or physical abuse, the matter should be dealt with by the Proctors in the usual way.
4. A code of conduct is necessary for safety bus users so that they know their rights and obligations.

#### **Council Resolves:**

1. To endorse the attached code of conduct.
2. To mandate the VPs (Women) and (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) to publicise the code of conduct in conjunction with the forthcoming publicity drive for the safety bus.

**Proposed: Katharine Terrell (St Hilda's College)**

**Seconded: Daniel Lowe (St Edmund Hall)**

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): I have to decide if a motion has arisen substantially after the deadline of 2pm Thursday. (Reads out ruling). Does anyone want to challenge the ruling? Speech in proposition?

Katharine Terrell (St Hilda's, VP Women): The Safety Bus gets thrown up in all the time. Brookes takes their student cards from them to make them pay £50 to clean the bus. We would like to be able to do the same but don't want to take BOD cards. We want to have this code of conduct so people know if they throw up in the Safety Bus then they must pay to have it cleaned.

Daniel Stone (St Peter's): ?

Kat: Up to the discretion of the volunteer, when a person is verbally or physically abusive

Daniel Stone (St Peter's): Should we include in the code of conduct?

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): If you want to amend the code of conduct then you have to submit it in a written form with a proposer and seconder.

Q: Would you ask for ID?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): I've done 100 hours on the Safety Bus and have only asked one person as they didn't look like a student and couldn't name a single college at the University. Then eventually they produced a BOD card. Some people use it as a cheap taxi

Katharine Terrell (VP Women): This code of conduct is just for Oxford Uni Students

Q: Can we ban them and have equal power like Brookes?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): If they ring and are abusive then we can make an on the spot decision

Katharine Terrell (VP Women): They will be barred and then it will go to the relevant proctors people. To clarify Brookes people run the service and can bar and fine people straight away

Q: If it goes to proctors can it have a negative effect on their record?

Katharine Terrell (VP Women): It can go on their record

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): The only way we can fine students is through the proctors. The only other way is going via criminal courts. The proctors said they have a special way of fining just to recover money. Realistically it does not have to go on their record.

Q: Could the fine prospect potentially make people not want to use it?

David Townsend (St John's): Is this to recoup costs from people that unwilling vomit or to punish those that get mad and are sick?

Katharine Terrell (VP Women): £50 is just the cost of steam cleaning the seats. But if it is wilful damage then it will be a cumulative cost.

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): To minimise the apprehension, we have something we call the chunder drill. If a person thinks they are going to be sick a volunteer holds their head back and we have a bag that is held in front of them. They only get fined if hits the seats, not the floor or me like it did last Saturday.

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): A speech in opposition? None. Then it will go to vote.

None against. Motion passes

## **Ruling on Emergency Motion**

A motion has been submitted for consideration at Wednesday's meeting of OUSU Council after the deadline for motions, and I am required, under Standing Order B.1.2.d, to rule on whether the subject of the motion has "substantially arisen" since the aforementioned deadline.

The subject of the motion in question is the creation of an Electoral Review Group to consider changes to Section C of the Standing Orders in light of this year's campaigns.

I note that the motion calls for a group to be set up in light of the experiences of this year's candidates, and could not, therefore, have been submitted until after the Final Electoral Ruling on Monday this week.

I therefore rule that the motion meets the requirements laid down in Standing Order B.1.2.d, and I order that it be added to the agenda 7<sup>th</sup> week's Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Joseph Wales  
Chair of Council

## **2. Electoral Review Group**

### **WHEREAS:**

1. The hurlyburly's done, and th'election's lost and won
2. The current electoral regulations impose significant restrictions on students' and candidates' freedom of communication and freedom of association
3. Restrictions on the freedom of communication and freedom of association tend to restrict voters' awareness of the existence of an election, the method of nomination, the method of voting, the identity of candidates and the policies of candidates
4. The maximum electoral turnout for any office was, as in past elections, around 15%
5. Low voter awareness is likely to be a significant contributing factor to low voter turnout

### **Now THEREFORE this Council does Resolve:**

1. To create, with immediate effect, an Electoral Review Group to review the electoral regulations and other practices associated with elections
2. To appoint to the Electoral Review Group:
  - (a) the current Returning Officer (Joseph Wales of St Hugh's College),
  - (b) the Presidential candidates (Martha Mackenzie of St John's College and Thomas Scott of New College),
  - (c) the Principal Agents of each major electoral slate (Jack Matthews of St Peter's College and Alistair Strathern of St Anne's College),
  - (d) the Student Trustees-elect (Jonathan Medland of Wolfson College, Alice Thornton of Hertford College, and David J. Townsend of St John's College)
  - (e) one of the candidates in the past election who did not run as part of a major electoral slate, the identity of that person to be determined by a vote in Council (or, should Council fail to elect someone to this role, by election of the remainder of the Electoral Review Group)
3. To mandate the Electoral Review Group to receive and consider written submissions from any interested member of the Oxford University Student Union
4. To mandate the Electoral Review Group to issue a report to this Council at its meeting in 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Hilary Term 2011, suggesting such amendments to the electoral regulations as it considers necessary

**Proposed by: David J. Townsend (St John's College)**

**Seconded by: Joseph Wales (St Hugh's College)**

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): (Reads out the ruling on the emergency motion). Would anyone like to challenge the ruling? No one? I cede the chair to David Barclay:

Chair, David Barclay (President): Speech in proposition

David Townsend (St John's): The elections have just been. I'm afraid some of you may have been involved in some way, but it may have been in an annoying way. The electoral regulations at the moment restrict what you can do and restricts getting the word out that the elections are on and all things you do in a normal election. This is a big reason why we have a low turn out at voting and questions the relevance of OUSU. I believe we need to be less precise. It is a whole wider issue of how you contact people. I propose we set up a group with those recently involved in the elections, those in a slate and not in a slate, and anyone in OUSU can submit written submissions.

Ian Lyons (St Edmond's Hall): What about people that don't normally vote? Shall we ask what they want to know about elections?

David Townsend (St John's): This motion does not stop us having the power to interview people, but is not a group that can become infinitely large. Otherwise nothing happens. I don't want it to be like last year.

Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): It will still be a sub committee and members of OUSU can turn up, but the core group must report to council

Katharine Terrell (VP Women): Do we have the power to mandate pres candidates etc?

David Townsend (St John's): All of the people have already agreed to be in the group. It will just be a report to you all and then you do what you want. It has no power

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): Should we have the power to solicit people as well?

David Townsend (St John's): I thought we would solicit people for interviews. I want to start now while people are around and not later when people are too busy. Findings should be reported after the RO report in 1<sup>st</sup> week HT. I had assumed that if it passed then we would solicit feedback straight away

Hannah Cusworth (Brasenose): You did not ask anyone from part-time exec?

David Townsend (St John's): The concern was about numbers and balance. I did consider very carefully, but it is a question of numbers. If we put one then we may need another from a different slate or other candidates. We want an effective body not so large nothing comes of it.

Chair, David Barclay (President): Speech in opposition? No.

Motion passes

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## n. Other Motions

### I. Motion of Christmas Cheer

#### Council Notes:

1. It's nearly Christmas

#### Council Believes

1. Everybody loves a bit of Christmas Cheer

#### Council Resolves

1. To mandate OUSU President, David Barclay, to wear a Father Christmas costume to the OUSU Exec social

**Proposed: Daniel Lowe (St. Edmund Hall)**

**Seconded: Joseph Wales (St Hugh's)**

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Any opposition? There is opposition. We will have a speech in proposition. I cede the chair to Jack Matthews.

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): (Daniel sings a Christmas song). We won't have to pay for the Father Christmas outfit, there is one in the RAG cupboard. Vote for it as it would be funny to see David as Father Christmas.

Yuan Yang (Jesus): How will those not on exec get to see?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): We will make sure there is photos

Hannah Cusworth (Brasnose): When will it be?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): Too be discussed...

Tom Perry (VP Welfare & Equal Opportunaties): David is a tall guy, how big is the suit?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): Very small...

Katharine Terrell (VP Women): Does it have a hat and boots?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): Yes a hat, and no to boots

Danielle Fraser-Soloman (Queens): Beard?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): Yes

Yuan Yang (Jesus): Are the sabs reindeer?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): That's not a SFQ.

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): We have an amendment. It reads:

To Add:

#### Council Resolves

2. To mandate Daniel Lowe to wear an elf costume

**Proposed: Adam Tyndall (Hertford)**

**Seconded: Alex Shattock (New)**

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): A speech in proposition?

Adam Tyndall (Hertford): I think it will be funny

Tom Perry (VP Welfare and Equal Opportunities): Is there an elf costume?

A: I think Hertford would have one

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): Any opposition? None?

The amendment passes

There is a second amendment

To Add:

### **Council Resolves**

3. To mandate David and Daniel to elicit sponsorship for RAG

**Proposed: Katharine Terrell (VP Women)**

**Seconded: Alex Bulfin (VP Access & Academic Affairs)**

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): A speech in proposition?

Katharine Terrell (VP Women): Raising money is good.

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): A speech in opposition?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): I've shaved my head for RAG and raised lots of money. Please don't make me get sponsorship. No one will give to me money as so many people have sponsored me before. But David yes...

Chair, Jack Matthews (St Peter's): All in favour to get sponsorship?

Favour: 27

Against: 2

Abstain: nil

Motion passes

There is a third amendment.

To Add:

### **Council Resolves**

4. To mandate Katharine Terrell and Tom Perry to dress up as reindeer, Alex Bulfin to dress as Mrs Claus and Beth Evans to dress as a Christmas tree

**Proposed: Daniel Lowe (VP C&C)**

**Seconded: Danielle Fraser-Soloman (Queens)**

Any opposition, none, move to vote

Motion passes

## **o. Any Other Business**

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): We will now go to any other business.

Under the emergency motion that was passed regarding an Electoral Review Group, it states Council Resolves 2E that the review group will include "one of the candidates in the past election who did not run as part of a major electoral slate, the identity of that person to be determined by a vote in Council (or, should Council fail to elect someone to this role, by election of the remainder of the Electoral Review Group)". Would you like to stand Yuan? You still want to stand, no opposition, so she is elected.

David Barclay (President): There are still students in the Rad Cam. I will be asked what our stance is. From what I have heard it is a peaceful protest, no destruction of property, however the University is not happy about it. I want a feel of how we support them or do we support with caveats?

Yuan Yang (Jesus): Lots of people in the building, there were no disruptions and staff were happy too.

David Townsend (St John's): Assuming nothing destroyed. I suggest future demos be in Uni buldings that students don't work in so work is not disrupted

Q: I do not support it as my work was disrupted

David Barclay (President): People in uni will want us to oppose it strongly

Katharine Terrell (VP Women): It is important to say students have a right to protest and get heard. Yes there was disruption, but disruption to HE generally is much bigger

Q: Will you respond to press?

David Barclay (President): It would be from an Oxford perspective, not all students. For example BBC news had Oxford first under it's education section

Q: Is it important to support but not necessarily condemn...

Q: I understand not wanting to encourage disruption, but people having a dance. It's dancing which is good.

Yuan Yang (Jesus): We may need to wait for the Universities reaction and media. We may need more facts from those there. We need to acknowledge that it's difficult to address all goals and some students may have to move desk, and weigh these things up and have a holistic view of all this.

Q: Books can't be moved or moved upstairs in the library.

Katharine Terrell (VP Women): I do appreciate how disruptive it is to have your education taken away from you. I know how it can feel when this happens, but we need to look at this as a whole

Q: Can people please talk to David afterwards as we can't make decisions here.

David Barclay (President): I won't proactively ring news agents, but I want to be informed of what students are thinking and please talk to friends etc.

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): Could we please thank Haylyn for coming, this will be her last Council as she finishes at the end of the year

Alex Bulfin (VP Access and Academic Affairs): Joe has been COC now for the past year and this will be his last Council. Could he please allow himself to be applauded (everyone claps and a gift is given).

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Would anyone like to censure David for bringing alcohol to Council?

Alex Bulfin (VP Access and Academic Affairs): We are saying goodbye to many Exec this term. Some have been with us for more than two years and they do phenomenal amounts. Please come to the front

Yuan Yang (Jesus): Group hug!

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## **Appendix A - Code of Conduct for users of the Safety Bus from Oxford University**

The safety bus is a service for all students and staff at Oxford Brookes University and the University of Oxford. It is run entirely by volunteers.

Safety bus volunteers have the rights to

- demand student or staff identification of any user;
- refuse anyone service;
- ask someone to leave the vehicle.

Abuse/harassment

Any forms of abuse and harassment of safety bus volunteers, other users of the safety bus or others may result in:

- being instantly barred from the service, at the discretion of the Oxford Brookes student services team.
- The matter being referred to the Proctors.

Any Oxford University student who soils the safety bus interior so that professional cleaning services are required will be liable for a fine of £50 through the Proctors' office.

Any Oxford University student who recklessly damages the exterior or interior of the bus will be liable for the cost of repair.

When damage is malicious or intentional the matter will be referred to the Proctors.