

Council Minutes

7th week michaelmas term 2011

7th Week Council which started after Termly Council on Wednesday 23rd November 2011 at St Edmunds Hall

If you have any questions about OUSU Council, you should feel free to contact the Chair, Jack Matthews at any time on chair@ousu.org

- 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

d. Elections in Council

The following positions were elected in OUSU Council of 7th week.

There were only husts for Rules Committee. The chair handed over to the Returning Officer Jonathan Edwards.

2 positions for Steering Committee - responsible for compiling the agenda for OUSU Council, and referring motions, submitted to OUSU Council, to other committees for preliminary discussion, if they see fit. To serve for Hilary Term.

Jack Matthews (Univ) and Alexander Lans (St Catherine's) were elected.

1 position for Complaints Committee - Complaints board deals with any complaints raised through OUSU's statutory complaints procedure. Successful candidates will serve for one year.

Lawrence Houldsworth (Christ Church) was elected.

2 positions for the University Rules Committee - A very important University committee that reviews the rules on student behavior and discipline.

Adam Tyndall (Hertford):

Makes declaration and advises has not been censured. Feeling like OUSU shaped hole in life this seems a good thing to do, not going to take too much time, but would really like to enjoy. Rules committee important opportunity for us to say no not right for proctors to have immediate stop and search position. Would be good to have an undergraduate.

Alex Lans (St Catherine's):

Think that I am very interested in what is just and right, about thinking about how university acts with students and that should be in fair and just way. As a graduate student have some insight about making and breaking rules. Important to have fair and balanced rules. In absence of Chris can't knock think either of us would do good job.

Question

Jacob Diggle (Corpus Christi):

Student representatives can also bring changes. Are there any rules you think that should change?

Alex Lans (St Catherine's):

If think something fair and right, then will support if not will fight tooth and nail. Off head can't think of anything.

Adam Tyndall (Hertford):

Sure there is something, will consult as haven't recently and bring if necessary.

Adam Tyndall (Hertford) and Chris Gray (Merton) were elected.

1 position for Undergraduate Social Sciences Divisional Board Representative - To represent the views of undergraduates on the Social Sciences Divisional Board and other committees in this Division. For more information contact access@ousu.org.

No one stood for nominations committee.

h. Emergency Motion

The Chair advises that these motions were all submitted after the deadline and that he was satisfied they had arisen after the deadline.

1. Electoral Review Group

Council Notes:

1. The statutory elections in 6th Week.
2. That there were significant technical difficulties with the online voting system.
3. That various Standing Orders were identified in the rulings of the Returning Officer as needing to be changed.
4. That last year an Electoral Review Group was established to investigate concerns relating to low turnout.

Council Believes:

1. That a report on the Standing Orders and practices associated with the elections is desirable.

Council Resolves:

1. To create, with immediate effect, an Electoral Review Group to review Section C of the Standing Orders and all practices associated with the elections.
2. To appoint to the Electoral Review Group:
 - a. the current Returning Officer (Jonathan Edwards of Balliol College),
 - b. the current Deputy Returning Officer (Jim O'Connell of University College),
 - c. the current President (Martha Mackenzie of St John's College).
3. To appoint to the Electoral Review Group any persons in the following categories who express interest in being part of the Group:
 - a. the candidates for Sabbatical Office,

- b. the Principal Agents of the candidates for Sabbatical Office,
 - c. the Student Trustees-elect,
 - d. the current Sabbatical Officers.
4. To mandate the Electoral Review Group to advertise for submissions from any interested member of OUSU and to consider any that are received.
 5. To mandate the Electoral Review Group to issue a report to this Council at its meeting in 5th Week of Hilary Term 2012, suggesting such changes as it considers necessary or desirable. This report must include as an appendix a summary of all submissions received before Friday of 2nd Week of Hilary Term 2012.

Proposed: *Jonathan Edwards (Balliol College)*
Seconded: *Martha Mackenzie (St. John's College)*

Jonathan Edwards (Balliol):
 Problems came up with the Statutory Election, I think it would be good if a group was formed to look into it.

No opposition passes.

2.Motion to investigate the use of and the financial commitment of OUSU to the ‘Safety Bus’ partnership with Oxford Brookes. (Finalised Motion with Amendments)

OUSU Council Notes:

1. The ‘Safety Bus’ is a joint partnership between OUSU and Oxford Brookes Student Union (OBSU). The service is made up of volunteers from Oxford University and Oxford Brookes and provides transportation around Oxford to those who contact the service between 9PM and 3AM, when volunteers are available to staff the service.
2. The current use of the safety bus by Oxford University students is undocumented.
3. The proposed financial commitment for the service is £12000.

OUSU Council Believes:

1. That the current commitment to the ‘Safety Bus’ partnership needs to be evaluated to justify the current financial commitment.
2. That any future commitments should be postponed until the evaluation of the ‘Safety Bus’ is completed.

OUSU Council resolves to:

1. Mandate the VP Women and VP Charities and Communities, who are currently charged with overseeing the service, to evaluate and consider ways to increase and improve upon current efforts to promote usage of the ‘Safety Bus.’
2. Mandate the VP Women and VP Charities and Communities to evaluate current usage of the safety bus.
3. To mandate VP Women and VP Charities and Community to ensure the continuation of the service throughout the evaluation/investigation.

Proposed by: *Alexander Lans (St. Catherine's College)*
Seconded by: *Rob Noble (Linacre College)*

Alex Lans (St Catherine's):
 Met in budget committee and had questions about current use of safety bus, current commitment of £12,000. We should carefully look at, certainly something used by Oxford Brookes but not clear how many Oxford students use.

Adam Tyndall (Hertford):
 How would suggest information collected?

Alex Lans (St Catherine's):
 You could do it by riding bus, as them to record it, some kind of survey. Open for any ideas. Not sketched out all details.

David Bowe (St Hilda's)
Will there be a gap in the service?
Martha Mackenzie (St John's):
Still in partnership, not invoiced. No gap in service no.

James Ferguson
How much to Brookes investment.

Alex Lans (St Catherine's):
The proposed figure is £14,000

Louis Dane
Is service still running? How advertised.

Alex Lans (St Catherine's):
Not very well at moment.

Martha Mackenzie (St John's):
There are mechanisms to advertise, cards, adverts in OxStu.

Opposition

Katie Colliver (Univ):
I am currently volunteer, I realise that most people have been fortunate enough to use. It is quite a stressful game, no simple way to gauge what and who are using the bus, we look at people in terms of whether they need to use it. It is not right to put into questions the funding as there are reciprocal arrangements.

Point of Debate

The was going to be an intensive review of this, proposal to start this was going forward anyway. In principle in favour, need to make sure giving value to Oxford students.

Alex Lans (St Catherine's):
Don't think our answer is will cut wholesale. Our concern was that when we look at line by so would like to think about.

Rob Noble (Linacre):
When does it run?

Katie Colliver (Univ):
Runs in Brookes term,

Rob Noble (Linacre):
Similar to taxi times, runs Brookes terms, makes difficult for graduates and undergraduates to know when running.

Chair
If have amendment write on form.

Charlotte Baker
Whilst I agree don't want to undermine relationship with Brookes, don't see any harm in making this evaluation.

Yuan Yuang (Balliol):
Evaluation and relationship with Brookes, lots of projects we are working with. When enter financial commitment then want a different relationship.

Evaluation could be hard for co-driver to do this, will consult with volunteers before doing evaluation.

Take amendment

1. Add resolves 3

Mandate VP Women and VP C & C to ensure the continuation of service throughout the evaluation / investigation.

Proposed: *Adam Tyndall (Hertford)*

Seconded: *Katie Colliver (Univ)*

Accepted as friendly.

Amendment 2

To insert the following into resolves 1

“and consider ways to increase and improve upon” into the first point of resolves to between “to evaluate” and “current efforts”.

Proposed: *Louie Dane (New)*

Seconded: *Oscar Lee (New)*

Accepted as friendly.

Alex Lans (St Catherine's):

Think that bottom line is don't want to deprive people of using the safety bus but want to make sure used well. Might be just 1st motion to evaluate things. Is £12,000 too much of a share. We need to look at.

Passed with 1 abstention.

3. It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

Council Notes:

1. This has been a very difficult week for some people in this room.
2. This has been a very difficult term for the Sab team.
3. This has been a very difficult year for humanity.
4. Jack Evans has never proposed a motion for council.

Council Believes:

1. It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.

Council Resolves:

1. To mandate the Sab team and outgoing part time officers to sing "Jingle Bells" at the end of Council.

Proposed: *Jack Evans (Corpus)*

Seconded: *Johnny Earl (Corpus)*

The individuals who proposed and seconded this motion were not in attendance it was therefore proposed and seconded by the following:

Proposed: *David Railton (Somerville)*

Seconded: *Jacob Diggle (Corpus Christi)*

David Railton (Somerville):

Christmas at Oxford comes really early, this is the first time I'm not annoyed by this. I have been bought 300 mince pies by my friends.

Adam Tyndall (Hertford):

Why Jingle bells?

David Railton (Somerville):

Not my choice but because of Corpus' relationship with the song which goes to the tune of jingle bells, they wish to reclaim jingle bells.

Amendment made that David and Jacob should join in. This amendment accepted as friendly.

Alastair Marsh

How many verses.

David Railton (Somerville):

Just one.

Adam Tyndall (Hertford):

What key?

David Railton (Somerville):

Don't mind.

Yuan Yuang (Balliol):

Appropriate for council to clap?

Yes

No clapping suspended.

In favour.

Clearly passed.
