

OUSU

council minutes

7th week Council at 2.30pm on Friday 12th June 2009 in St Hilda's College in the Vernon Harcourt Room

- 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

a. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

No matters arising

No additions to reports

Thanks Karen

n. The Budget or Amended Budget

I. OUSU Budget 2009 - 2010

Lewis Iwu (New):

This is a presentation of this years budget. The reforecast sees OSSL making less than predicted; this has mostly been out of our control, and is partly due to the fact that we have had 3 business managers in the year. However we have still made a notable improvement from last year. What you can see in 2009/10 is a forecast of £80,000 there are several reasons we think that this is feasible. We now have continuity and experience in the role of Business Manager, someone with a background in selling instead of a recent graduate. The quality of the publications should improve, in the past we had to give out discounts because of the quality; this should no longer be an issue. We are going to put in place new strategies, use website a lot more and have a new advertising policy. Strong indications from existing partners who want to work with us, lots of people want to increase advertising. Going to advertise much earlier on Freshers Fair, copy of Cambridge model. It is difficult selling advertising in summer, so we will be focusing on anew market, those selling things in the summer. Partners also want to increase the volume of the projects that they do with us. Especially St James' House. Negotiating extension of deal with Pulse. OSSL can make more money; no reason to see why we can't do this in future. If during the sales a crisis happens, an amended budget will be brought.

Costs of SAS have moved to general office, Lisa's salary goes to office staff. Legal fees still exist, speaking to lawyers. Grant income despite situation we have managed to cling on to this grant income in fact got more money this time round.

Happy to answer questions

Ben Briton (St Catz) When was the reforecast done?

About a week and half ago, looked at invoices and targets.

No other questions

Opposition

Ben Briton (St Catz)

I am Ben Briton from St Catz I just want to ask a few questions about these figures. Need full transparency to see which cost centres we are spending money on. Why is budget late, why are its content scarce. Cost centres still lack further detail. The guidance notes cut down, and some areas are now non-existent. Appreciate Mr Iwu's comments. The Union wants to become a charitable status, ignored in budget how can we financially manage this transition. We are promised OSSL will perform year on year better. Not realistic, if SU budget going down then, because we have mistaken OSSL contribution

Lewis Iwu (New):

The level of detail is the same as we provide to University, but I am happy to provide a greater breakdown. Think unfortunate that the first we hear about the problems is on Preslist. I do realise it should have gone in to fifth week but General Manager only a few weeks ago. Apologise. Cost headings don't change, most stay the same. In terms of reserves yes is an issue. In no way know how will work as a charity, is agenda item we have with the university we haven't forgotten about, meeting with university in handover. Fairly unknown so not included wait till we have more detailed information. In terms of how realistic, can go back and forth, significant changes much more efficient team, proud of team sabs are going to inherit, despite changes have still made significant improvement.

What are the accountancy charges?

Lewis Iwu (New):

They are granted to us by the university, university gives us a grant not actually paying anything

Passed

n. Other Motions

1. RO Report TT09

Table to first week council till 1st week term not got together.

2. Plater College as an Associate Organisation

Passes

3. OUSU/The Oxford Hub Memorandum of Understanding

Jack Wellby (Jesus):

Hopefully you will have had a little read. In an ideal world wouldn't need OxHub as in Bath and Nottingham, the Union does what the OxHub does, were they have lots of money. How do we get value for money with volunteering? No direct finance, which is being exchanged. There is not one example of one union, which makes money for volunteering. Pulse is there to provide funds that go back into uni.

Remit of VP C & C is broad. OxHub allows the sabbatical officer to do what the position is meant to do. No officer has been able to focus on everything far too much for one person to do.

Benefits enormous, greatest benefit for £200 pounds which is what stalls cost. Don't think right to charge them. OUSU is bad at promoting itself, whereas Oxhub is very well presented so supporting them will give us lots of publicity.

To respond to points, this agreement is not legally binding more than anything else that passes in council, it can be removed in the way any other policy gets removed. The Cherwell say that RAG is in conflict with OxHub not true work together absolutely brilliantly. Some members of the Exec don't support. OUSU can't support hub financially not going to happen if vice a versa may be the other way. Democratically, we don't loose supporting OxHub is massively positive.

Jack Matthews (St Peters)

If this doesn't pass what will be difference from the good work that OxHub already does?

Jack Wellby (Jesus);

No OUSU branding, but I am sure they will be able to cope.

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds):

At 2nd week Hilary term said that this memorandum would be drawn up within a working group.

Jack Wellby (Jesus):

Why was this never raised with before? I am surprised you are bringing it up now.

There has been a lot of negotiation between myself and OxHub this is not something I need to rush through council, I am happy for changes to be made.

Leonie Northedge (St Johns)

How many times do they get to put an advert in OxStu?

Jack Wellby (Jesus)

Whenever they want, they go in for free at no cost.

Rules that campaigns can only put one in per term

Jack Wellby (Jesus)

We support campaigns, this has not been an issue, they have been able to have advertisements in whenever they have wanted them.

Alex Bulfin (Univ)

What power does advisory board have over Oxhub?

Adam (from OxHub):

We have one trustee board need to delegate authority to local level. For all intents are full trustees, but a charity can only have one board of trustees.

Preeti Dhillon (Corpus)

The Publicity budget is being reduced, so how can we afford to allow this.

Jason Harbour (St Hilda's):

Is it appropriate for us to do this, one organisation are we not elevating it above a number of organisations that do good work?

Jack Wellby (Jesus):

Almost all charities in Oxford are members of this, it is more a community of charities. It is a central focus for charitable activity. Do think different.

Jack Matthews (St Peters):

Will OxStu be bound by OUSU policy as a charity can't be because illegal, but think unlikely that they would break it will be a discussion would be brought to council. Have policy of own

Alex Bulfin (Univ)

How does it fit with job descriptions?

Jack Wellby (Jesus):

No direct reference to memorandums the point is it formalises partnership it is crucial that we work together. If OUSU council decide a good thing then we are bound by this.

It could be informal that we put logo on, it balances commitment and gets OUSU logo out there. They don't have reams of money to spend on advertising. Best way to do is put through as policy, will be there till policy lapse or it removed.

Jake Leeper (LMH):

Not a single charity that doesn't want to be a member will be 31 next year, point of OxHub is that it is there to be an umbrella group. They can advertise, we provide structural support.

Sourav Choudhury (LMH):

Any examples of this in the past?

Jack Wellby (Jesus):

Kind of with OSSL. We have affiliations with lots of different organisations. Doing policy rather than affiliation.

What other services are subcontracted?

Jack Wellby (Jesus):

Oxford Handbook contracted to St James House, but they are mostly OSSL services.

When we had this discussion in exec, the other VP's said if something like this had come up for womens or welfare they would be very happy. I think we should embrace it, is a fantastic thing,

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds):

In an ideal world we would have our own student volunteering centre, we wouldn't have lost money wouldn't owe university loads of money. Anyone reading the budget will see this. Whilst we are not giving money, we are giving financial contribution. Freshers fair stalls, advertising. This is a reasonable amount of money. As an OUSU campaign get one advert a term and one Freshers Fair stall. However I am democratically elected, all you can do under this is censure or no confidence VP C&C. OxHub do great work lots of support, other charities do great work, People and Planet, Nightline. As Womens Officer said would jump at it. We don't have the money, potentially can't support OxHub. We need to make money. Should have memorandum, we shouldn't be profiting from but should be meeting printing costs, get one half page a term, costs £40. All of the benefits without burden. VP C&C now paid for this salary can't be

expanding his position. OUSU spends too much of its funds on charitable activity this has been raised by the common rooms.

Lewis Iwu (New):

I want to say in support, that OxHub are unique are facilitators if going to fall in line with sector should do this. Financially don't think should be a problem. Also think getting promotion, we reach people through this that we can't reach without it. Not sure that we are losing money in a tangible of intangibly, if we realise their work is unique should support. The union has a massive role in society, get more out of this in promotion who we reach through this and also free up Jack's time

Jack Matthews (St Peters):

OxHub does do a great job, something OUSU doesn't do at the moment. Doesn't make sense for us to conflict. Certain amount of hypocrisy, OxHub want to join with us, yet any charity that wants to join OxHub has to pay a fee.

Jake Leeper (LMH):

First year free, after that dependent on turnover. If large charities which have a lot of funds ask for a small reimbursement.

Jack Wellby (Jesus):

OUSU should be looking towards covering the burden that OxHub is going to bring. Crazy should be supporting OxHub by pointing people towards them but we don't have enough money to support them financially. We now have a point in job description saying we will work with them. Completely agree on democratic accountability, need more than one seat on advisory board,

Rosanna (St Hughes):

Really support only directly of one of Daniel's points. This supports a lot of what we were asked to do in JCR Meeting also C&C to focus on other portfolios of C&C. The SAS we have an informal agreement with Nightline so Sabs go there for workshops, does happen in other areas,

Kaushal Vidyarthi (Wolfson):

Like to support especially in grads and international 20% of international students involved in this, if there is an umbrella organisation, which does this, we should support it. Difference between one organisation and an umbrella organisation. International camp tried to do this with cultural society, collaborative set up, were able to involve all societies after freshers fair we just forget clubs and societies. Should support and send message, in terms of financial support we publicise with them so are we really losing finance by letting them advertise once a term? We are not losing finance. In terms of Freshers Fair stall, it might cost £500 how much would this actually cost if we tried to do this under OUSU. If we don't agree we can stop supporting.

Stephen Bush (Balliol):

Does cost us money, lots of small charities will scratch away to have advertising. This gives away money we don't have.

(misunderstanding between OUSU campaigns and autonomous campaigns)

Katherine Terrell (St Hilda's):

Oxhub is brilliant already 29 and almost 31. Reduced cost advertising one charitable organisation an advantage over others. Feel tying to something we don't have any democratic. We need to keep saying in an ideal world we are giving away responsibility. Taking focus away from autonomous campaigns this does not hit mark.

Alex Bulfin (Univ):

The accountability not convinced enough, a big question mark on how much costing and long term financial commitment. A lot of stress has placed on advertising through the Hub, don't think many people in my college know who OxHub are. I feel OxHub will piggy back on OUSU.

Rachel Cummings (Somerville):

29 organisations affiliating to OxHub most frustrating thing about OUSU is have a gigantic remit and can't do them all. If someone said could do this for women, would support them. Think we should give a boost we are not giving money, hardly costs anything to give them money. To increase their profile will work beneficially for both of us.

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds):

Would move that it be tabled.

Opposition to Tabling

Jack Wellby (Jesus):

Don't think we should table, if not keen then we will come back with something else.

Vote on tabling

Move to table – fails.

Carrying on with debate.

Move to Vote

Summary speeches

Jack Wellby (Jesus):

Jack clearly we want to move to vote. Financial point completely disagree feel immensely privileged to do this. People have their logo on their page cost £20,000 pounds upwards. Very impressive

Daniel Lowe (St Edmund):

Cost wise, are costs associated, I ran an event for 60 people for £40 if we don't give them this support will be fine. Fine to pay, when comes to Freshers fair small campaigns have to pay for themselves, they get money. This memorandum doesn't free up time, as new members details how will work with OxHub. Only serves to remove money and tie to a non democratic organisation.

In favour: 40

Against: 23

Abstentions: 5

Motion passes

4. Yes we can!

Think Chair should read motion

Chair reads motion

No opposition motion passes

5. Coca Cola Boycott

The motion should refer to Columbia as a country not as the university

No opposition

6. Motion on recent attacks on Indian students in Australia.

Passes

Policy Lapse

53. Close Campsfield

Will McCallum (Wadham):

Should still close it rally went well refugee week coming up still relevant.

Kept

54. NUS Extra Cards

Lapses

55. NUS Referendum

Lapses

56. Regarding the Refusal of Visas to All African Students

Lapses

57. Opposition to Visa Extension Fees

Lapses

58. International Student Visas

Lapses

59. Encouraging Common Room Meeting to Coincide with OUSU Councils Schedule

Will McCallum (Wadham):

Best day for Agenda Friday lunch

Jonny Medland (Queens):

We will be deciding on a new time over summer Friday before Council could be useful or totally redundant.

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds):

Need to have Friday before council. Even if council on Friday at 6am.

Speech in opposition.

Jack Matthews (St Peters):

Defender of timing of council. Don't know about structure or timing. Council could be on a Monday evening no reason agenda couldn't be out on Monday before giving you even more time. Happy to bring policy back in first council in Michaelmas about this. Need to keep policy up to date need to reflect new committee structure.

Policy lapses

60. Abolition of the Oxford Directory
Lapses

61. OUSU Administrative Support for Clubs and Societies
(St Hughes):
OUSU doesn't really do this at the moment but think should support as much as possible.

Kaushal Vidyarthi (Wolfson):
Opposition would like to come up with a new policy as this is half is done.

Jack Matthews (St Peters):
Think should lapse out of date makes reference to the shop, should support clubs and societies have set up workshops should keep policy up to date, could do with feedback.

Policy lapsed

Returning Officer:
I don't think it's true that none of our policy can be renewed, but we shouldn't fossilise things in policy. Remember policy is the whole of it, if there are details policy has the same but specifics different then can still be kept

62. OUSU posters
Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds):
I think exec should all have input into this, just requires one email and makes sure that everything is appropriate.

Jonny Medland (Queens)
Can we actually do this?

Clear distinction between autonomous campaigns and ordinary campaigns

Stays

63. Motion to Remove the Position of Student Advisor
Lapses

64. Elections Review Board
Lapses

65. MBA Review
Lapses

66. Constitutional Review Committee
Lapses

67. Comm Room Support and Campaign Co-ordination
Laurence Mills (Magdalen):
This is something that needs addressing
Policy stays

68. Staffing Review
Lapses

69. Part-time Executive Reform
Lapses
70. Campaign Groups
Lapses
71. OUSU Representation
Lapses
72. OSSL and OUSU
Lapses
73. OSSL Ethical Code of Conduct.
Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds)
It should have one!
Policy stays
74. Entz Manager
Lapses
75. OUSU Publications
Lapses
76. Publications
Lapses
77. Editors Payments
Lapses
78. Publications
Lapses
79. OUSU Publications Online
Think if we are going to hand out, so should have online, don't know if incurs extra cost.

Should preserve

VP Finance, passed ref (RO) any policy refers can stay.

Lewis agrees

Stays
80. Hammer Cages
Lapses
81. Changes to the Structure of the Student Advice Service
Lapses
82. Creation of a New Admissions Working Party
Lapses
83. Post-Qualification Application
Lapses

84. Admissions Criteria
Will Hartshorn (Hertford):
People need to know where goal posts are when applying

Policy stays

85. Post Qualifications Admissions
Policy lapses

86. University Admissions Working Party Report
Policy lapses

87. Support for the FBU
Lapses

88. AUT and NUS
Lapses

89. No Confidence in Lord Jenkins, Chancellor of the University
Lapses

90. Living wage
Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds)
Good thing economically viable benefits community.

Stephen:

Discussed in our common room yesterday and this is not accurate. We would like to update to reflect changing reality of the living wage.

Speech in opposition

What is Oxford TUC – Trade Union

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds):

Think policy good as it provides a building block for the living wage campaign. This is a very good bedrock policy to bring more detailed policy

Sarah Hutchinson (:

I would be concerned if we came away from Council without Oxford having a policy on this.

Living Wage, is an affiliated campaign.

If this is renewed we still have believes don't have to have another investigation

OUSU doesn't pay a living wage, think reasonable grounds should bring new policy

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds):

The cleaners come with the building not something we can renegotiate, only way by leaving Thomas Hull House.

Move to vote

Keeping living wage

91. Sub-fusc
 Jason Keen (St Johns)
 It was more an issue a few years ago, but I don't think lots against it so should keep.

 Kept
92. Pro-Choice
 Rachel Cummings (Somerville)
 Incredibly important for us to have this policy most importantly we have a welfare policy. It is about what is right for this person in this circumstance. Really important student issue, if get pregnant you should have the choice,

 Sarah Burton (Hertsford):
 What is involved in extending this?

 Rachel Cummings (Somerville):
 Two doctors signing off, sometimes extending limit, solidarity with Northern Ireland

 Policy kept.
93. No Diet Day
 Lapses
94. Abortion Rights
 Rachel Cummings (Somerville):
 Good national organisation please vote through, we are still currently affiliated

 Kept
95. St Hilda's
 Katherine Terrell (St Hilda's)
 Should support current policy. Should support our decision

 Proposing support

 Out of date a joke

 Vote

 Lapses
96. Support for Teach First
 Tom Meakin (Magdalen):
 Continues to be incredibly important should continue to support

 Jack Wellby (Jesus):
 Would this mean we do free advertising for Teach First?

 Lewis Iwu (New):
 Every other form we would charge for

 Tom Meakin (Magdalen):
 Just a continuation of current policy

Kept

97. Support for Oxford as a Centre of Excellence in Teaching and Learning
Kaushal group looking at it. Should support.

Kept

98. 0870 Numbers
Lapses

99. Student Contract
Lapses

100. Affiliation to Oxfordshire Play Association
Policy Lapses

101. Affiliation to Skill
Disability action group, we are not currently affiliated

Lapses

102. Coca cola

Lapses

103. Tim Ayles

Lapses

104. Patrick Foster

Sounds like an idiot.

Katherine Terrell (St Hilda's): Do you think you are besmirched Rachel?

Rachel Cummings (Somerville):
Doesn't really effect me.

Fine with censoring if know what actually said

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds):
Should forgive and forget

In favour: 10

Against: lots Not counting

Benedict Dent-Pooley (Chair):
Patrick Foster is free!

Results of Elections

For Chair of Council

Benedict Dent Pooley – 60
Ron – 3

I'm back

Election for Returning Officer
Ollie Lynch with 34
William Seligman with 30
RON: 1

4. Yes we can!

Lewis Iwu (New):

This is going to be brief its been a really great year, being President has been humbling at times, say thank you been to 10 terms worth of council, these ones most intelligent and we have made progress in comparison to when council was long and inefficient. Thank Exec and than Sabs really intense experience yet feel we all gelled well.

Karen has been fantastic. Increased efficiency and will be a great asset. No clapping. Also thank someone who has given me a lot of support, Madeline amazing don't know where would be without her. Good luck to sab team, so dedicated, a fantastic group future for OUSU a bright one, inherit a fab staff team. Finally got a position at heart of a debate. NUS support for graduate tax, we have made the first move, we get a seat at the table. Hopefully in a year, better building on top of that built up relationships with important parties and organisations, gone a long way to mending rifts, wish friends and those less friendly all the best.

Stefan Baskerville:

Taking over from Lewis speak briefly to thank Lewis and all the sabs for all their hardwork, for doing work which is often not recognised. Should applaud next years sab team. Would like to give him something to say thank you for hard work but couldn't think what but when shopping this morning, saw something thought would like. So have bought him Barack Obama's Inaugural Address. Gettysburg address.

Presents him.