



MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting: Annual General Meeting
Place: Elements
Date and time: Friday 8 December 2007 at 1.00 p.m.

All SU Agendas and Minutes are available on www.BathStudent.com.
All papers are available on a selection of coloured paper.
If you require papers in an alternative format, please ask in SU Reception.

Action

Registers were at the door and were signed by over 150 members

Apologies were received from Philippa Madeley, Union Council rep and Chris Thomas, Wakeboard Chair, GASP, Gastronomique, Triathlon, Tai Chi and Lifesaving.

1) Notice of any other business

There was none

2) Reading, correction and acceptance of the minutes of the AGM held on Friday 8 December 2006

These were accepted as accurate

3) Matters arising

a) M. 5b. NUS Affiliation fee

The formula calculation was now based on the block grant and student numbers and in real terms the fee had been reduced.

4) Reading, correction and acceptance of the minutes of the EGM held on 16 February 2007

These were accepted as accurate

5) Reading, correction and acceptance of the minutes of the EGM held on 10 May 2007

These were accepted as accurate

6) Matters arising

A Working Group from Union Council had been set up and was working on a draft No Platform policy. It should be reporting back to UC by the

end of the calendar year.

7) Questions to Officers

a) *Why was the ATM nearly always empty?*

The cash machine had been changed over the summer so that it was now operated by Alliance and Leicester and filling the machine was their responsibility. The SU was aware that this was not being done often enough and was complaining about the poor level of service. It had been hoped that this change would have improved things.

b) *Where was the computer equipment won in the 'Kick Your Union' competition going to go as there was no logical space within the SU?*

This competition, run by Intel, had indeed been won by BUSU. The PR company representing Intel had visited yesterday to discuss this and there was a wide spread of ideas to benefit as many students as possible:

- Sofas in the Terrace to make a lounge space
- Funding for the Arts societies to produce art/photos to be exhibited on one of the walls in The Terrace
- Equipment in the Societies/clubs corridor

It was not yet known for certain what prizes were being offered.

c) *All society memberships are £4. If a society's budget is not dependent on money from the SU but its members still have to pay this, is that society funding other societies?*

The money given in the budgets comes from the SU centrally. Membership money is only for the individual society.

d) *Has any more progress been made on outstanding issues with BathStudent?*

The software for the website was completely changed over the summer. It is felt that this was worthwhile although there have been some hold ups. The SU was aware of the problems and had been working with MSL the new provider to get new functions available. In the end, this site should be better than it was now and better than the old one was.

e) *What progress has been made on campaigns?*

The SU was currently running a survey, asking students' opinions, which would help in the planning of future campaigns. There was an ongoing Education campaign, trying to get transcripts restored and the usual AWARE campaigns were being run to plan. The majority of new ones in the next semester would be based on the results of the survey.

f) *The University Masterplan was on display in the Library as part of student consultation. Concern was expressed that the priority was monetary gain rather than students. Was the Executive aware of any particular concern?*

Students did need to be consulted and all students should go and look at the presentation. Several questions had been asked with no answers forthcoming so far, as for example, where were social spaces

to be and where was the student centre going to be.

g) *What happened on Friday to a Students' Union minibus?*

The driver answered this explaining that she was a MiDAS assessor and a driver, who had attended MEEP (Minibus Emergency Evacuation Procedure) training. At the moment, exactly what happened to the car was not known. Everyone in the vehicle evacuated safely. The vehicle was a write-off and there would be a claim against the insurance.

h) *What was the SU's view on the bus service? It was sporadic at best and useless at worst.*

There had been difficulties, especially this year. The SU had met with First Bus regularly and expressed its views. The SU was currently involved in considering a Transport strategy with the Council and should be able to report by the end of the year.

Students' views and feedback was needed so that the SU could take these to First Bus and the University. The opportunity to make this was via the on-line forum and in the survey.

The bus service had been a problem for a number of years. Part of the problem was the loading times and the SU had tried asking First to bring in technology to improve loading. There had been extra buses over the last few weeks and especially at the end of the day. Lobbying needed to continue so feedback was vital and specific examples useful.

i) *What progress has been made regarding the governance review?*

This had come about because of changes in legislation but it also offered the opportunity to review governance of the SU. A consultant had been commissioned and would be visiting in the next couple of weeks and again in January. Out of these meetings he would produce a report followed by a 'green paper' to go to Union Council for consultation. Hopefully, this would lead to a 'white paper' by the end of the year.

The new Charities Act 2006 came into force earlier this year. All larger students' unions such as BUSU would need to comply by 2009/2010.

j) *What was the Students' Union's current relationship with NUS?*

It was very good. BUSU had always sent a full delegation to National Conference. NUS were going through an extensive governance and financial review at the moment. There was an Extraordinary Conference on Tuesday and a full delegation was going to that. Any comments on the white paper produced by NUS should be addressed to the SU President.

k) *Did anyone have any idea when building would recommence on R5 following the recent tragic accident?*

The HSE were currently investigating the accident and their report was expected this week. No, it was not known when work would recommence.

l) *Had this Executive had any contact with Oxford after the debate with Nick Griffin yesterday?*

No, not yet but the SU President would be getting feedback as soon as possible.

- m) *When on placement, the Library card was not accepted as a NUS card. Was there any way of changing this?*

The new NUS card started last year. A lot of retailers only accepted the Extra card. This was an issue for NUS as the NUS Extra card was their decision. Discounts which were offered for being a student should be available on the Library card but not discounts which had been negotiated as part of the NUS Extra card.

- n) *Were there any plans to reopen the gym?*

No, not in the Founders complex because cost was too high. There was a free gym at the Sulis club.

- o) *A lot of kit was getting damaged in storage. Was anything being done about this?*

There was a lot of pressure on storage space and the SA was in the process of reviewing its space and sorting out its usage.

- p) *Over the summer, the capacity of Elements and the Plug was increased but the numbers attending have decreased. What is Executive Committee's position?*

Yes, the capacity had been increased with the installation of a new fire escape. Executive Committee were in the process of obtaining exact figures for attendance to make comparisons with last year. A student ents forum was to be started: a group of students meeting to come up with ideas for ents to run in the SU. Anyone interested should speak to or email the VP Communications.

- q) *How much was the workshop set up as a result of 'You said....we did...' costing?*

This was run through SORTED and does not cost anything.

Any further questions should be addressed to the sabbatical officers by email

8) **BUSU Annual Report**

- a) **Report from the Executive**

This was accepted.

- b) **Executive team for 2007/08**

This was noted and approved

- c) **Accounts for year ending 31 July 2007**

These were noted and approved

- d) **Budgets**

These were noted and approved

- e) **Affiliations**

These were noted and approved

f) Council decisions

These were noted and approved

9) Any other business

There was none

The meeting finished at 2.00 p.m.