



University of Lincoln Students' Union
Student Council Minutes

17.1.14 at 12 noon in MB0312 Lecture Theatre

Chair
College of Social Sciences Officer
Officer for Students
College of Arts Officer
College of Science Officer

Josh Leafe
Charlotte Greenley
Imogen Napper
Linford Butler
Reece Horsley Deputy for Tom Candy

School Reps

Architecture
Computing
Life Sciences
Media
Performance
Psychology
Social and Political Science
Sport

Daniel Orford
Brett J Knights
Daniel Addai
Wade Baverstock
Tom Briggs
James Ferrier
James Bevan
Katie Allen

Societies Council

Societies Council Rep

Alexandrya-Carmen Mbu

Sports Council

Sports Council Rep

Chris Green

In Attendance – Non Voting

Tom Mitchell
Daniel Richardson
Gregor Smith
Jack Maddock
Gooleswari Seeburn
Greta Brajshshori
Gabrielle Kvedaraite
Alistair Wood
Mehriet Onur
Vice-President Academic Affairs
Vice-President Activities
Vice-President Welfare & Community
Chief Executive Officer
Student Voice & Rep Manager
Membership Services Manager/
Deputy Chief Executive
Communications Worker
Administrative Support Worker
Casework and Policy intern
Course Representative Worker

Ian Antwi
Joe Burt
Brian Alcorn
James Brooks
Aidan Mersh
Ian Johnston
Scott McGinn
Hannah Coleman
Lindsay Westgarth
Kirsty Barnes

1. Apologies for Absence

Noted:

- Apologies were received from Jade Casey, Tom Candy, Mark Snowdon, Connor Burton, Kate Withers and Dan Sam.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Noted:

- Reece Horsley, Amy Womersley and Alexandrya-Carmen Mbu names are spelt incorrectly on page 1.
- Reece Horsley was the deputy for Tom Candy (page 1).

Agreed:

- The minutes of the previous meeting on 6th December 2013 were agreed as an accurate record subject to the amendments being made.

3. Matters Arising

Noted:

- Mentoring in schools is featured in President Dan Sam's report due to his absence.
- The new byelaws are to be brought to the next scheduled Student Council; 14th February 2014.
- The Representation Charter was previously circulated with the Council papers and can be found on the Union's website.
- VP Academic Affairs Ian Antwi has been publicising academic drop ins and brought academic leaflets to the Council.
- VP Activities Joe Burt has not put the activities videos onto the activities area of the website.
- The report on 'Women in Leadership' conference by Charlotte Greenley was not circulated as there was confusion over the time scale the report was needed by.
- No update was available regarding tennis courts on campus.

Agreed:

- VP Activities Joe Burt to upload the activities videos onto the activities area of the website.
- The report on 'Women in Leadership' conference by Charlotte Greenley to be circulated to all attendees and members of Student Council.
- President Dan Sam to provide an update on tennis courts on campus at the next Student Council.

Discussed:

- It was questioned if Student Council was in quoracy.
- The Council was not in quoracy.
- Jack Maddock noted that he could be a delegate for the Law Rep who was absent.
- Jack Maddock is a Trustee, it was noted that he could not be a Member of Council due governance structure of Student Council and Board of Trustees.
- It was proposed that Jack Maddock is a student at Student Council and not a Trustee whilst in attendance.
- A Motion for Competency in absence of Quoracy was suggested as it was noted that when specific University Committees are not quorate, they can still make decisions as it is deemed that individuals present have the expertise.
- It would be important to outline what competency is.
- A Motion for Competency in absence of Quoracy could set presidency for Council which could then be set for all other meetings.

Agreed:

- To review the current Trustees positions in relation to being a delegate at Student Council.

7. Any Other Business

Motion of Caution against the Council Chair

Noted:

- Motion of Caution against the Council Chair was tabled.
- Council Chair Josh Leafe vacated his seat as Chair. Alexandrya- Carmen Mbu as Deputy Council Chair chaired the Motion.

- It was questioned whether the Motion should go to the Executive Committee due to the quoracy level not being reached in Council. This could create a conflict of interest as the proposer is President Dan Sam and the seconder is VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn on behalf of the Executive Committee.
- All Motions can be brought to Council as it does not stipulate when Motions should be submitted by in the current byelaws
- It was proposed that Council cannot make any decision on the Motion due quoracy levels not being reached.
- There is currently no process detailed in the current Byelaws to stipulate what occurs when quoracy levels are not reached and Motions are brought to Council.
- There are no set rules in place for Student Council at present. The next democratic meeting up from Student Council is the AGM which has set rules that are currently used as a guideline for Student Council.
- Discussion can take place on the Motion but no decisions can be made by members.
- It was felt that the motion was a current issue and therefore important to discuss.
- A speech for the Motion was made by VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn in President Dan Sam's absence who stated that the Motion was based on the arrangement of the emergency Council meeting taking place on 17th January 2014.
- The Motion stipulated that "It was agreed at Student Council 8.11.13 that papers should be submitted on the Monday prior to the meeting" but the Council Chair had "asked for executive updates to be submitted at close of business on Friday, without prior warning".
- The focus was placed on Council Chair Josh Leafe calling a meeting on Saturday 11th January 2013.
- It was noted that the Motion was not made to ostracise individuals.
- All elected officers are held to account by Student Council.
- No amendment was made to the speech for the Motion.
- A speech against the Motion was made by Council Chair Josh Leafe who stated that due to quoracy levels not being reached at the previous Student Council, the Executive Committee approved a Student Council on 17th January 2014 which was minuted.
- Council Chair Josh Leafe reported that he had communicated to Student Voice and Representation Manager Aidan Mersh of his intention to send out Council Papers on the Saturday prior to Council.
- The date of Council had been confirmed.
- It was noted that the original Motion which Council Chair Josh Leafe received stipulated that he had called a meeting which had not been confirmed, he did not consult the relevant Union staff and Union staff were unaware of the Council in January.
- It was noted that the original Motion which Council Chair Josh Leafe received was an early draft which was stated in the second email to Council Chair Josh Leafe which had attached the final Motion.
- The correspondences between the Proposer and the Council Chair Josh Leafe should only be shared between those two individuals who receive the correspondences and not be made public as the first Motion had been withdrawn.
- It was questioned if it specifically stated that the Motion sent with the first email to Council Chair Josh Leafe was withdrawn.
- It was noted that the email stated that the second Motion was the correct one.
- The earlier draft of the Motion detailed incorrect facts.
- The wording of the email was requested to be examined. Deputy Council Chair Alexandrya-Carmen Mbu agreed that the initial motion had been withdrawn within the email.
- It was felt that if Council Chair Josh Leafe received the emails then he should be able to note this within his speech.
- A Procedural Motion was proposed to note the email correspondences and remove this information from the speech.
- The first Motion had been withdrawn.
- Council Chair Josh Leafe did not believe that it was a previous draft but that it had been reviewed by either Student Voice and Representation Manager Aiden Mersh or Administrative

Support Worker Hannah Coleman who have access to the Council email who knew that it was incorrect.

- An email between Council Chair Josh Leafe and Student Voice and Representation Manager Aiden Mersh the day before the Council stated that there was information in the Motion that was "factually incorrect".
- The Executive was asked to submit their reports by 12 noon on the Saturday prior to the Council and not on the Friday. Council Chair Josh Leafe reported that no Executive considered that the request was a problem.
- JoB stated that his first working day after Christmas was on the Friday.
- It was noted that the speech against the Motion should not be interrupted.
- The Executive approved the Council date in January in an Executive Committee which had been minuted indicating that the Executive should have been aware of the date of Council in January.

Discussed:

- A Member of Council proposed that the discussion regarding the emails of the Motion seemed confusing on both sides.
- Members of Council were informed that questions should be aimed at the current Chair.
- No vote could take place due to not reaching quoracy levels.
- Members of Council could make suggestions regarding the Motion.
- It was suggested that the Union and Council Chair Josh Leafe should hold a meeting to review processes and ensure that a similar situation does not happen again.
- This discussion of the Motion did not have to be minuted.
- It was stated that the problems raised in the Motion need to be clarified as the Council was agreed at a prior Council then approved at Executive Committee and that there was good time for preparation to be made by the Union before the January Council.
- It was questioned what Council Chair Josh Leafe had done wrong as he had been going by the mandate of Council.
- There was no issue in terms of the date of the Council. The issue was the timescale of when the reports were to be handed in.
- The timescale and formatting of Council papers had been agreed and minuted at Council on 8th November 2013 which was read out to Members of Council.
- A Procedural Motion to end questioning and move to an abstention speech was put forward which was agreed by Deputy Council Chair Alexandrya-Carmen Mbu.
- An abstention speech was put forward which stated that there was a lot of confusion about the Motion. The Council prior was not quorate which meant that the Executive needed to approve a Council in January. The Motion being discussed was not deemed to be an issue for the Member of Council who put forward the abstention speech or an issue for the Member's Rep's to discuss. There are issues that need to be rectified and it was acknowledged that there was evidence on both sides. It was felt that all evidence should be heard before discussing the Motion and that the Motion was emotive.
- It was proposed that if the Union were to meet ten days in advance of Student Council then it would suggest abandoning the Motion of Caution.
- Reps may not be aware of the in house situation of the Union regarding Student Council preparation.
- One of the Executive had been on annual leave and had worked one day when the request for submission of Executive reports was made.
- There have been difficulties with the circulation of Council papers. Individuals need to clarify deadlines more clearly.
- The minutes of Student Council and Executive Committee are publicly available on the Union website once they have been confirmed.
- As Members could not vote due to quoracy level, the proposer can decide if or when to put forward the Motion again as the Motion is the Proposers property.
- The proposer could overturn the Motion which would mean no further action was taken to do with it.
- It was asked when the Motion would be taken to next Student Council if there was a vote of abstention.
- Members of Council were reminded that no voting could take place.

- It was asked if there was a procedure in place to throw the Motion out.
- A Member of Council felt that there was no point having an opinion as it would not decide the outcome of the Motion as voting could not take place.
- It was proposed that a show of hands be used to show how Members would have voted.
- Deputy Council Chair Alexandria-Carmen Mbu did not agree to the show of hands as it was felt that if the Motion were to come to the next Student Council, Members should vote then as it would achieve an outcome.
- Council Chair Josh Leafe assumed the seat of Chair and commended Deputy Council Chair Alexandria-Carmen Mbu for deputising as Chair.

Motion of Censure against the Students' Union Executive Committee

Noted:

- The Motion was received prior to the meeting and was not tabled. It was proposed by Reece Horsley.
- A Motion of Censure is when the Executive receive a written warning from Student Council.
- There is no definition for a Motion of Censure.

Discussed:

- Chief Executive James Brooks made an observation that there were 2 sides arguing about rules and recommended that the Union and Council Chair Josh Leafe met outside of Council.
- Chief Executive James Brooks advised Members of Council that governance is poor at the moment and recommended that Student Council make amendments to the new proposed byelaws and agree to them as quickly as possible as it is important that the Union has sound governance.
- The new proposed byelaws have been approved at Executive Committee and are now subject to legal scrutiny.
- The proposed byelaws will be circulated to Student Council then to the Board of Trustees as Council are likely to make more amendments.

Agreed:

- The proposed byelaws will be circulated to Student Council as soon as the Union receives them from the Solicitors.
- The Motion of Censure against the Students' Union Executive Committee will be brought to the next Student Council.

4. Sabbatical Key Points

4a. Presidents Report

Noted:

- The President report was taken as read due to Dan Sam's absence. Members of Council to send feedback on the report to President Dan Sam.
- It was noted that President Dan Sam appreciates all feedback that is received.

4b. VP Academic Affairs Report

Noted:

- School meetings have been taking place to discuss Course Rep elections and the provisions of Postgraduate Reps.
- Senior Reps are key factors in the NSS and institutionally at the end of year.
- Secretariat is being consulted regarding the attendance at committees. It has become apparent that various University staff are noticing that elected officers are not sending apologies for their nonattendance at Committees.
- The Representation Charter was circulated with the Council papers. VP Academic Affairs Ian Antwi welcomed feedback via email.
- Student Staff Conference publicity is to go online on Monday and the physical publicity will be seen from 27th January 2014. VP Academic Affairs Ian Antwi welcomed any help from Members for the conference.
- VP Academic Affairs Ian Antwi thanked all Members of the Council on behalf of the Executive regarding the saving of The Shed. Students, Reps and Members of Council were commended for attending AGM and for offering suggestions and feedback regarding The Shed.

Agreed:

- An update on elected officer attendance at university committees to be brought to the next Student Council.

University Library Opening times**Discussed:**

- VP Academic Affairs Ian Antwi asked for feedback from Members of the Council regarding the adequacy of the current 24 hours opening times of the Library.
- It was suggested that the 24 hours opening times be extended for the first two weeks of January due to academic deadlines during this time.
- It was noted that Media students should be able to access the media building 24 hours a day, 7 days a week but this does not happen as students are often asked to leave by security. The library opening times and new computers have been well received by media students.
- It was reported that Laboratory opening times are not long enough.
- It was suggested that opening times of facilities could be extended within specific academic areas.

Agreed:

- The discussion on opening times of the Library and other academic areas to continue outside of Council.

4c. VP Activities Report**Noted:**

- There are currently 350 placed volunteers and 527 pending placements.
- Four student led projects have been signed up. Volunteer Coordinator Jane Kilby is currently reviewing two of the proposals.
- The design of the art work for Varsity was received today and was noted as being good. The coaches and prices are being finalised. It is hoped that tickets will be on sale on Monday 19th January 2014. VP Activities Joe Burt welcomed help in selling varsity tickets.

Discussed:

- The student led projects signed up are Coppa feel who are raising awareness for Breast Cancer, LincTv who produce videos for various projects, Adopt a ward who are nursing students who would like to adopt a ward on a hospital and support the care of patients and Homeless provision who yet to have a confirmed name are to seek what homeless provision is available and what needs to be.
- It was suggested that it would be beneficial to know what the volunteering numbers and BUCS scores were from last year so that the current figures presented at Council could be contextualised.
- This year's Volunteering numbers are beating last years.
- Societies will be contacted soon to get involved with Varsity. Hull are finalising fixtures and VP Activities is waiting to hear from Hull's Activities Officer regarding the involvement of Societies.

Agreed:

- An update showing the comparison of Volunteering numbers and BUCS scores from last year to this year to be brought to the next scheduled Student Council.

4d. VP Welfare and Community Report**Noted:**

- The Shush campaign is progressing with community partners and is being led by the City Council.
- The campaign is utilising a different approach to other Union's. Wrist bands publicising the campaign are free and available from the Union's Reception. The student must log their details when collecting a wrist band. Lincoln Big has negotiated incentives for the campaign by offering prizes that can be redeemed at various nightlife venues.
- Members of the council were asked to contact VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn for more information on the Shush campaign.
- Article 4 Directive which was being proposed at Carholme Community Forum is unlikely to happen. This is seen as a positive as an Article 4 Directive is a big expense. A landlord licensing scheme has now been proposed, it is unsure what the scheme would look like for students. There

will be a consultation period to discuss the new proposed scheme which VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn will be a part of.

- Manager Residential Services Ben Ball is due to go through the Housing Accreditation Scheme with VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn.
- It is hoped that the mental health campaign 'time to change' planned in February will help to end mental health stigma.
- 'Kids on Kampus' has been renamed to Youth at Uni which is occurring during February half term week. VP welfare and Community Brian Alcorn welcomed suggestions for workshops during the week and help from Members who wished to volunteer.
- VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn met with Head Division of the School of Business Heather Hughes to discuss the possibility of international students experiencing British Culture through families in the community. Heather Hughes is reportedly working on a similar project with the Rotary Club and the Cathedral.

Discussed:

- College of Arts Officer Linford Butler commended VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn on the positive outcome of the Article 4 Directive.
- There was an issue raised over the skateboarders outside the library.
- Students should call Campus Security if there are issues with the skateboarders. Damage has been done to the outside landscape by the skateboarders.
- Approximately 220 wristbands for the Shush Campaign given out at the January Fayre. Students are required to scan their student card when collecting a wrist band. There are approximately 800 wristbands left. Members of Council were encouraged to help with the publicity of the campaign. Lincoln Big has secured incentives for students to get involved in the campaign which include various offers for Home Nightclub and Moka and Shack.
- Lincoln City Council has put in a draft proposal for a Landlord Licensing Scheme which will go through a consultation. VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn does not want the scheme to have a negative impact on student accommodation and welcomed students thoughts on it.
- VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn will be involved in the consultation and can input recommendations made by the Union.

Agreed:

- VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn to write a report about the Shush Campaign and circulate to Student Council.

5. Motion for the University of Lincoln Students' Union against the Immigration Bill

Noted:

- The proposer for the Motion was President Dan Sam.
- VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn delivered the speech for the Motion on behalf of Dan Sam in his absence.
- The Government are curbing the number of International people to the United Kingdom and have proposed an Immigration Bill.
- There are concerns from Unions and NUS as International students contribute a lot to institutions.
- International students are asked to pay accommodation upfront as they may not have a United Kingdom guarantor.
- It is important that all students unify in solidarity with the international students on campus about the Bill.
- President Dan Sam is due to meet Councillor Karl McCartney to give him signed letters from students to show they oppose the Bill.
- It would be useful if Members of Council were to support the Motion and promote it.
- President Dan Sam may create a petition online.
- The letters that students can sign can be downloaded off the Union website and submitted at the Union's Reception.
- It was reported that NUS have a backup plan if the Bill does get passed. It is uncertain what the plan is.
- NUS International Officer Daniel Stevens is visiting the Union next week.
- It is important that the Union support students.
- Members of Council were asked to email President Dan Sam for further information on the Bill.

Discussion:

- Landlords may turn International students away as they may not want to go through the required checks.
- The Union should look into a backup plan if the Immigration Bill is passed.
- In response to the NHS levy, it proposed that a health hardship fund for International students could be looked into.
- The Union lobbied for an international hardship fund made up from the day's salary of staff that went on strike. The University could do the same for the forthcoming strikes.
- A standardised fund could be lobbied for by the Union.

Agreed:

- The general feeling of Student Council supported the Motion.
- Circulate the letter opposing the Immigration Bill to Student Council with the minutes of the Student Council.
- President Dan Sam to enquire about lobbying the University to set up a standardised fund for International students.

6. Student Open Session**The Shed****Discussed:**

- It was noted that it was important that there should be a separation between the updates on The Shed and democratic issues.
- Student Council cannot put in Motions on The Shed due to the governance structure of the Limited Company.
- Prices at The Shed are due to decrease.
- Chief Executive James Brooks and Vice Chancellor Mary Stuart were commended for the work that been undertaken regarding The Shed.
- Chief Executive James Brooks is the designated Premises Licence Supervisor.
- The Union Staff should be commended for their involvement and effort in the acquisition of The Shed.
- Members of the Council were encouraged to give feedback on The Shed. The questions and issues that were asked regarding The Shed at AGM still stand. Feedback to be sent to theshed@lincolnsu.com.
- The governance of The Shed is the Board of Trustees and is student led through the Elected Officers who sit on the Board of Trustees. There is a commercial team who Chief Executive James Brooks oversees who deal with the operational side of The Shed.
- The Shed is not an election tool.

Joint Societies and Sports Facebook page**Discussed:**

- At a previous Student Council it was asked if a joint sports and societies Facebook page could be made. It was advised that this should be brought to Societies and Sports Councils.
- The joint Facebook page was approved at Societies Council.
- There has been little development of the joint Facebook page.

Agreed:

- Chair of Societies Council to report to Student Council with an update on a joint sports and societies Facebook page.

7. Any Other Business**Lincoln Against Racism and Fascism****Noted:**

- The Executive have been recently approached by Lincoln Against Racism and Fascism to see if they would like to be involved in the Anti- Fascism counter demonstration happening tomorrow at 12:30pm starting at Kind Bars. The Executive have been asked to attend.

Agreed:

- The general feeling of Student Council was that they were happy for the Executive to attend the Anti-protest.

Women in Leadership

Noted:

- Women in leadership workshops are being held on the 4th and 5th February 2014.

Student Council

Noted:

- The time of Student Councils and the lack of WIFI in the venues was raised as an issue. A better location for Student Council could be found. A suggestion for a venue was The Shed.
- There are issues with timetabling and the time of Student Council. Some Members may prefer later Students Councils and others may not.

Discussed:

- It was felt that it was beneficial to have Student Council scheduled in January.
- The Shed was purchased by the Union in January.
- From an Academic point of view, holding a Student Council in January was seen as good as Academic deadlines have been reached by then.
- It is anticipated that issues which have arose over the governance of Student Council can be avoided when the new Byelaws come into effect.
- The Union appreciates the patience of the Student Council while the byelaws are under review.
- No review as yet by the Union has been done on the offensive statements which were made regarding the Say no to Page 3 referendum. There has been a review of the referendum result and what it means.
- There is to be a review by President Dan Sam of the usage of Social Media in referendums on publicity and the issues that arose from Social Media.
- The wording of the referendum was suggested to be confusing.
- If students did not attend AGM, they were unaware of the details of the Referendum
- The Motion was uploaded onto the Union website after a day of the referendum going live to inform students of the background.
- A review of the template used of the referendum is due to be undertaken as it is important that the Union is professional.

Action:

- Find out the best times for Student Council.
- Look for the possibility of alternative venues for Student Council.
- The general feeling of Student Council was that the Referendum was good.

Strikes

Noted:

- Chief Executive James Brooks provided the context of the Strikes. The University used the national body to negotiate a yearly pay increase for 1st August.
- No agreement to the pay increase was reached with any of the Unions.
- The University was recommended to take the 1% increase which was paid in December. UCU do not agree with the pay increase and plan to do more aggressive lines of striking.
- Negotiations for next year's pay increase cannot start until this has been resolved.
- The position in the past has been that the Executive would normally support the right to strike.
- The strikes planned will cause disruption to student experience.
- The resolution to strike does not provide a solution.
- Students are not being informed of the Strikes.
- The strikes planned are before the next Student Council.
- Information on the strikes will be brought to the next Rep Forum and Senior Rep Catch up.

I certify that the above minutes are a true and accurate summary of the meeting held on 17th January 2014, and have been approved by Student Council. These minutes will now be publicly available.

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Name (Chair)

.....
Date