

Draft Minutes of

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

1<sup>st</sup> Week, Hilary Term 2011

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2011

**Present:** **The President** (James Langman, *University College*), **The Treasurer** (Jack Sennett, *Lincoln College*), **The Secretary** (Izzy Westbury, *Hertford College*), **Ms Ernst** (*St Catherine's College*), **Mr Ahluwalia** (*St Benet's Hall*), **Mr Bhalla** (*Keble College*), **Mr Thomas** (*Balliol College*), **Mr Freeland** (*Brasenose College*), **The President-Elect** (Ash Sangha, *The Queen's College*), **The Librarian-Elect** (Lauren Pringle, *Wadham College*), **The Treasurer-Elect** (Cyrus Nasser, *Exeter College*), **The Ex-President** (Laura Winwood, *Hertford College*), **The Senior Treasurer, The Bursar, The Returning Officer** (Mr Whitelaw, *Christ Church*), **The CCC** (Mr Goldberg, *St Benet's*), **The Access Officer for Women** (Carla Thomas, *St Anne's College*), **The CDSC** (Hugh Burns, *St John's College*)

**Attending:** **Mr O'Connell** (*University College*), **The Cherwell News Reporter**

**Apologies:** **The Librarian** (Hasan Ali, *Christ Church*), **The Senior Librarian, The Access Officer** (Miles Coates, *Worcester*)

**Absent:**

*Committee opens at: 17.05*

**Ratification of minutes**

**MOTION:** This TSC ratifies the minutes from TSC in 9<sup>th</sup> Week Michaelmas 2010.

Proposed: The President

Motion passed *nem. con.*

**MOTION:** This TSC ratifies the minutes from TSC in 0<sup>th</sup> Week Hilary 2011.

Proposed: The President

Motion passed *nem. con.*

**Absences from Previous Meeting**

No absences.

**Matters Arising From Previous Minutes**

No matters.

**The President**

*Meetings missed: 0 Missed without good reason: 0*

**Business of the The President**

**The President** says that he would like to put through committee the English as a Second Language debating workshops on a Monday night.

**MOTION:** The President proposes that English as a Second Language Debating Workshops be held in the Union buildings on a Monday night for the duration of the term.

Proposed: The President

Motion passed *nem. con.*

**The President** reminds the committee that OLDUT had their annual general meeting recently. He highlights that it is very important that the members of TSC take hold of the problem of the bar losing revenue.

**The President** says that he has four contracts that need to go through committee which are being presented by the Treasurer and need to be ratified through Standing Committee.

**The President** says that he would also like to raise the issue of events budgets. He reminds TSC that last term there were too many Emergency Standing Committee meetings to pass budgets for events. He says that he will not do the same this term and urges members of Standing Committee to get their events through TSC and Finance Committee as soon as possible.

*17.10 The RO enters the room.*

#### Questions to the President

No questions.

#### The Librarian

*Meetings missed: 1 Missed without good reason: 0*

#### Business of the Librarian

No business.

#### Questions to the Librarian

No questions.

#### The Treasurer

*Meetings missed: 0 Missed without good reason: 0*

#### Business of the Treasurer

**The Treasurer** says that debate expenses amounted to £611 and were passed in Finance Committee. He says that the committee docked £2 from a debater for buying two singles instead of a return ticket. He also mentions that one debate expense was not passed but otherwise it all went through Finance Committee.

**MOTION:** The Treasurer proposes that the sum of £611 for debate expenses passed through Finance Committee be passed through TSC

Proposed: The Treasurer

Seconded: The President

Motion passed *nem. con.*

#### Questions to the Librarian

No Questions.

#### The Secretary

*Meetings missed: 0 Missed without good reason: 0*

#### Business of the Secretary

**The Secretary** says that she has been sent three separate applications for either Residential or Permanent Membership of the society. She says that the first is from Mrs Fiona Pocock who has applied to become a Residential Member of the Society.

**The President** says that he knows the applicant and would be happy to interview her to become a Residential Member.

**The Secretary** also says that there has been a letter written to her from Mr Neil Richardson, who studied both at the Oxford College of Further Education and at Oxford Brookes, but is now running a business in Gloucester.

**The Bursar** says that he can only apply for Residential Membership if he lives within 25 miles of Carfax Tower.

**The Secretary** agrees with this and says that she will follow up on whether this is still the case and bring it back to TSC next week. She also says that Ms Elin Sandnes has applied to become a Permanent Member of the Union. She informs TSC that she is a member of Oxford Brookes University as she studies at the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark and is currently a Temporary Member. She says that Ms Sandnes has also written a poem for TSC summarizing her application.

**The Bursar** says that being a permanent member is something normally for members of committee and is normally considered a privilege for these members.

**The President** agrees.

**The Treasurer-Elect** asks if she has to pay any fees.

**The Bursar** replies that she does not as she has already paid the original joining fee to become a Temporary Member of the society.

**The President** expresses his concern at this.

**MOTION:** The Secretary proposes that Ms Elin Sandnes' application for Permanent Membership be accepted and passed through TSC

Proposed: The Secretary

Seconded: The Treasurer

Votes in Favour: 8. Votes Against: 3

Motion Passes.

**The Bursar** alerts TSC that we have refused such members in the past and doesn't see how this applicant has contributed to the society.

**The President** says that he agrees on this account.

**The Senior Treasurer** says that when TSC last debated this it was agreed that we would consider those who had contributed to the society, had shown an interest and had got involved. There was a feeling that only those that had someone that would sponsor them could be considered.

**The President** asks the RO to look into what this means fully and whether there is a rule for this.

**The Librarian-Elect** argues that she can't have got involved as she is at Oxford Brookes.

**The Bursar** says that she could have been a rep and member of committees.

**The President** agrees, arguing that other members from Oxford Brookes got very involved. However, he acknowledges that it has been put through committee and he is happy to respect the committee rules. He asks the RO whether there is a passage in the rules that allows only active members of the society to become Permanent Members.

**The RO** says that he has looked at the rules but is unclear on whether the application for permanent membership is viable.

**The President** says that he would like this to be clarified and wants to defer passing this through TSC until next week and will put it under matters arising. He says that TSC would not need to vote on it again as it has already been through committee.

**The Secretary** says that Mr Alistair Morris has written to her complaining that fees are too high for University staff.

**The President** asks TSC whether there is an argument for amending the rules as a consequence.

**The Bursar** says that it costs £99 per year on a yearly basis for staff.

**Mr Bhalla** asks how many staff take up this offer for membership.

**The Bursar** responds that it is around half a dozen.

**The Treasurer-Elect** says that in this case he is concerned with revenue. He argues that as there are not many people who have taken advantage of this membership then perhaps there may be cause to lower membership costs.

**The Treasurer** disagrees and says that he doesn't think that this should be a main source of revenue.

**Mr Freeland** says that he thinks it would undermine the society's other memberships.

**The Bursar** says that she agrees.

**The President** says that he is happy to leave things as the status quo and mandates **The Secretary** to write an e-mail informing Mr Morris of the decision.

Questions to the Secretary

No questions.

**Ms Ernst**

*Meetings missed: 0      Missed without good reason: 0*

Business of Ms Ernst

**Ms Ernst** says that Mr Gareth Williams, a 1<sup>st</sup> year Historian, has applied to become a member of Library Committee. She says that he has joined the waiting list for Library Committee and would like to put this through TSC.

**MOTION:** Ms Ernst proposes that Mr Gareth Williams be accepted onto the waiting list to join Library Committee  
Proposed: Ms Ernst  
Seconded: The President  
Motion passed *nem. con.*

**Mr Thomas** asks how many members are on the waiting list.

**Ms Ernst** replies that he is the only one.

Questions to Ms Ernst

No questions.

**Mr Ahluwalia**

*Meetings missed: 1      Missed without good reason: 0*

Business of Mr Ahluwalia

**Mr Ahluwalia** says that there has been some sort of event that he is apparently sponsoring and would like to know whether this was passed officially and how this was set up, especially as it is stated on the website that he will be sponsoring a debate.

**The President** says that he will discuss this with him after TSC.

Questions to Mr Ahluwalia

No questions.

**Mr Bhalla**

*Meetings missed: 0      Missed without good reason: 0*

Business of Mr Bhalla

**Mr Bhalla** says that there is an upright piano in the Television Room which hasn't been used. He says that when there are events that involve music, bands have had to use their own keyboards etc. He asks whether there is any way that the piano could be moved to the Macmillan Room.

**The President** responds that this could be tricky and that it is also probably untuned. He says that he is reluctant to move it to the Macmillan Room. However, he suggests a switch with the vicar's harmonium in the Gladstone Room, but is worried that the piano may be broken in transit.

**The Treasurer** suggests that it be moved to the snooker room.

**The President** replies that this would serve no purpose. He suggests that Mr Bhalla look into the logistics of moving the piano further.

*The Ex-President (Laura Winwood, Hertford College) enters the room at 17:32.*

Questions to Mr Bhalla

No questions.

**Mr Thomas**

*Meetings missed: 0      Missed without good reason: 0*

Business of Mr Thomas

No business.

Questions to Mr Thomas

No questions.

## **Mr Freeland**

*Meetings missed: 0 Missed without good reason: 0*

### **Business of Mr Freeland**

No business.

### **Questions to Mr Freeland**

**The President** asks how the schools initiative is going.

**Mr Freeland** responds that he is liaising with Stratford High School about coming to visit as well as a number of other schools.

**Mr President** asks him to keep us updated.

## **President-Elect**

*Meetings missed: 0 Missed without good reason: 0*

### **Business of the President-Elect**

**The President-Elect** says that he was e-mailed by a gentleman that came to the bar. He says that the gentleman is a member and that he invited a colleague from his department to come and have lunch at union. He says that the gentleman is a member, but his guest is not. He says that the bartender asked for ID, which the gentleman produced and said that he wanted to purchase lunch for the two of them. He says that the bartender then refused. He says that the gentleman was not very happy with this and that the gentleman doesn't think this is very wise from a business point of view.

**The Bursar** says that this is incorrect as members can have guests who need to sign in and then they can order food.

**The President** asks **The Bursar** to discuss this with the bar staff to ensure this doesn't happen again in the future.

**The Bursar** agrees that this is ridiculous that this should have happened.

**The President** agrees and says that as long as guests sign in it should be fine. He asks **The President-Elect** to respond to the gentleman notifying him that we are pursuing the matter.

**The Bursar** says that the non-member cannot pay but the member can do the purchasing instead.

### **Questions to the President-Elect**

No questions.

## **Librarian-Elect**

*Meetings missed: 0 Missed without good reason: 0*

### **Business of the Librarian-Elect**

**The Librarian-Elect** says that Agyness Deyn would like to come to the Union in mid-February. She says that she has passed this to **The Librarian** but that he has not responded and that she would like to proceed with negotiations for her coming next term. She also says that she is in negotiation with Hamish Bowles - he is the same status as Agyness Deyn in that

she has passed him on to **The Librarian** but that she is not currently clear at what stage of negotiations we are at.

**The President** advises her to try and discuss with **The Librarian** outside the meeting, but acknowledges that if this is difficult then she can proceed as she feels appropriate.

#### Questions to the Librarian-Elect

**The President** asks whether she has put a tweet in?

**The Librarian-Elect** responds that she is setting it up now.

#### Treasurer-Elect

*Meetings missed: 0 Missed without good reason: 0*

#### Business of the Treasurer-Elect

**The Treasurer-Elect** says that he has a chart of membership drive figures. He says that Worcester, Teddy Hall and some other colleges he would like to target. He says that **The Treasurer** had a very successful membership drive but that this can be improved.

**Mr Freeland** asks whether these figures are not homogenous over the years in particular colleges.

**The Treasurer-Elect** says that he wants to make up about half of the shortfall between this year and previous years.

**The President** asks **The Treasurer-Elect** to please sort out the implementation of this as the term cards are coming out tomorrow evening.

**The Treasurer-Elect** asks for a member of Standing Committee to help him.

**Mr Thomas** says that he will.

**The President** suggests he gets a seccie to help as they have a very light week this week.

#### Questions to the Treasurer-Elect

**The Ex-President** (Laura Winwood, *Hertford College*) says that she would like to talk about Mr Terry Eagleton. She says that as far as she is aware she has no contact address and that she has only ever seen a phone number. She says that he was invited as a Librarian's speaker in Hilary Term when she was President and that the Librarian then was Mr William Chamberlain. She says that she asked the **Ex-Librarian** (*Lincoln College*) of this matter and that he responded that everything was done over the phone so there is no paper trail.

**The President** says that should the current **Librarian** find a paper trail then the Union will pay for domestic travel expenses, but not for his flight from Dublin, which is not domestic and is in Euros. He says that he doesn't think that he is a huge threat. He says that should we obtain this paper trail then they will take it to him, if not he will write a letter clarifying the rules to Mr Eagleton, otherwise it is to be deducted from **The Ex-Librarian's** budget for that term.

#### Senior Treasurer

#### Business of the Senior Treasurer

**The President** says that it is nice to have him back.

**The Senior-Treasurer** responds that this is very kind. He says that he wants to reiterate that being *in camera* means nothing leaves the room and also he reminds TSC that no-one should talk to The Press.

**The President** says that this is very important and that you need his written permission to say anything to The Press in everything regarding union-related matters.

**The Treasurer-Elect** reiterates that this does apply to any statement, also not just Union matters.

**The President** agrees, saying that if it connects you to the Union then this counts.

#### Questions to the Senior Treasurer

No questions.

#### **The Senior Librarian**

##### Business of the Senior Librarian

No business.

##### Questions to the Senior Librarian

No questions.

#### **The Bursar**

##### Business of The Bursar

**The Bursar** says that as she said earlier, that members of TSC should come and see her about budgets in advance and that they need to go through her before going through Finance Committee. She also says that all receipts for vacation expenses need to be in by Wednesday. She says that she also needs a hard copy of every contract, whether it is involving money or not.

**The Ex-President** (Laura Winwood, *Hertford College*) says that she has a sheet detailing what to do for Standing Committee socials.

**The President** says thank you for this, as this would be very useful for TSC members.

##### Questions to The Bursar

No more questions.

#### **The RO**

##### Business of the RO

**The RO** says that he has written a fine to Mr Knight (*Jesus College*) for attempted theft of the bust from the Chamber. He says that he has also made the printers print all the manifesto booklets for free. He says that he has even managed to make a profit of £12.

**The RO** says that Ms Robertson (*Balliol College*) has been fined, Ms Gulati (*St. Peter's College*) has been fined, David Agha (*Brasenose College*) has been fined and that **The Librarian** has been fined for missing meetings. Pres that is for JDC next week.

##### Questions to the RO

**The President** says that he has all the number of vacation days that members of committee have completed over the vacation and that he will read them out in the next public business meeting and if anyone wants to discuss this then he must visit him in his office.

### CCC

#### Business of the CCC

**The CCC** says that he has made a bi-weekly standing committee rota. He says that this is chiefly to help **Mr Freeland** with his guest liaison role. He says that he will see everyone individually after.

#### Questions to the CCC

**The President** says that he wants to speak to **Mr Freeland** about guest liaison on Thursday.

#### Business of the AOW

No business

#### Questions to the AOW

**Mr Freeland** asks if she has any events in the running.

**The AOW** responds that yes, OUSU is in discussion for an event.

**The President** advises her to talk to the RO about the event, especially if it is about campaigning and may infringe on union rules. He suggests that an informative meeting for elections in general could happen.

**The Ex-President** (Laura Winwood, *Hertford College*) says that she would be happy to help on this account.

#### Business of the AO

No business.

#### Questions to the AO

No questions.

### CDSC

#### Business of the CDSC

**The Treasurer** says that he wants to congratulate the debaters on their performance at the World Debating Championships.

**The Senior Treasurer** says that he would like to have a report of the results of the Oxford teams at worlds.

**The Treasurer** wonders whether it would be worth announcing this in the chamber.

**The President** says that he would be happy to do this.

#### Questions to the CDSC

No questions.

### Any Other Business

**The Librarian-Elect** asks what happened to the public business meeting.

**The President** responds that it didn't happen.

**The Ex-President** (Laura Winwood, *Hertford College*) asks what is happening with Cardinals Cocktails.

**The President** says that he doesn't want Cardinals to happen and is talking about it with **The Ex-President** (James Kingston, *Christ Church*) but that he personally doesn't want their event on the night after the ball, especially as the current issue with noise is particularly fragile at the moment. He says that he would prefer it to be like the LawSoc event happening this evening.

**The Senior Treasurer** agrees and adds that Cardinals kills the bar on that night and believes that actually there would be a loss.

**The President** asks for **The Ex-President** (*Hertford College*) to ensure that **The Ex-President** (*Christ Church*) has that talk with the Cardinals.

**The Bursar** says that this is a very different event to the LawSoc so is incomparable.

**The President** says that he will see how tonight's LawSoc event goes.

**The President** says that Sir Ian Mckellan is coming at 7pm next Monday and needs to be met at 5pm. He says that he would like to hold TSC at 4pm and move Finance Committee to 3.30pm. He also asks whether TSC should be moved to the Morris Room.

**The Ex-President** (Laura Winwood, *Hertford College*) responds that she thinks the Gladstone Room is fine.

**Mr Freeland** agrees.

**Mr Bhalla** asks whether there has been any progress with the television.

**The President** responds that it is sitting in the General Office and that Pete says it will be on the wall tomorrow.

**Date of the Next Meeting**

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January, The Gladstone Room, 16.00.

*Committee closes at 18.00*

Signed:



Isabelle Westbury

*Hertford College*

**Secretary**

