

Minutes of

THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF STANDING COMMITTEE

7th Week, Hilary Term 2011

Thursday 3rd March 2011

Present: **The President** (James Langman, *University College*), **The Treasurer** (Jack Sennett, *Lincoln College*), **The Secretary** (Izzy Westbury, *Hertford College*), **Mr Ahluwalia** (*St Benet's Hall*), **Mr Bhalla** (*Keble College*), **Mr Thomas** (*Balliol College*), **Mr Freeland** (*Brasenose College*), **The Treasurer-Elect** (Cyrus Nasser, *Exeter College*), **The Bursar**, **The CCC** (Mr Goldberg, *St Benet's*), **The Access Officer** (Miles Coates, *Worcester*), **The Ex-President** (Ms Laura Winwood, *Hertford College*), **The Ex-Treasurer** (Ms Poppy Simister, *Christ Church*)

Attending: **The Director of Strategies** (Mr Andrew Mason, *University College*), **The Chair of Wines and Spirits Committee** (Mr Chris Adams, *Brasenose College*)

Apologies: **The Senior Treasurer**

Absent: **The Senior Librarian**, **The President-Elect** (Mr Ashvir Sangha, *The Queen's College*), **The Librarian** (Mr Hasan Ali, *The Librarian*), **The Librarian-Elect**

Committee opens at 13:12

The President says the item on agenda is the calling of the meeting on the failings of the Librarian for TSC to bring a disciplinary complaint against the Librarian for failure of duties.

The Ex-Treasurer asks if he has given a reason for not being here.

The President asks if Mr Freeland would like to start.

Mr Freeland says that he thinks that considering what happened yesterday, we are not proposing to find him guilty, but given the sufficient evidence from last meeting it would be silly not to take disciplinary action further.

Mr Thomas says that there are failings on the Librarian's part and by taking it up to a panel of impartial people, they can decide for themselves on the outcome.

The President says that a lot has been discussed during yesterday's meeting.

The Treasurer says that he has never seen an IDC or a disciplinary committee of this sort and wants to ask the RO for any precedent. He asks the committee.

The Ex-President says that indeed there was with Mr Roche when she herself had been on Standing Committee.

The President says that this was for abuse of office and not dereliction of duty.

The Treasurer asks whether there has been one for this particular case.

The President says that there have been Secretary's in the past who have been given the rights of the defendant for not doing minutes properly.

Mr Freeland says that this should be done and taken forward properly.

The Ex-President says that we did have a Standing Committee meeting yesterday where he was given opportunity to defend himself and explain the situation. She asks why the Treasurer wasn't here before.

The Treasurer says that he had all the relevant information yesterday and was planning on abstaining so didn't think that it was worth him turning up.

The Ex-Treasurer says that she does understand that an SDC costs a lot of money.

The President says that bearing in mind we have an election tomorrow, and asks whether on Sunday, should Mr Ali be about to take the President-Elect office, whether a panel would be willing to take this further.

The Ex-President says that the fact that there is an election is irrelevant. She said that he failed his duties and also that this would go to an IDC first.

The President says that an IDC is normally always bumped up to an SDC.

The Ex-Treasurer says that an IDC is good.

The Treasurer elect asks, considering everything was agreed upon, what the Treasurer proposes otherwise.

The Treasurer says that he wants to know whether de facto the Librarian has properly broken the rules.

The CCC says that he has no stake in this whatsoever. He says that this is in the paper. He says that surely it is going to the ultimate decision for the public tomorrow.

Mr Thomas says that members make their decisions upon who to vote for based on a number of factors. He says that it is for a disciplinary committee to decide his guilt or not.

The Ex-President responds to the Treasurer. She says that it is not that he has done one or two things. She says there are 7 points here. She says that the Ex-Treasurer has pointed out that everyone makes mistakes, but we have raised this as there are so many issues that are hard to ignore.

The President says that in addition the Librarian-Elect and standing delegate were also censured.

The Treasurer asks them to elaborate on that point.

The President says that it was mainly against the Librarian, but that because they did not turn up they were censured. He says that the Treasurer is within his rights to raise these points considering the financial implications.

The Secretary says that surely this was why it was brought yesterday as a motion, before more severe actions were taken.

Mr Bhalla asks if a poll could be done.

The Treasurer-Elect says that this would be impractical.

The President thinks that it is unfortunate that the Librarian is not here, he would have thought it would be better that he was here.

The Treasurer supports this as he only sees one side of the argument.

The Bursar says that she does see the point of CCC as this is out in the public domain. She says that perhaps this will be resolved that way.

Mr Freeland says that he wishes elections were decided that way. He says that unfortunately misleading things have been known to get through manifestos. He says that seriously people do not necessarily vote on basis of competence.

The President asks is there is anything else.

The Ex-President says that the Librarian has been spoken to a number of times. She says that she has, the Bursar has.

The Bursar says that she has twice.

The Ex-President says that it is not just a one off.

The President asks who wishes to propose the motion against Mr Ali, the Junior Librarian.

MOTION: That TSC would like to mandate the President to submit an SDC against the Junior Librarian, for dereliction of his duties.

Proposed: Mr Thomas

Seconded: The Ex-President

There are no objections to it being put.

Mr Ahluwalia objects to the motion being passed.

For: 9, Against: 1, Abstentions: 1

The President says that he duly will have to submit an SDC against the Junior Librarian. He says that the Returning Officer will have a very busy week-end ahead.

Committee closes at 10:47

Signed:



Isabelle Westbury

Hertford College

Secretary