

Minutes of

**THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

6<sup>th</sup> Week, Hilary Term 2011

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2011

**Present:** **The President** (James Langman, *University College*), **The Librarian** (Hasan Ali, *Christ Church*), **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 Senior Treasurer**, **The Senior Librarian**, **The Bursar**, **The Returning Officer** (Ms Katherine Sidders, *Trinity College*) **The CCC** (Mr Goldberg, *St Benet's*), **The Access Officer for Women** (Carla Thomas, *St Anne's College*), **The Access Officer** (Miles Coates, *Worcester*), **The CDSC** (Hugh Burns, *St John's College*)

**Attending:** **Andrew Grey** (Ex-RO), **Andrew Mason** (Director of Strategies, *University College*), **Nicole Stansfield** (Cherwell Reporter, *Christ Church*)

**Apologies:**

**Absent:** **The Senior Librarian**

*Committee opens at: 17.06*

**Ratification of minutes**

**MOTION:** This TSC ratifies the minutes from TSC in 6<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 propose a rules change to Rule 74. He asks whether there are any objections to it.

**Mr Freeland** asks whether this means that instead of the Librarian getting the bump up, a re-poll is called?

**The President** responds that considering events in the past and the current goings on in the society, he thinks that in order to be President of the society there should always be an election, and it shouldn't be done by a bump up.

*The Librarian and the Ex-Junior Steward enter the room at 17:10*

**The Bursar** asks whether any of the other Officerships suffer from the same problem.

**The President** responds that actually for other positions there actually are bump ups in place. He says that he thinks that the office of President is slightly different. He says that having seen the petty politics that have gone on in the past, he doesn't think the current format of a bump up is the best choice.

**The Bursar** asks whether this therefore formalizes the process that occurred a few years ago.

**The President** responds that yes it does.

**The Bursar** asks whether this can be extended.

**The President** says that he will.

**The Treasurer** asks whether there will be consequences in the vac.

**The Senior Treasurer** says that this had crossed his mind as well, but the President-Elect actually does not have that much to do.

**MOTION** The TSC will pass the private business motion of insertion of rule 74 to the rules.

Proposed: The President

Passed nem. con.

**The President** says that Cardinals will be happening on Saturday of this week and that they have asked to use our PA system for the evening. He says that he is not extremely happy with this but would consider allowing them to rent it out with very stringent conditions.

**The CCC** points out that at the ball, although the noise was well guarded, we still received complaints from Brasenose College and is worried that giving a PA system to Cardinal's would not be very wise.

**The Bursar** says that it is important that we ensure that they conform to all the rules and charges for hiring out such a piece of equipment.

**The President** asks committee what they think about the matter.

**The Treasurer-Elect** suggests £400.

**The Bursar** says that it shouldn't be less than £100.

**The President** asks therefore whether TSC would be happy to find a suitable price as long as the lowest base is £70. The committee agrees.

**The President** says that as we discussed, the joys of 6th week is when he delays putting vacation days through the chamber. He wishes to read out to TSC the completed days. They are as follows:

The President: 33, The President-Elect: 10, The Librarian: 18, The Treasurer: 24, The Secretary: 20, The Librarian-Elect: 12, The Treasurer-Elect: 21, Ms Ernst: 16, Mr Ahluwalia: 1, Mr Bhalla: 8, Mr Thomas: 3, Mr Freeland: 12, Mr Lee: 10, Mr Lynch: 10, Mr Towers: 12, Mr Leape: 9, Mr Eaton: 10, Mr Kotecha: 6, Mr Dattani: 10, Mr Jackson: 12, Mr Agrawal: 10, Ms Robertson: 8, Mr O'Connor: 4 and Mr Coates, Mr Mason, and Ms Neal all worked several days.

**The President** says that the only other thing that he has on his business is a letter from the Vicar where he asks the CCC to put up grammatically correct notices for speakers at the Union.

**The CCC** responds that he had told the Vicar that if he wrote a letter to TSC then he would put up the notices in Latin.

**The President** says that he thinks therefore that he has called his bluff.

**The President** says that he had also asked for the debate results to be put up on the board.

**The Secretary** responds that they are all up.

#### Questions to the President

No questions.

#### **The Librarian**

*Meetings missed: 2      Missed without good reason: 2*

#### Business of the Librarian

**The Librarian** says that he has no business other than announcing the speakers for the next week, which includes Tony Benn.

**The President** says that he thought he was speaking at New College.

**The Librarian** responds that he would like to try and get Tony Benn to come to the Union instead.

#### Questions to the Librarian

No questions.

#### **The Treasurer**

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

#### Business of the Treasurer

**The Treasurer** says that he has asked the archivist about matching up the name plates to the portraits in the Morris Room, and that he has agreed to have a go at it.

**The Treasurer** says that the membership drive report is near completion.

**The President** says that this was a membership drive that was surprisingly good.

**The Treasurer** responds that there was an increase of 6% from last year so he is pleased with him.

**The Treasurer** says that he would like to pass £363.30 in debate expenses that were put through in Finance Committee.

**MOTION** TSC pass £363.30 in debating expenses

Proposed: The Treasurer

Seconded: Mr Bhalla

Passed nem. con.

#### Questions to the Librarian

No Questions.

**The Secretary**

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

**Business of the Secretary**

**MOTION** A motion of congratulations for the ball.

Proposed: The Treasurer-Elect

Seconded: Mr Thomas

**The Secretary** says that she is working hard with the Access Officer to publicise the charity dinner this coming Friday but that ticket sales are not great. She urges committee therefore to publicise the event as much as possible. She also says that they will probably slash ticket prices as they are too high for students who are being deterred by the price.

**Mr Ahluwalia** asks what the current ticket prices are?

**The Secretary** says that they are currently £45 for members and £55 for non-members, but that they will be decreasing both by £10.

**The Librarian-Elect** says that she had thought that half had been sold.

**The Secretary** responds that half have been given to the OTC to sell.

**Questions to the Secretary**

No questions.

**Ms Ernst**

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

**Business of Ms Ernst**

**Ms Ernst** says that she has her budget which was passed through Finance Committee.

*The Ex-Treasurer (Dharmesh Nayee, University College) enters the room at 17:41*

**MOTION** To pass the budget for the German Beer Fest through TSC

Proposed: Ms Ernst

Seconded: Librarian-Elect

**Questions to Ms Ernst**

No questions.

**Mr Ahluwalia**

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

**Business of Mr Ahluwalia**

**Mr Ahluwalia** says that he passed his accounts through Finance for his social event. He says that he made £362.00.

**Questions to Mr Ahluwalia**

No questions.

### **Mr Bhalla**

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

#### **Business of Mr Bhalla**

**Mr Bhalla** says that he passed his accounts through Finance for his social event. He says that he made £94.00.

**Mr Bhalla** says that he spoke to the Librarian-in-Charge about tables in the Library.

**The Librarian-Elect** responds that this was discussed in Library Committee and they may be able to get tables from the Zoology Library who are giving some away.

**The President** asks whether there was anything exciting in Library Committee other than this issue.

**The Librarian-Elect** says that the only thing to mention is that we are not the first Library in line to try and get these tables.

**The Librarian-Elect** says that the book expenditure in the Library looks to be about £100 under budget.

**The President** asks the Secretary to add to the bottom of the agenda from now on for feedback from Library Committee each TSC.

**The President-Elect** asks where the chalk board is.

**Mr Bhalla** says that he was going to deal with it after TSC but that he has been very busy with organizing the debate last week.

**The President** responds that the debate was indeed very good and congratulates him.

#### **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**

**Mr Freeland** says that he will bring his budget for Pancake Day to TSC next week and that the date has changed from Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Week to 8<sup>th</sup> Week.

**The Bursar** asks whether he could please make sure that all members have been informed.

Questions to Mr Freeland

No questions.

**President-Elect**

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

Business of the President-Elect

No business.

Questions to the President-Elect

No questions.

**Librarian-Elect**

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

Business of the Librarian-Elect

No business.

Questions to the Librarian-Elect

No questions.

**Treasurer-Elect**

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

Business of the Treasurer-Elect

No business.

Questions to the Treasurer-Elect

No questions.

**Business of the Ex-Officio**

No business.

Questions to the Ex-Officio

No questions.

**The Senior Treasurer**

Business of the Senior Treasurer

No business.

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** asks that any contracts that are signed need to be handed to her.

**The Bursar** says that also she was called in at 4AM in the morning for damage caused by OUCA.

**The President** says that they have already been fined.

**The Bursar** responds that they have had to call in two engineers.

**The President** says that we therefore need to fine them more in order to cover these costs.

**The RO** says that the initial fine was breach of order in a meeting.

**The President** says that he was hoping that they would be able to quickly fine them but did not realized that there were so many repercussions.

**The Bursar** responds that setting the fire alarm off caused a cascade of problems.

**The President** asks whether TSC would like him to call a JDC to bring OUCA to account.

**The Senior Treasurer** asks whether we can't just present them with a cost and then they need to pay us.

**The President** responds that the rules destroy common sense and therefore we need to go through them

**The Bursar** responds that OUCA are surely bound by the terms and conditions, which they have breached and therefore we can get them to cover these extra costs.

**The Senior-Treasurer** asks whether we cannot get them to pay a deposit for hosting the event.

**The President** says that there is an arrangement anyway whereby they already buy the port from our bar.

**The RO** responds that she doesn't think this is the case.

**The President** responds that this is unacceptable and asks the RO to pursue it.

**The Bursar** says that she has one last piece of business. She says that the President hosted one of the cheapest President's Drinks ever last week.

#### Questions to The Bursar

No more questions.

#### **RO**

##### Business of the RO

**The RO** says that she has wittered on about elections a lot already in CC. She asks for the officers to lead by example.

Questions to the RO

No questions.

CCC

Business of the CCC

No business.

Questions to the CCC

No questions.

**Access Officer for Women**

Business of the AOW

No business.

Questions to the AOW

No questions.

**Access Officer**

Business of the AO

No business.

Questions to the AO

No questions.

**CDSC**

Business of the CDSC

**The CDSC** says that someone seems to have played a practical joke but that novice quotas have been retained and he is unsure as to how TSC was told that this was not the case.

**The Bursar** asks for the CDSC to tell the Union about transport criteria for debate competitions.

Questions to the CDSC

No questions.

**Any Other Business**

**The Treasurer** asks whether any action has been taken on the case of Ms Robertson's missing phone and wallet.

**The President** asks the Bursar to have a look at the CCTV to pursuer this matter.

**The Secretary** also says that 3 palm trees and a white cube were stolen from the ball and that she received an invoice of in excess of £300 for covering these costs, which she is not very happy about.

**The President** therefore says that himself and the Bursar will go through the CCTV footage to find out what happened.

**The Secretary** raises the point that although she thought that most of Seccies and committee worked hard at the ball, there were a number of people that worked a great deal harder and a bigger share of work than others. She says that she doesn't think that the current system of fining is the best way to motivate committee to work harder or indeed to punish those on committee not pulling their weight.

**Mr Freeland** asks whether he can try and address this and look into ways that make it fairer and such a mechanism would need to avoid the possibility of being used for electoral purposes.

**The President** responds that he should indeed do this.

**Date of the Next Meeting**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February, The Morris Room, 17.00.

*Committee closes at 18.10*

Signed:



Isabelle Westbury

*Hertford College*

**Secretary**