

Student Council Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the sixth meeting of the Student Council held on Monday 8th October 2012 at 6pm in the Student Space at Beaconside

Present: Kimberley Kirkham (**KK** – Student Councillor), Lewis Lay (**LL**- Student Councillor), Jenisha Patel (**JP**- Student Councillor), Holly Hatton Baldwin (**HB**- Student Councillor), Thomas Meadowcroft (**TM**- Student Councillor) Myrofora Loannidou (**ML**- Student Councillor), Arun Chakravarthy Karnati (**ACK**- Student Councillor) Adam Ledlie (**AL** Student Councillor) Caroline Butterwick (**CB**- Forum Chair) Jadesola Fakoya (**JF**- Forum Chair)

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In Attendance: Rebekah Kelly (**RK**- Trustee) Sam Richardson (**SR**- Trustee), Kerry Beavers (**KB**- Student Engagement Assistant & Secretary), Margaret Mulholland (**MM**- Membership Services Manager), Gary Richardson (**GR**- President and Chair) Jared Rufus (**JR**- Student), Rebekah Kelly (**RK**- Student Councillor), Richard Bayes (**RB**- Vice-President), Beth Moorley (**BM**- Vice President), Rochelle Owusu-Antwi), Lauren Warrilow (**LW**- Partnership Intern)

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Apologies for Absence:

Not Present: Shamanth Reddy Devagari, Muhammad Adnan Aslam, Rachel Turney, Waseem Ahmed Ansari

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Apologies received with 48 hours of the meeting: None.

All apologies recorded above were accepted.

No.	Item, Discussion and Action	By Whom and By When
1	<p>Standing Items</p> <p>Notification of Late Arrival – AL</p> <p>Notification of Early Departure – None</p> <p>Minutes of the Previous Meeting – The minutes for the last council of 2012 Student Council minutes were confirmed as an accurate record.</p> <p>Action Points of the Previous Meeting –</p> <p>Gary had to look at an alternative venue but council are fine with the current venues.</p> <p>One officer had offered action to write a letter on behalf of Staffs Union to condone Liam Burns. GR could not confirm this had been completed but will follow this up.</p> <p>Conflicts of Interest –</p>	<p>GR next meeting</p>

Notification of Any Other Business – Policies had been assigned to officers who have now completed their term of office so this needed to be addressed.

Students recognised that the Chair of Council usually chairs the AGM but as Council hadn't yet elected the chair (due to waiting for the results of the October Council election), one would needed to be elected in the meeting.

Gary Richardson will be acting as Chair for this council meeting.

Reports –

Bicycle scheme: Emma Harris secured funding for bicycles to be rented out to Stafford and Stoke students. The Union is looking into costs and how best to run the scheme.

Gary: the Union is asking students opinions on the new x1 route.
Stafford hospital- There is currently no A&E provision at night but they were granted permission to reopen but didn't choose to take this up. This is being discussed at the Stafford Forum.

Councillors would like the dates of actions to be included in the officer reports.

Trustee Board haven't yet met for this academic year.
All reports were accepted.

All officers

Items of business

2.1 NSS results

presentation by Rebecca Merchant- Memberships Intern

discussion:

NSS results are filtered down from faculty to course level

Each faculty have received an action plan on how to improve their NSS result. These plans are publicly available.

2.2 STARS.

Recommendation for STARS Council Election

- 12 councillors: 1 from each school in each faculty

- 16 councillors: 4 from each faculty

RB recommends council choose 12 stars Councillors.

It was suggested that a constitutional working group be set up to address some of the inaccuracies with the Bye Laws. Lewis Lay, Sam Richardson and Danielle Macintosh volunteered to be a part of this group.

votes for the 2 STARS Council Elections recommendations

12 STARS councillors: 9 votes for

16 STARS Councillor 0 votes

1 abstention

2.3 Nus Demo

Gary Richardson leads talk.

discussion ensues

councillors who want to help organise the demo:

Caroline Butterwick

Jadesola Fakoya

Adam Ledlie

Rebekah Kelly

Tom Meadowcroft

Arun chakravarthy Karnati

Jenisha Patel

Lewis Lay

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Any Other Business

4.1 Sexist comments made by two performers at the recent Comedy Night held at the Ember Lounge

(We want to raise an issue at Student Council for discussion regarding the

sexist comments made by two performers at the recent Comedy Night held at the Ember Lounge. We want to discuss at council getting the two comedians who made the remarks banned from performing at any NUS venue. Whilst on campus they violated NUS Safe Spaces Policy. We also want to discuss a solution to how to manage comedians and other performers that violate this policy in the future and how this sexist behaviour could be prevented)

First proposal: The two comedians to be banned from every Staffs venue

Second proposal: take the issue to NUS to get them banned across Unions on a national level.

Third proposal: enforce the safe space policy at Staffordshire University

Lewis Lay presents an email from Venue Manager, Keith Quenton.

Points of information:

- Safe space policy is not enforced at staffs union, only applies at NUS events so there was no breach.
- Venue managers do stop shows if they seem to be getting out of hand.

CB would like to state that Mr A did not use the language described in the email from Manager

HHB offers resolve: as a union to get in contact with the comedians and explain to them the position of the women's forum, and that it came up as a contentious issue at council, and that we would welcome back when they address the issue

Councillors want to know who students should seek if they have an issue. -
- Students are directed to officers.

GR moves the proposal to a vote.

HHB offers her resolve if the vote fails.

First proposal

4 votes for

4 against

2 abstains

To ban individual comedians- Phil Knoxville

2 for

5 against

3 abstains

Walter Meijs goes to a blind vote

4 for

6 against

There is more work to be done on future marketing and a new disclaimer needs to be added to promotion materials.

Parts of discussion are to be sent to the venue manager.

Councillors are offered the suggestion to write a letter to these comedians on behalf of council for a response and to tell them the Union's position on the content they used.

5 for
2 against
2 abstain

The officers will work with **HHB** on this.

More research needs to be done into this issue, to work with the women's forum and anyone else who wants to get involved.

Chair of AGM

Councillors who have put themselves forward to be the Chair at the AGM.

Lewis Law
Adam Ledlie
Kimberley Kirkham
Myrofora Loannidou

Lewis:
1 vote

Adam
no votes

Kimberley
no votes

Myrofora
4 votes

abstentions
5

Myrofora is elected.

Lewis elected as deputy chair.

HHB and officers

5 **Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting**

6pm on Monday 5th October in Cadman Conference Room, Stoke.