

CUSU Council (Lent I)

Monday 20th January 2020, 7pm

SU Lounge, 17 Mill Lane  
Minutes

1. **Objections to the order of items on the agenda**
2. **Matters arising from the minutes of the last Council Meeting**

* Minutes approved.

1. **Announcements by Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive** 
   1. **Officer accountability**

* Edward Parker Humphreys (President) delivered his report.
* Ali Hyde (Education Officer) delivered his report.
* Kate Litman (Women’s Officer) delivered her report.
* Lily-Rose Sharry (Access & Funding Officer) delivered her report.
* Jess O’Brien (Disabled Students’ Officer) delivered their report.
* Henry Wright (Homerton JCR) asked the Officers if anyone has been in touch with the Council about the barrier on King’s Parade.
  + Jess O’Brien (Disabled Students’ Officer) said they would feedback to the Council’s consultation.
  1. **Updates from Campaigns and the Executive**
* Jake Simms (Ethical Affairs) delivered the report for the Ethical Affairs Campaign.
* Cecily Bateman (Disabled Students’) delivered the report for the Disabled Students’ Campaign.
* April Jakso (LGBT+) delivered the report for the LGBT+ Campaign.
* Julia Yan (iCUSU) delivered the report for iCUSU.

1. **Ratification of Trustee appointments**

* Edward Parker Humphreys (President) proposed the appointment of Alex Roberts as a student trustee of CUSU.
  + The appointment was approved with 27 Yes votes and 0 No votes.

1. **Discussions**
   1. **Cambridge SU by-laws**

* Edward Parker Humphreys (President) introduced the draft By-Laws of Cambridge SU.
* Rensa Gaunt (Part-Time Students’ Officer) asked whether there are substantive differences to the CUSU by-laws?
  + Edward Parker Humphreys (President) clarified that there is greater detail on the structure of campaigns. There is also a commitment to a review of officer roles, administered by `the newly-created Democracy Committee.
* Henry Wright (Homerton JCR) asked why The Cambridge Student is a part of CUSU, not a society?
  + Edward Parker Humphreys (President) stated that this is a confirmation of existing practice.
* Andrew Salkeld (Fitzwilliam JCR) asked if there is any procedure for solving a dispute between the two Presidents?
  + Edward Parker Humphreys (President) stated that this will exist with regards to trustee responsibilities. This is hard to put in in any way. Council is the ultimate arbiter of what Council does.
* Connor Heffernan (Fitzwilliam MCR) asked whether each President would have the power of veto?
  + Edward Parker Humphreys (President) stated that they will have split responsibilities between Trustee Board and the Executive. These will be spelled out further in other By-Laws.

1. **Proposed Standing Orders amendment**

* Edward Parker Humphreys (President) proposed the Standing Orders amendment.
  + The amendment was approved with 28 Yes votes and 0 No votes.

1. **Ordinary Policy Motions from Previous Council**
   1. **Campaigning for Antiracist training for University Staff\***
   2. **Campaigning for Improving Unconscious Bias training for University Staff involved in Admissions Procedures\***
2. **Proposed Ordinary Policy Motions**
   1. **Motion to support campaigns working to cut all ties between Cambridge University and the fossil fuel industry**

* Jake Simms (Ethical Affairs) proposed the motion.
* Connor Heffernan (Fitzwilliam MCR) asked whether the overwhelming student support has been proved by a survey.
  + Jake Simms (Ethical Affairs) said support for divestment in Common Rooms proved support.
* Kate Litman (Women’s Officer) spoke in favour of the motion.
* Henry Wright (Homerton JCR) spoke in favour of the motion and asked why the motion doesn’t go further, including activist shareholding.
* Andrew Salkeld (Fitzwilliam JCR) asked whether the motion could have more a positive impact by positively focusing on sustainable engineering.
  + Jake Simms (Ethical Affairs) responded to the question.
* Jake Simms (Ethical Affairs) gave a summation on the motion.
  + The motion passed with 28 Yes votes and 2 No votes.
  1. **Kashmir Solidarity and Citizenship Act Motion**
* Jess O’Brien (Disabled Students’ Officer) proposed the motion.
  + The motion passed with 28 Yes votes and 1 No vote.

1. **Proposed Ordinary Action Motions**
   1. **Motion to apply for Council Free Budget to run ‘The Art of Being Present’: Exploration of Tarot and Mindfulness Event for women and non-binary people of colour**

* Melissa McNichol-Antwine proposed the motion.
* April Jakso (LGBT+) asked whether the event is open to all non-binary students of colour.
  + Melissa McNichol-Antwine agreed that it would.
* Rensa Gaunt (Part-Time Students’ Officer) spoke in favour of the motion.
* Ali Hyde (Education Officer) asked how much remained in the Council Free Budget.
  + Joe Foye (Council Chair) stated that there is £1440 remaining.
* The summation was waived.
  + The motion passed with 28 Yes votes and 0 No votes.
  1. **Motion to apply for Council Free Budget to fund the cost of printing Volume 1 of the Decolonise! Magazine**
* Jess O’Brien (Disabled Students’ Officer) proposed deferring the motion.
* Henry Wright (Homerton JCR) spoke against deferring the motion.
* The proposal to defer the motion fell.
* Jess O’Brien (Disabled Students’ Officer) spoke in favour of the motion.
  + The motion was passed with 23 Yes votes and 1 No vote.
  1. **Approval of updated BME Campaign Constitution**
* Jess O’Brien (Disabled Students’ Officer) spoke in favour of the motion.
  + The motion passed with 27 Yes votes and 0 No votes.

1. **Any other business**

* Ali Hyde (Education Officer) asked Council members to take NSS boycott leaflets and pass boycott motions in their colleges. He also asked for interview participants for \_\_\_
* Edward Parker Humphreys (President) encouraged Council members to run in the Cambridge SU officer elections.
* Jess O’Brien (Disabled Students’ Officer) to get constituents to fill in the intermission survey and to attend the Neurodivergent reading group.
* Lily-Rose Sharry (Access & Funding Officer) asked for a room donor for the Shadowing Scheme on the 30th and 31st January.