

Student Council

**20/2/20**

*Present:*

Zoha Shah – ZS

Christopher Dow – CD

Fran Bridgewater – FB

Fizza Masood – FM

Rachael Chapman – RC

Holly Gould – HG

Emma Stevenson – ES

Lauren Thomas – LT

*Staff Present:*

Finn Northrop – FN

*Absent with Formal Apologies:*

Chelsey Grooby – CG

Heather Grogan – HG

Ashley Smith – AS

Abi Laverick – AL

Joe Sanderson – JS

*Absent without Apologies:*

Mazn Amhamed – MA

### **Item 1 – Welcome from Council Chair**

RC welcomed everyone to the meeting

### **Item 2 – Approval of minutes from the previous meeting**

RC asked councillors to approve minutes of the previous meeting

RC moved to a vote

Council voted unanimously to approve

### **Item 3 – Resignations from Council**

RC introduced item 3 and invited FN to explain the procedure to council

FN outlined how Byelaw 1.32 had been triggered and explained to council how this section of the meeting would proceed

RC began with the resignation of Mazn Amhamed, informing council of the meetings missed by MA.

RC informed council that no formal explanation had been submitted by MA and he was not present at the meeting

ZS stated that she believed MA did not wish to continue in his role

RC moved to a vote

\*Council voted unanimously to consider MA as having resigned from Student Council in line with Byelaw 1.32\*

RC moved to the resignation of Lauren Thomas

LT was present and explained that she had faced a series of personal grievances, but apologised for not submitting formal apologies

RC moved to a vote

\*Council voted unanimously for LT to continue as a student council member, judging her reasons for absence to be legitimate\*

### **Item 4– Matters Arising**

RC moved to Item 4

LT queried whether the work on eBooks could be linked to sustainability

CD explained that was an aim of the campaign

RC asked for permission to raise an issue, general assent from the room

RC explained that multiple students had raised concerns with her concerning vexatious changes to the extension process which dramatically increased the difficulty in obtaining a deadline extensions, especially for disabled students.

ZS said she would look into it

ES stated that she was concerned by the apparent changes to the system

#### **Item 5 – Action Tracker and Attendance Log**

ZS and CD ran through progress made on the free periods campaign

ES queried progress on sanitary bins

CD explained that the SU were attempting to sort the provisions in StUdio before working with the university to expand their offer

CD updated on assistive technology, and explained meetings with the University had been cancelled due to students' inability to attend

CD provided an update on his plans to get signatures on his Pledge Banner after the election period

CD explained that there had been no progress on the GP campaign citing the coronavirus

CD elucidated on the process of lobbying the University for the construction of a spectator friendly zone

CD informed council that no progress had been made on making Mental Health training mandatory for University staff

CD updated council that no progress had been made on the Sweatshop Free campaign

ZS stated that no progress had been made on the Kashmir campaign

ZS informed council she had sent an email about eBooks to the relevant staff member

ES queried why more had not been done on the issue of eBooks

ZS attempted to respond explaining the difficulties faced

CD stated that he had been approached by the relevant staff members around accessible gym membership

#### **Item 6 – Sabbatical Officer Reports**

RC moved onto sabbatical officer reports

ZS took her goals as read

CD took his goals as read

No questions were forthcoming

#### **Item 7 – Motions Debate**

RC introduced the motion on weekend maintenance

CD updated council with his appraisal of the current situation

CD and ZS argued students were often at fault with inadequate reports to maintenance

RC moved to a vote

Council voted unanimously to approve the motion

### **Item 8 – AOB**

RC moved to AOB

ZS briefed council on the students' unions current position on the ongoing UCU industrial action – explaining that the SU intended to remain neutral and inform and educate students

ES queried whether the University intended to provide cover for lectures and if so how this would be actioned and what the SU's stance would be

ZS responded the SU was not taking a stance

RC explained that she had been out on the picket line, and intended to continue to do so for the duration of the strike. She explained her reasons for supporting the strike and expressed disappointment that the SU was not doing the same

RC continued that she had been working collectively with her classmates to self-teach any missed lectures and emphasised others should seek to do the same

ZS re-affirmed that the SU had no stance

HG raised her view that she didn't feel the situation was fair as her classmates were unable to access certain teaching

ZS asked council their collective opinion on deadline extensions to general approval from the room. ZS said she felt confident that council backed deadline extensions

RC further expressed her discontent with the SU's refusal to support lecturers

RC asked if there was any other AOB's – none were forthcoming

RC closed the meeting