

Student Council

**20/10/22**

*Present:*

Caitlin Fieldhouse - CF

Kieran Clarke - KC

Kelsey Howard-Matthews - KHM

Humaira Khan - HK

Nada al Agbari - NA

Rachel Ward - RW

Sonya Karamzalieva – SK

*Staff present:*

Charlie Hind - CH

Louise Brenkley - LB

*Absent with formal apologies:*

Lisa Herbrig - LH

*Absent without formal apologies:*

Eliza Dolly - ED

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

NA introduced self and welcomed council

NA checked attendance and apologies with LB

KHM prompted to move to appoint Vice Chair of Council

KHM asked for interest

RW nominated self

No-one else came forward

Council agreed to appoint RW

LB congratulated RW

KHM asked if anyone was interested in sitting on Student Executive Committee (SEC)

KHM explained what SEC is

CF and RW came forward

KHM thanked CF and RW

### **Item 2 – Approval of minutes**

LB explained that there are no minutes to approve as this was the first meeting of the year

### **Item 3 – Matters Arising**

NA moved to item 3

NA asked for any matters arising of immediate attention

KHM expressed that matters she needs to address would be raised in item 8

KHM prompted to move to item 4

### **Item 4 – Task Tracker, Action Tracker and Attendance Log**

NA handed over to KHM to introduce task tracker and action tracker

KHM explained the new trackers for this academic year

KHM said that this is provisional and if council want to make changes to this then they can make suggestions

KHM asked if Council had any questions

HK asked where these documents could be found

KHM confirmed that LB would email to members and put on Teams channel

*\*Action: LB to email task tracker and attendance tracker document and put in files on Teams\**

KHM asked for approval of the task tracker and action tracker

Council agreed

KHM handed to LB to explain attendance log

LB explained the role of the attendance log

KHM asked if Council understood attendance log and had any questions

Council confirmed they understood

### **Item 5 – School Rep Reports**

KHM asked School Reps for any feedback they had had

SK explained her updates for a proposed event for Stress Awareness Day on November 2nd

KHM thanked SK and asked Officers for any updates and that School Rep Reports would be returned to

JB explained she had been working with KC to organise a men's mental health event in November

JB added that KC had been in contact with Andy's Man Club and that they are hoping to get Andy's Man Club to hold an event at the university for staff and students who identify as male to attend

KHM explained that Andy's Man Club had been in contact with the university so if anyone did need contact details then she would share

KC explained that he had already contacted them

CF explained that she had been working with disability services staff about improving accessibility for students with disabilities

CF added that she was planning more ideas for disability month - setting up an accessibility group with evision; online campaigns for sight awareness with another student; sign language day; arthritis day and working with ICE, SHS and Personal Tutors to increase awareness

KHM thanked CF

RW offered to give her updates

RW explained that sustainability had already been discussed with Lisa to continue the work in the SU shop

RW added she is working with LH to collaborate on a campaign for International students to benefit from donated/swapped items as a welcome kit

RW discussed Student Say and encouraged Council to vote on the idea for the replanting of trees

RW added that she is putting together dates and comms for Sustainability

NA asked if anyone else had anything to add

JB reminded Council of her Student Say idea for drug and alcohol support

LB encouraged Council to support other's Student Say ideas by voting and submitting own ideas

NA returned to School Reps Reports

SK described how first year students had expressed concerns about early assessments without being taught referencing

HK added that first years had also expressed worries about referencing because they had not been told how to do it

KHM offered solutions on how this could be dealt with and suggested methods of online lessons or a guidebook

JB added that there is a referencing guide on the library website

HK also added that students had said they do not know who their Personal Tutor is

KHM said she would use this feedback to update on her goals

KHM reminded Council the importance of Course Reps and feedback and encouraged School Reps to promote Course Rep feedback

HK said that there wasn't much more feedback as she hasn't had a meeting with Course Reps yet

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

KHM offered to start

KHM explained that her goals will change and progress and expressed to Council if any member feels like they want to get involved with anything they are welcome

KHM gave a run-down of goals

KHM directed members to Academic recognition for Course Reps

RW asked for more clarity on how this would work

KHM said she will look into this further and update at next meeting

*\*Action – KHM to update academic recognition for course reps\**

KHM explained that personal tutoring received the most feedback from first Speak Week and would provide more updates at the next student council meeting about the cost of living campaign

KHM explained that she is planning a Student Say Day and asked Council to think about ideas to add

KHM explained more about PCOS/endometriosis in more detail and will give updates at next meeting

*\*Action: KHM to update on above\**

KHM informed Council that breast cancer awareness campaigns were a success

KHM explained 'Get Involved' (LTSU volunteer award)

KHM explained that two campaigns are being worked on for inclusivity for students with disabilities

KHM asked Council for any questions or recommendations

RW asked about fonts and dyslexia and would it be possible to lobby the Uni to have dyslexia friendly fonts as standard

KHM said she would ask if this would be possible

CF added that meetings to organise having lines on the floor for students with disabilities had never happened.

*\*Action: KHM will follow up with the relevant staff member's line manager\**

JB expressed interest in the Look After Your Mate Mental Health training and put herself forward

JB explained that students were unhappy with timetabling issues and that her course leader expressed an apology for this

JB raised the cost of living and asked if there was anything in place for mental health about this raising anxieties for students

KHM gave an update that there are comms going out about how we can support mental health and cost of living.

KHM added that Student Support are providing vouchers for a study fund (instead of a hardship fund) and focussing on budgeting

KHM asked for any suggestions on how support could be improved.

SK also expressed interest in the Look After Your Mate training and Student Say Day involvement

KHM asked each Council member to bring two ideas for Student Say to the next meeting

KHM passed over to KC

KC apologised that his Goal format wasn't in detailed form

KC ran through goals

KC explained more about improving disabled access into SU bar

RW asked KC about SAC, Sustainability and Mental Health and what the plans are for making support and advice more visible

KC explained that plans are to put more social media posts out and signposting to support

RW asked KC about there being six goals relating to the SU bar

KC explained that these are also for clubs and societies

RW asked KC what is there for students who don't want to drink or go to the bar

KC explained offering alternatives and added that if no-one attends then it's not worth running alternative event.

KC added that he is working on a focus for sober events

KHM proposed that Fountains space could be made in to a comfy space, in talks with Jack in accommodation

JB asked KC what promotions would be on SU advice page

KC explained that from next month there will be podcasts

KC asked JB if she wanted to make any suggestions then that would be good

JB added that she can promote SU advice on her socials and said she was happy to promote any up-to-date content

KC thanked JB and said that working together on this would be great and great to have her involved

JB confirmed she would be happy to be involved and asked KC for an email update

KC explained that he is open to any new ideas for this

RW asked KC about the You Do You campaign and whether this would be continued

KC explained that he will speak to Frankie about this

RW asked KC when his updated goals would be available in the different format

KC said he would send to LB

*\*Action: KC to send goals to LB in Airtable format\**

KHM asked KC what is being done about sustainability

KC explained that it's not this area of expertise and would be happy for any input from RW for Green Impact

### **Item 7 – Motions Debate**

KHM stated that the paper is taken as read

KHM explained how bylaw 4.3 is outdated

RW added how important this is and thanked KHM for how beneficial the update is

KC also thanked KHM and added how long overdue this is and how this will be helpful

Council voted unanimously to approve

KHM moved on to the policy section of the Sexual Misconduct Policy

KHM explained that this will now go to trustee board and would give further updates

KHM passed to CF

CF explained Student Say idea for sign language workshops and explained the importance and levels of interest

CF summarised the Union Resolves section

*\*HK left the meeting with apologies\**

KHM congratulated CF on her first motion

KHM raised the funding issue and said that a vote can be cast on a conditional basis as funding cannot be guaranteed

KHM suggested meeting with Duncan Martin for Makaton to be set up as optional module

RW congratulated CF and stressed how important this is for inclusive communication

JB also praised CF

JB asked what the difference is between Makaton and BSL

CF explained the difference

KHM asked LB and CH to confirm if council can vote as conditional

CH confirmed yes

Council voted unanimously to approve and pass the motion

### **Item 8 - AOB**

CH reminded Council that time limit was restricted

KHM moved to explain the Student Trustee Interview and also explained that approval following the interview would be needed by 12 noon on Wednesday

KHM put food items list in the chat for email confirmation

KHM explained representation for the Committee Boards and sked LB to send out an email detailing which vacancies needed filling

*\*Action: LB to email Council members with vacancies to volunteer for\**

RW expressed that she recognised that Council are here to hold each other to account and described concerns that KC may be trying to take some claim for something he hasn't actioned himself

RW stated that this wasn't personal against KC

KC commented that he didn't feel council meeting was the place to raise this issue

CH said that accountability is acceptable at student council

CF asked if Mental Health Leaders' training could be delivered to PSCs

KHM said to refer any PSCs who were interested in the training to SU to be arranged directly with any particular students

JB reminded Council again about her idea on Student Say

NA thanked everyone and apologised for running over slightly

NA closed the meeting