

The Ratified Minutes of  
THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE  
2nd Week Hilary Term 2018  
Monday 22nd January  
President's Office, 17:00

**Present:** **The President** (Ms Laali Vadlamani, *Trinity College*), **The President-Elect** (Mr Gui Cavalcanti, *Pembroke College*), **The Librarian** (Ms Sabriyah Sayeed, *Somerville College*), **The Librarian-Elect** (Ms Shivani Ananth, *St. Anne's College*), **The Treasurer-Elect** (Mr Daniel Wilkinson, *Oriel College*), **The Secretary** (Ms Molly Greenwood, *St. Hilda's College*), **The Elected Member**, (Mr Shanuk Mediwaka, *Lincoln College*), **The Elected Member** (Ms Genevieve Athis, *Christ Church College*), **The Elected Member** (Mr Adam Watson, *Hertford College*), **The Elected Member** (Mr Charles Wang, *Hertford College*), **The Elected Member** (Mr Charlie Cheesman, *St. Edmund Hall*), **The Elected Member** (Ms Izzy Risino, *St. Catherine's College*), **The Chair of the Consultative Committee** (Mr Julian Kirk, *Magdalen College*), **The Returning Officer** (Mr Nebojša Jovanović, *St. Peter's College*), **The Bursar** (Ms Lindsay Warne), **The Senior Treasurer** (Mr Stephen Dixon, *Downing College, Cambridge*), **The Chair of the Debate Select Committee** (Mr Andrew Seow, *Lincoln College*), **The Access Officer** (Mx Brian Wong, *Pembroke College*), **The Access Officer** (Ms Vaby Endrojono-Ellis, *Kellogg College*)

**Attending:** **Mr Harry Samuels** (The Ex-CCC, *New College*)

**Apologies:**

- **The Senior Librarian** (Mr Sean Powers, *Oriel College*)
- **The Treasurer** (Mr Stephen Horvath, *New College*)

**Absent:**

*The President opens this Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee at 17:02.*

**Requests to Pass Absences from Previous Meetings**

The President deems Mr Mediwaka's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in 1st Week of Hilary Term 2018 as to have been with good reason, due to an immovable academic commitment.

*Let it be noted for the minutes that Mr Mediwaka was present for much of the previous meeting, but had to leave a little before the end.*

*nem. con.*

The President moves to pass Mr Mediwaka's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in 1st Week of Hilary Term 2018.

*nem. con.*

The President deems Ms Risino's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in 1st Week of Hilary Term 2018 as to have been with good reason, due to an immovable academic commitment.

*nem. con.*

The President moves to pass Ms Risino's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in 1st Week of Hilary Term 2018.

*nem. con.*

The President deems Mr Wang's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in 1st Week of Hilary Term 2018 as to have been with good reason, due to Society business of paramount importance.

*nem. con.*

The President moves to pass Mr Wang's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in 1st Week of Hilary Term 2018.

*nem. con.*

*Vaby Endrojono-Ellis enters the room at 17:05*

The President deems Mr Watson's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in 1st Week of Hilary Term 2018 as to have been with good reason, due to an immovable academic commitment.

*nem. con.*

The President moves to pass Mr Watson's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in 1st Week of Hilary Term 2018.

*nem. con.*

### **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

The President-Elect points out that the Treasurer-Elect and the Librarian-Elect were not referred to as such in the previous minutes.

### **Ratification of Minutes**

The President moves to ratify the Draft Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in 1st Week of Hilary Term 2018.

*nem. con.*

### **The President**

#### **Business of the President**

**The President** explains that she has been contacted by Oxide, the radio station, to ask if a member from the Union's committee would go and speak about issues surrounding the Union and of freedom of speech alongside a representative from CRAE (The Campaign for Racial Awareness and Equality) and the LGBTQ Campaign. She says that she is unable to go, and asks if anyone would like to, but highlights the issue of commenting on something that is University policy.

**Mr Watson** argues that it might not be great to open ourselves to much scrutiny.

**Ms Athis** highlights the danger of sending an individual, in case they do not represent the views of the Union.

**The Senior Treasurer** agrees with the President.

**The President** suggests that the Union sitting alongside representatives from OUSU would be strange, because we are not the Student Union.

#### Questions to the President

There are no questions to the President.

#### **The Librarian**

##### Business of the Librarian

The Librarian has no business.

#### Questions to the Librarian

There are no questions to the Librarian.

#### **The Treasurer**

##### Business of the Treasurer

The business of **the Treasurer** is handled by **the Treasurer-Elect** in **the Treasurer's** absence.

#### Questions to the Treasurer in his absence

There are no questions to the Treasurer in his absence.

#### **The Secretary**

##### Business of the Secretary

Following the ticket sales, and amending the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Secretary moves that the Standing Committee approve extra discretionary expenditure of up to £2000 excl. VAT to be spent on the ball.

Seconded by the President-Elect.

*nem. con.*

#### Questions to the Secretary

**Mr Mediwaka** asks how the ticket sales went.

**The President-Elect** explains that they sold out, and £150 was raised to be donated to Homeless Oxford, and explains the distribution of members' and guests' tickets.

**Mr Shanuk Mediwaka**

Business of Mr Mediwaka

Mr Mediwaka has no business.

Questions to Mr Mediwaka

There are no questions to Mr Mediwaka.

**Ms Genevieve Athis**

Business of Ms Athis

Ms Athis has no business.

Questions to Ms Athis

There are no questions to Ms Athis.

**Mr Adam Watson**

Business of Mr Watson

Mr Watson has no business.

Questions to Mr Watson

There are no questions to Mr Watson.

**Mr Charles Wang**

Business of Mr Wang

Mr Wang has no business.

Questions to Mr Wang

There are no questions to Mr Wang.

**Mr Charlie Cheesman**

Business of Mr Cheesman

Mr Cheesman has no business.

Questions to Mr Cheesman

There are no questions to Mr Cheesman.

## **Ms Izzy Risino**

### **Business of Ms Risino**

Ms Risino has no business.

### **Questions to Ms Risino**

There are no questions to Ms Risino.

## **Mr Chris Garner**

### **Business of Mr Garner in his absence**

Mr Garner has no business in his absence.

### **Questions to Mr Garner in his absence**

There are no questions to Mr Garner in his absence.

## **The President-Elect**

### **Business**

**The President-Elect** asks whether committee has noticed that the Union's use of Youtube has changed in recent years, mentioning how we used to show smaller clips, and suggesting that it might be useful to do that now. He suggests creating video playlists so that people can see specific kinds of video, so that they are easier to find. He asks how the Standing Committee feel towards these ideas, explaining that he believes it would better publicise the videos.

**The Bursar** suggests there is the potential that some comments could be taken out of context if only clips are shown.

**The President** agrees that it is a good idea in principle, but that speakers sign off and give permission for the use of the video assuming certain conditions and they may not be happy about editing if they do not know how this will be done. She then suggests the addition of adding the question asked as a subtitle, so that the question can always be seen.

**The President-Elect** explains that his idea was uploading the entire talk, and then cutting clips of full questions and answers. He suggests the addition of extra permissions in the contract.

**The Bursar** suggests that the discussion best be had with the cameraman, who will know the reason this was dropped in the past.

**The President-Elect** suggests that members of committee specify best parts of videos to make it easier for the video editors.

**The Treasurer-Elect** notes that to save time, the cameramen like to know the specifics of additional necessary changes in advance.

**The President-Elect** notes that shorter videos are often more viewed, and are more likely to go viral.

**The President** says that not every video need have this.

#### Questions

There are no questions to the President-Elect.

#### **The Librarian-Elect**

##### Business of the Librarian-Elect

The Librarian-Elect has no business.

##### Questions to the Librarian-Elect

There are no questions to the Librarian-Elect.

#### **The Treasurer-Elect**

##### Business of the Treasurer-Elect

The Treasurer-Elect moves that following the recommendation of the Finance Committee the Standing Committee pass the DSC expenses at a total of £3,119.47, subject to the approval of the Bursar.

Seconded by the President.

*nem. con.*

##### Questions to the Treasurer-Elect

There are no questions to the Treasurer-Elect.

#### **The Ex-Officio**

##### Business to the Ex-Officio in their absences

The Ex-Officio have no business in their absences.

##### Questions to the Ex-Officio in their absences

There are no questions to the Ex-Officio in their absences.

#### **The Senior Librarian**

##### Business of the The Senior Librarian in his absence

The Senior Librarian has no business in his absence.

##### Questions to the The Senior Librarian in his absence

There are questions to the The Senior Librarian in his absence.

### **The Senior Treasurer**

#### **Business of the The Senior Treasurer**

**The Senior Treasurer** explains OLDUT to the Committee members who may not know the full details of the trust, and what they do regarding the Oxford Union.

**The Bursar** emphasises that the Union is not a charity, but OLDUT is.

#### **Questions to The Senior Treasurer**

There are no questions to The Senior Treasurer.

### **The Bursar**

#### **Business of The Bursar**

The Bursar has no business.

#### **Questions to The Bursar**

There are no questions to The Bursar.

### **The Returning Officer**

#### **Business of The Returning Officer**

**The Returning Officer** brings up the DRO shortlist, and reminds the Committee that any member can object to those who have nominated within 48 hours in writing to the President if they believe an individual to not be suitable to the role of DRO.

The Returning Officer moves to ratify the DRO shortlist in its current form.

Seconded by the President.

*nem. con.*

#### **Questions to The Returning Officer**

There are no questions to The Returning Officer.

### **The Chair of the Consultative Committee**

#### **Business of The Chair of the Consultative Committee**

The Chair of the Consultative Committee has no business.

#### **Questions to The Chair of the Consultative Committee**

There are no questions to The Chair of the Consultative Committee.

## **The Access Officers**

### **Business of The Access Officers**

**Mx Wong** distributes a proposal for the dropped kerb on St Michael's Street as part of improving disabled access. The kerb causes access problems to the front gate. They note that it is not pleasant for someone to have to come in through the back door while everyone else uses the front door, and suggests the Standing Committee accept this proposal.

**The Senior Treasurer** asks whether the council would give planning permission for this.

It is generally decided that they would, or it is considered very likely that they would.

**The Senior Treasurer** brings up the issue of the second step at the door of the Union itself.

**The Bursar** explains that something is being done for this as well.

**The Senior Treasurer** points out that the entrance via Frewin Court is difficult, and suggests extra lighting.

**The Bursar** says that lighting would be insufficient to combat the issue of people in the alleyway, and that the area is not the Union's property but the council's.

**Mx Wong** supports the idea of considering the rest of the building too.

**The Bursar** notes that the Law Society now closes their gates to stop people entering.

**The President-Elect** asks how long **Mx Wong's** proposed action would take.

**Mx Wong** explains that this depends on discussion with the council, but that it should take no longer than a year.

**The President-Elect** comments that he believes the proposal to be well thought-out and a good idea.

**Mr Kirk** explains that while this happens, the access to the gate would be compromised.

**The President** suggests that perhaps the work be done over a vacation.

**The Bursar** points out that the change would be quick, and unlikely to be a problem.

**The Senior Treasurer** asks if there are any obstacles such as telephone wires that could cause problems for this.

**The Bursar** explains that there is water, but not in a location that would cause a problem.

Mx Wong, on behalf of the Access Committee, recommends that the Standing Committee adopt this proposal of work being done to put in a dropped kerb subject to recommendations and comments by the Bursar.



Seconded by the President-Elect.

*nem. con.*

The President-Elect moves to make a formal motion of thanks to the Disabilities Officer, Mr Matt Pierri, for his excellent work on this proposal.

Seconded by the Mx Wong.

*nem. con.*

#### Questions to The Access Officers

There are no questions to The Access Officers.

#### **The Chair of the Debate Selection Committee**

##### Business of The Chair of the Debate Selection Committee

The Chair of the Debate Selection Committee has no business.

##### Questions to The Chair of the Debate Selection Committee

There are no questions to The Chair of the Debate Selection Committee.

#### **Changes to the Composition of this Committee**

There are no changes to the composition of this Committee.

#### **Any Other Business**

There is no other business.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

- Monday 29th January 2018

*The President closes this Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee at 17:38.*

Signed,



**Molly Greenwood**  
*St. Hilda's College*  
Secretary