

Ratified Minutes of
THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
0th Week Michaelmas Term 2015
Monday 5th October 2015
President's Office, 11:00

Present: **The President** (Mr Charles Vaughan, *St John's College*), **The Librarian** (Mr Robert Harris, *New College*), **The Treasurer** (Miss Verity Hubbard, *Lady Margaret Hall*), **The Secretary** (Mr Ssuuna Golooba-Mutebi, *St John's College*), **The Elected Member** (Miss Henna Dattani, *Brasenose College*), **The Elected Member** (Miss Mia Smith, *Oriel College*), **The Elected Member** (Mr Tim Cannon, *Wadham College*), **The Elected Member** (Mr Callum Tipple, *Hertford College*), **The President-Elect** (Mr Stuart Webber, *Somerville College*), **The Librarian-Elect** (Miss Niamh Coote, *Pembroke College*), **The Treasurer-Elect** (Mr Noah Lachs, *Lincoln College*), **The Senior Treasurer** (Mr Stephen Dixon, *Downing College, Cambridge*), **The Bursar** (Mrs Lindsey Warne), **The Chair of the Consultative Committee** (Mr Michael Li, *Magdalen College*), **The Chief of Staff** (Alfie Shaw, *Worcester College*), **The Access Officer** (Mr Harry Samuels, *New College*), **The Chair of the Debate Selection Committee** (Mr Jamie Jackson, *St John's College*).

Attending: Miss Ceri Smith, Mr Tom Reynolds, Mr Willard Foxton.

Apologies: **The Elected Member** (Ms Mia Smith, *Oriel College*), **The Elected Member** (Mr Jonathan Tan, *Exeter College*), **The Senior Librarian** (Mr Sean Power, *Oriel College*), **The Access Officer** (Ms Claire Butler, *Worcester College*).

Absent: **The Returning Officer** (Mr Robert Boissonneault, *Keble College*).

The President opens the meeting at 11:06.

The President asks that we please start meetings on time in order to ensure that they move along quickly and states that they shall commence at 16:00 each week from 1st Week onwards.

Requests to Pass Absences from Previous Meeting

There is no discussion on absences from the previous meeting.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There are no matters arising from the previous minutes.

Ratification of Minutes

The President asks whether or not the minutes from 8th Week and over the vacation have been disseminated.

The Secretary indicates that they have been.

The President moves that TSC ratify the minutes from the Ordinary Meetings of TSC of TT15 8th Week and TSC meetings over the vacation.

Passed nemine contradicente.

The President

Business of the President:

The President states that he has 3 points of business. Firstly, the President explains that the term card delivery has been delayed.

The Bursar explains that this was to do with an issue with the packing line.

The President adds that the delivery shall be delayed until 10:00 the following morning. The President asks whether or not this problem can alter the payment.

The Bursar replies that she shall try to negotiate the payment.

The President suggests that, if anyone asks why they do not yet have their term card, that we should explain that there was an issue with the printers. The President adds that we should ensure that the term card distribution be conducted more rapidly, once they arrive. The President begins his second piece of business, namely the Standing Committee delegates.

The President-Elect reads the list of preferences, i.e.: the Elected Member, Miss Henna Dattani, for the Access Committee; the Elected Member, Miss Mia Smith, for the Finance Committee; the Elected Member, Mr Tim Cannon, for the Wines and Spirits Committee; the Elected Member, Mr Callum Tipple, for the Library Committee, and the Elected Member, Mr Jonathan Tan, for the Debates Selection Committee.

The Treasurer-Elect (Mr Noah Lachs, Lincoln College) enters the room at 11:10

The President moves that TSC ratify the appointments of the following members of TSC to their respective delegations: the Elected Member, Miss Henna Dattani, for the Access Committee; the Elected Member, Miss Mia Smith, for the Finance Committee; the Elected Member, Mr Tim Cannon, for the Wines and Spirits Committee; the Elected Member, Mr Callum Tipple, for the Library Committee, and the Elected Member, Mr Jonathan Tan, for the Debates Selection Committee.

Passed nemine contradicente.

The President mentions his third piece of business, namely honorary membership for Professor Naom Chomsky, who is set to make an appearance at the Union later this term. The President explains that this shall require the consent of the trustees of the Oxford Union, which has already been unanimously given, and the acceptance of TSC.

The President moves that TSC award honorary membership of the Oxford Union Society to Professor Noam Chomsky.

Passed nemine contradicente.

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 Treasurer explains that there are no DSC expenses.

Questions to the Treasurer:

There are no questions to the Treasurer.

The Secretary

Business of the Secretary:

The Secretary has no business.

Questions to the Secretary:

There are no questions to the Secretary.

Miss Henna Dattani

Business of Miss Henna Dattani:

Miss Henna Dattani has no business.

Questions to Miss Henna Dattani:

There are no questions to Miss Henna Dattani.

Miss Mia Smith

Business of Miss Mia Smith:

Miss Mia Smith has no business.

Questions to Miss Mia Smith:

There are no questions to Miss Mia Smith.

Mr Tim Cannon

Business of Mr Tim Cannon:

Mr Tim Cannon has no business.

Questions to Mr Tim Cannon:

There are no questions to Mr Tim Cannon.

Mr Callum Tipple

Business of Mr Callum Tipple:

Mr Callum Tipple has no business.

Questions to Mr Callum Tipple:

There are no questions to Mr Callum Tipple.

Mr Jonathan Tan

- Business of Mr Jonathan Tan:

Mr Jonathan Tan has no business.

Questions to Mr Jonathan Tan:

There are no questions to Mr Jonathan Tan.

The President-Elect

Business of the President-Elect:

The President-Elect explains that one Mr Willard Foxton, the Director of Sundog Promotions, got in touch with the President-Elect at start of summer through one Ms Kate Brooks. The President-Elect explains that Sundog Promotions make documentaries, e.g. Reggie Yates' Extreme Russia, which was aired on BBC3 earlier this year, and that Mr Willard Foxton wants to know if the Union would be interested in the prospect of a documentary about the Union during Hilary Term. The President-Elect suggests that TSC hear what Mr Willard Foxton has to say before coming to any decisions. The President-Elect explains to the President that the documentary would be about the behind the scenes working of Union events.

The Bursar states that, during her time in Oxford, there have been two or three documentaries about the Union and mentions the Young, Bright, and on the Right documentary about OUCA.

The President suggests that we leave any discussion until Mr Willard Foxton arrives.

The Senior Treasurer asks whether or not there any legal reasons why the Union might not be able to allow this filming to take place.

The President informs him that there are none.

The aforementioned Mr Willard Foxton enters the room with the President-Elect

The President introduces Mr Willard Foxton.

Mr Willard Foxton introduces himself and explains that his company, Sundog Pictures, makes documentaries for all major broadcasters, e.g. the BBC, Channel 4, National Geographic, and the Smithsonian Channel. Mr Willard Foxton explains that the Head of Documentaries at Channel 4, namely Ms Anna Miralis, would like to see a series of documentaries about the inside workings of famous British Institutions. Mr Willard states that he and Ms Anna Miralis think it would be fascinating to base one of said documentaries on the Oxford Union, citing his experiences debating here during his university years and the global recognition of the Oxford Union.

The Elected Member (Miss Mia Smith, Oriel College) enters the room at 11:18

The President expresses his concern that public intrigue about political scandal often makes for much more interesting television than dispelling myths about the accessibility of the Oxford Union. The

President asks why Mr Willard Foxton would focus on those aspects and the boring, administrative side of the Union rather any other more ‘juicy’, controversial elements.

Mr Willard Foxton states that some of the most successful shows on TV at the moment are ones such as Educating Essex, which could serve as a model for this proposal. Mr Willard states his belief that people enjoy watching relatable things and, since most have been to university, this would be so. Mr Willard Foxton explains that he knows from his involvement in the Union in the past that a lot of what goes in is very administrative, but that it is strange to come from a state comprehensive to the wood-panelled chamber, where many Prime Ministers have stood, and that that is what is more interesting the ‘Riot Club’ aspect. Mr Willard Foxton explains that, as documentary makers, they, of course, record everything that goes on, but that they are interested in making balanced documentaries and that the chances of anything awful being captured are limited. Mr Willard Foxton states that it is about trust between the Union and Sundog Pictures as to what is recorded and distributed vis-à-vis anything potentially damaging to the Union, or individuals therein, which might be recorded. Mr Willard Foxton adds that, in such circumstances, it is agreed beforehand that those involved shall have a viewing of the documentary before it is released, with the possibility of negotiating the exclusion of certain footage. Mr Willard Foxton assures us that he has, in the past, left out potentially very entertaining, but damaging footage when a client requested, adding that he is happy to provide references.

The Treasurer-Elect asks why Mr Willard Foxton thinks anybody would be interested in such a documentary.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that the Union is a national institution, which everyone has heard of, but very few people have actually entered and seen for themselves, so allowing them to ‘go inside’ such a prestigious institution, see the famous names who have visited it, and witness the behind the scenes tasks of young people booking celebrities would be extremely interesting.

The Librarian asks how much control the Union would have over who is filmed and the finished product.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that everyone who is filmed must sign a consent form beforehand, which they can withdraw at any point up to transmission. Mr Willard Foxton adds that a location release consent form would also be signed by the Union, which can also be similarly withdrawn. Mr Willard Foxton explains that the Union could withdraw consent up to the very last minute, which, of course, would be disastrous for the filmmakers – Mr Willard Foxton mentions that this has happened to him once before – but that it would be at the Union’s discretion. Mr Willard Foxton adds that if they were asked to turn cameras off, for example, they would do so, and that removal of footage which could be damaging to individuals can be discussed and removed. Mr Willard Foxton explains that the Union could not be given full editorial control, but that the process would most certainly be collaborative.

The Librarian asks whether or not Mr Willard Foxton would want to interview any committee members.

Mr Willard Foxton replies that he would do, with a format of recording what happens across the term and then taking interviews of individuals at the end going over their memories.

The Librarian asks if the Union would have any control over who would be interviewed.

Mr Willard Foxton responds that there is a review process. Mr Willard Foxton adds that individuals can remove their consent and that the Union and Sundog Pictures could negotiating leaving certain people out.

The Librarian-Elect asks whether or not specific elements can be removed under the individual consent.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that the consent form only applies to total consent but that there would, of course, be negotiation over certain scenes and context would be added to ensure that no footage was shown out of context, putting the individual in concern in a bad light.

Miss Ceri Smith states that a lot of what goes on is very boring and administrative and asks what, therefore, Mr Willard Foxton intends to film.

Mr Willard Foxton replies that Sundog Pictures and the Union could decide together what could be interesting to film or not. Mr Willard Foxton adds that often people who work in interesting places think that elements of their job are boring but that outside observers might find them fascinating.

The Treasurer asks for some clarification on how the filming process would work in terms of cameras.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that a fixed rig would likely be impractical and too expensive but that Sundog Pictures shall work around what Channel 4 and the Union would want.

The President asks whether or not Mr Willard Foxton would want to film elections and how they are conducted.

Mr Willard Foxton replies that the elections are an area which they would like to film but understands that, if they are too sensitive, they can be left out.

The President asks when Mr Willard would like to film.

Mr Willard Foxton states that, ideally, they would want to film for just one term, preferably Hilary Term 2016, during Stuart's tenure, but adds that it depends on timings.

The President asks what the benefits are of this documentary, based on the risks which have been discussed, e.g. payment or exposure for the Union.

Mr Willard Foxton states that it is unlikely that there shall be any personal benefits and that, journalistically, it is unethical to pay contributors. Mr Willard Foxton expresses the view that the benefits are that the documentary would open the Union and the university up to everyday people, who might have the wrong perception of them, especially for people from state schools, who might be inspired to apply to Oxford.

The President asks whether or not the Union would be liable for anything if it did use its withdrawal rights.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that this would not be the case. Mr Willard Foxton adds that there would be an access agreement drawn up between Channel 4's lawyers and the Union. Mr Willard Foxton said that such agreements can include financial clauses, but that he has only ever seen one go through before, and that he has never had anyone pull out of location or access agreements.

Mr Thomas Reynolds asks how disruptive the filming would be to the everyday running of the Union and the enjoyment of its members.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that filming would take place with a very light crew and that he does not imagine that it would be too disruptive.

The Secretary asks how the consent forms would work in terms of the many people, i.e. students, members, and members of the public, who pass through the Union every day.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that the location release generally covers members of the public, as long as they are not identifiable, and that, by appearing on camera explicitly, any people who speak to the crew give *de facto* consent anyway.

Miss Ceri Smith informs Mr Willard Foxton that the rules of the Society put prohibitions on filming at certain times, e.g. in the poll room during voting on the day of the elections.

Mr Willard Foxton replies that he has much experience of filming in high security places where one is not allowed to film certain things, so that would not be an issue.

The President-Elect asks whether or not the project will be taken to the Cambridge Union, should the Oxford Union decline.

Mr Willard Foxton says that he does not think so, at least not immediately. Mr Willard Foxton states that, in any case, it was the Oxford Union that they thought of, and not just any university union, so this would be unlikely.

The Treasurer-Elect asks if Mr Willard Foxton would be interested in filming people who are not involved in the Union at all, be it on or committee or as members.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that he would not be interested in filming random, unrelated subjects but that, if there is a real body of criticism about the Union in Oxford, which is credible and fair, he would want to film it, for it would be unethical not to. Mr Willard Foxton adds that, however, there would, of course, be the review of the footage before transmission.

The President asks whether Mr Willard is interested in making a single documentary or a series.

Mr Willard Foxton replies that they would, ideally, want to do something with three to six parts, but that it depends on Channel 4 and financing.

The Senior Treasurer asks who would own the copyright.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that Channel 4 would own the copyright to the documentary, but everyone would own the rights to their own image, with the result that individuals can ask to be cut out of any future releases once the film has been broadcast. Mr Willard Foxton adds that Channel 4 would own “pretty much everything,” but that Sundog Pictures would own the format rights.

The Senior Treasurer asks if the Union could retain the right to use the documentary freely, as it could be helpful for the society.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that access agreements can arrange for such requirements.

The Senior Treasurer states that he understands that individuals cannot receive payment but asks whether or not the Society itself could do so, as it would have to pay for lawyers, which costs money.

Mr Willard Foxton responds that an agreement could be reached, which would ensure that the Union would not be out of pocket, but that contributors could not be paid.

The President-Elect asks by when TSC needs to get back to Mr Willard Foxton.

Mr Willard Foxton explains that, for now, all is needed is an agreement to talk further, e.g. an email expressing interests in this project, by the following Wednesday, although he understands that this can take a long time in bureaucratic organisations.

The Bursar asks whether or not the Union would be able to view any transmissions that were edited from the first one before their release.

Mr Willard Foxton replies that that sort of cutting only usually happens for international versions, depending on the country's compliance laws, but that these are usually minimal. Mr Willard Foxton explains that footage would be provided explaining the cuts before transmission. Mr Willard Foxton adds that, if the footage were to be translated, the translation process would, again, involve a review process.

The President thanks Mr Willard Foxton for his time and states that the Union shall be in touch.

The President-Elect and Mr Willard Foxton leave the room at 12:05

The Librarian-Elect and Miss Ceri Smith leave the room at 12:06

The President-Elect enters the Room at 12:07

The Senior Treasurer expresses his stance, namely that he has no objections whatsoever, subject to all aforementioned caveats. The Senior Treasurer adds that he thinks that there should be a small reward for the Union and that Sundog Pictures must pay the Union's legal fees.

The President states that he does not see many benefits but many risks. The President expresses his view that he does not think that the alleged benefit of opening the Union up to the world will actually improve getting speakers for debates or events and that there are better ways of making the Union more accessible.

The Treasurer-Elect expresses his view that the Union is not interesting enough for a public audience unless the documentary will be 'car crash TV.' The Treasurer-Elect adds that he thinks, however, that Mr Willard Foxton was a "nice guy."

Mr Tim Cannon expresses his view that, although Mr Willard Foxton was nice, they would obviously film people who dislike the Union who would, upon hearing of the documentary, try to cause trouble.

Miss Mia Smith states that people would question the Union's motives for doing it and that she does not think that it is the best way to improve access. Miss Mia Smith adds that it also seemed as if Mr Willard Foxton wanted to make a documentary about Oxford altogether, not just the Union.

The President reiterates Miss Mia Smith's point about Mr Willard Foxton switching between using the terms 'Oxford Union' and 'University of Oxford'.

The CDSC expresses his view that the way that ordinary people in the public won't have the same thoughts about the Union as those within Oxford and that the workings of the Union indeed would be interesting to the public. The CDSC states that he believes that Mr Willard Foxton was being genuine when he said that the Union is an interesting place and that TSC should not just be worried about a potential scandal.

The Treasurer states that she agrees with the CDSC that the documentary would be extremely interesting and get high ratings but TSC would be deluding itself if it thought that the Union would come across well.

The President-Elect disagrees strongly with the Treasurer, saying that TSC should bear in mind the fact that Mr Willard Foxton was a debate, was recommended by Miss Kate Brooks, a former CDSC, who would not want to make the Union look bad. The President-Elect adds that this documentary would be a great way for access, being a 21:00 show aired to millions of people. The President-Elect expresses his view that TSC should not just take into account the negative voices about the Union but also the

many people who like the Union and are interested in the Union. The President-Elect suggests that we should have more discussion and states his confidence in himself and members of TSC to come across in a likeable way. The President-Elect asks, given the option of pulling out entirely before the footage is released, what there is to lose.

The Secretary expresses his opinion that the day-to-day running of the Union is not interesting enough.

The President-Elect expresses his opinion that the Secretary is wrong and that, given that there would be months of footage condensed into a few episodes, and with all of the behind the scenes work, it would actually be extremely interesting and that it would be foolish to dismiss the opportunity now.

The Access Officer (Mr Harry Samuels) states that he is mildly in favour of the proposal as he thinks it would be entertaining but that the President-Elect perhaps overstated the benefits for access. The Access Officer says that he can see such a documentary creating a great social media storm, should someone say something which could be construed as snobbish but the Union committee members do indeed do cool things which could make for very interesting television. The Access Officer adds that, although things could go wrong, the documentary could be useful for increasing brand awareness, and that he is confident in the ability of committee members to present themselves and the Union well.

Miss Mia Smith expresses confusion over why whether or not the Union is interesting matters as the Union is a student society for the students so any thoughts about access should be focussed on people who actually come to Oxford as they are the only ones who can join. Miss Mia Smith states her view that whether or not the Union appeals to the general public is irrelevant as it is not for the general public.

The Bursar states her view that the only way in which six shows could be made about the Union would be if they were all full of "salacious stuff." The Bursar said it is irrelevant whether or not stereotypes about the Union are true or not as it would come across as a very privileged institution, which she does not think would be helpful for the Union. The Bursar mentions College Girls, a 2002 show on the Union which did not do very well and was not helpful for the Union, hence her current dubiousness.

The Librarian-Elect expresses her view that this could help with increasing the media presence of the Union, for example increasing its Twitter followers, which is really important to the Union's reputation and ability to draw in great speakers.

The President concurs, but also mentions that the Union would not have full control over the documentary.

Mr Callum Tipple states that the Union already does come across as a privileged institution and that there is a large communication problem about the Union and Oxford altogether. Mr Callum Tipple expresses his view that, although some individuals invariably would come across badly, this documentary could be a great way of breaking down this image and 'Oxford stereotypes'.

The President-Elect states that his interest in this venture is not based on potential personal gain but about increasing recognition of the Oxford Union. The President-Elect expresses a fear that, if the Union declines this offer, Mr Willard Foxton might take it to the Cambridge Union, boosting its reputation.

The Access Officer (Mr Harry Samuels) states his view that the documentary has the potential to increase access and so, if everyone ensured that the Union appeared accessible, this would improve access.

The Librarian-Elect expresses her opinion that, given the people who will be officers during filming, issues of coming across as Oxford stereotypes is unlikely.

The President expresses concerns that, temporally, the Union is too close to scandals that have occurred in the past, creating an opinion towards the Union which is very different from what it used to be. The President feels that, thus, doing a documentary now is too soon, as these scandals are still in the collective student memory.

The Treasurer-Elect states that TSC should not forget that the image of the Union shall depend on the people involved so the Union could just ensure that it puts itself across well. The Treasurer-Elect adds that trying to over-state access could also have the adverse effect of being patronising. The Treasurer-Elect states that, whilst he believes that Mr Willard was genuine, so much of what happens in the Union is boring admin and so he will have no choice but to film more controversial things inevitably. The Treasurer-Elect adds that the documentary could affect the term and the term card, including how committee members operate.

The Librarian-Elect expresses her view that the Union is boring for TSC but interesting for lots of other people.

The Treasurer-Elect says that the most interesting things are debates, which cannot be filmed.

The President replies that they could use debate footage. The President reiterates his point that the perception of the Union within Oxford is very different from what it used to be and that it might be better in a few years' time.

The CDSC adds that the perception within Oxford is already mixed so, if that is how it comes across in the documentary, it would not be a terribly bad thing.

Mr Tim Cannon leaves the room at 12:58

The Librarian adds that the Union will obviously come across as privileged but that there are pros and cons to this. The Librarian states that this could be great for increasing our brand awareness globally, so there could be a significant benefit to the documentary. The Librarian suggests that, if TSC is unsure, the Union should film the documentary, see how it is, and pull it if it is bad.

The President asks for some examples of how filming and then deciding later whether or not to withdraw could be negative.

The Librarian suggests financial loss and a disruption to the term.

Miss Ceri Smith interjects that a film crew would be incredibly disruptive for the already busy lives of the students who are on committee.

The Bursar states her belief that presenting everything as perfect would not make television and that it can't be that easy to pull out of the documentary.

The President shares in the Bursar's doubts.

Miss Mia Smith states that the makeup of the committee could also be a very important factor in terms of intra-committee relationships and goals, as there could be a negative atmosphere during filming. Miss Mia Smith also thinks that it is unlikely that the documentary could be ready in time to document Hilary Term 2016.

The Treasurer-Elect says that TSC should also bear in mind the danger of appearing ridiculous. The Treasurer-Elect adds that, given that there are ups and downs in the Union, showing the difficult times with the good could actually be good for the Union's image.

The Librarian-Elect states that, although they might come across as privileged, the Union's traditions, such as its dinners, are really important and interesting. The Librarian-Elect suggests that, as long as the people involved do not present themselves as snobbish, there should not necessarily be an issue.

The Secretary states his view that the access potential is being overstated as, although nobody on TSC is snobbish, the committee is not really a great example of access, given the socio-economic backgrounds of most of its members.

The CDSC responds that most people do have a view of Oxford that it is very privileged and private school anyway, so anything to improve that would be good.

The President-Elect states that, if we are unhappy with showing what the Union is, there are serious implications for how the Union is run. The President-Elect adds that, if we think that it is not good for access, we should change things, not brush them under the carpet.

The President replies that nobody in the room is suggesting that things are done in a bad way.

The President-Elect responds that that is what the Secretary just said by saying that the committee is not great for access.

The Secretary clarifies his viewpoint that he was not saying that the committee is an example of snobbishness but, rather, that it is not great for access as it is reflective of Oxford itself, which has issues with its image of inaccessibility.

The Bursar corroborates the Secretary's point, saying that the image of Oxford might just be strengthened by this documentary.

The President-Elect disagrees, saying that the committee makeup is better than that of Oxford at large in terms of diversity.

The Treasurer-Elect states that clear aims need to be made for this documentary, whether access or publicity.

The President expresses his view that it would be more helpful for publicity than access.

The Ex-Secretary (Nikolay Koshikov, Exeter College) and the Elected Member (Jonathan Tan, Exeter College) enter at 13:11.

The Librarian-Elect suggests that it could help with getting big names.

The President disagrees, stating that this documentary would not be of interest to agents in LA, for example.

Miss Henna Dattani agrees with the President that it would not be that great for helping attract big speakers.

The President expresses his view that a documentary would be more helpful for public engagement than anything else, directing people toward the Union's Twitter or Facebook, for example. The President states that the Union needs to move towards having greater engagement so that it becomes a viable alternative venue for increasing publicity for speakers.

The Bursar adds that it is important that TSC also take into consideration when the filming shall take place, as Michaelmas Terms tend to have better line-ups than Trinity Terms.

The President suggests that the President-Elect continue further talks and states that the three main issues are editorial control, the timeline, and any relevant costs.

The President-Elects asks if TSC is happy for him to go to London on his own to discuss this further.

TSC consents.

The Access Officer (Harry Samuels) announces that the next meeting of the Access Committee shall take place on Saturday at 14:00.

Questions to the President-Elect:

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 has no business.

Questions to the Treasurer-Elect:

There are no questions to the Treasurer-Elect.

The Ex-Officio

Business of the Ex-Officio:

The Ex-Officio have no business.

Questions to the Ex-Officio:

There are no questions to the Ex-Officio.

The Senior Librarian

Business of the Senior Librarian:

The Senior Librarian has no business.

Questions to the Senior Librarian:

There are no questions to the Senior Librarian.

The Senior Treasurer

Business of the Senior Treasurer:

The Senior Treasurer has no business.

Questions to the Senior Treasurer:

There are no questions to the Senior Treasurer.

The Bursar

Business of the Bursar:

The Bursar informs TSC that the John Locke Institute would like to be included on the Oxford Union's termly membership list.

Miss Ceri Smith enters at 12:08.

The President states his opinion that the extra income from short-term members is beneficial but that concerns have been expressed in the past by members about the quality of contributions at events by short-term members from other institutions. The President, however, expresses his view that this concern should not apply to the John Locke Institute. The President suggests that there should be a separate discussion as to the number of institutions that have short-term membership and whether or not it dilutes the nature of the membership of the Oxford Union.

Miss Henna Dattani asks what considerations were taken into account when compiling this list.

The President explains that the Union started doing this for the extra income, primarily, in the 1990s.

The Bursar adds that there are far fewer short-term members than there used to be, explaining that the Union has the capacity to continue short-term membership without being flooded with huge numbers of short-term members.

The President-Elect enters the room at 12:10

The Senior Treasurer expresses his view that it would be unfair for a life-member to not get into an event or debate due to huge numbers of short-term members attending.

The Bursar interjects that short-term members pay more, however.

The President states that his only concern, looking only at this request, is whether or not the John Locke Institute having short-term membership would negatively impact events, which he does not think is the case.

The Treasurer-Elect expresses the view that, given some of the other institutions that can apply for short-term membership, the John Locke Institute should definitely get it.

The President states that there might be a problem with the category of short-term membership since the main justification for it revolves around the money it raises. The President states that he doesn't have an issue with its continuation now but that, in future, if the Union should be more financially stable, there could be a review of short-term memberships.

The President-Elect asks whether or the short-term membership cost would automatically be included in the fees for the John Locke Institute or its students would have to sign up individually.

The Bursar states that it would not be automatic.

The Senior Treasurer asks how long institutions remain on the list for short-term membership.

The President states that institutions on the list, and the list itself, can be removed and altered by TSC at any point.

Miss Mia Smith asks if anyone knows how much money the Union receives from its short-term membership fees.

The Bursar states that she does not know the figure off the top of her head but that she can get it for the next meeting.

Miss Mia Smith asks how often short-term members attend events.

The Bursar states that they attend socials very highly.

The President corroborates the Bursar's statement, adding that American students in particular are very keen.

The President moves that TSC amend Standing Order F7B to include the John Locke Institute on the list of institutions open to applying for short-term membership.

Passed nemine contradicente.

Questions to the Bursar:

There are no questions to the Bursar.

The Returning Officer

Business of the RO:

The President informs TSC that Mr Thomas Reynolds shall be presenting the business of the RO on behalf of the RO.

Mr Thomas Reynolds explains that it the same SDC list that was passed last term, which never went through the house. Mr Thomas Reynolds adds that it is well balanced in terms of gender and people of colour etc.

The President comments that there is a lot of overlap between the SDC list and the tribunal shortlist, asking whether or not this is problematic for practical and ethical reasons.

Mr Thomas Reynolds states that the lawyers on the list are professionals and employ the same levels of professionalism that they do in their careers, so this should not be an issue.

The President moves that TSC pass the SDC shortlist to be taken to the House in 2nd Week

Passed nemine contradicente.

Mr Thomas Reynolds passes on the RO's wish for a new computer to be purchased for his office as the current one is far too slow.

The President asks the RO's team to get in touch with Jeremy Worth, the I.T. Officer, with regard to sorting out the technical problems with the current computer. In the event they cannot be resolved, then the question of purchasing a new one can again be raised.

Questions to the RO:

There are no questions to the RO.

The Chair of the Consultative Committee

Business of the CCC:

The CCC has no business.

Questions to the CCC:

There are no questions to the CCC.

The Access Officers

Business of the Access Officers:

The Access Officers have no business.

Questions to the Access Officers:

There are no questions to the Access Officers.

The Chair of the Debate Selection Committee

Meetings missed: X, Missed without good reason: X

Business of the CDSC:

The CDSC informs TSC that the Oxford team performed very well in the EU championships, with one person reaching the quarter final, another the semi-final, and the Oxford team including the fifth and sixth best speakers in Europe, with five in the top twenty-five.

The President asks whether or not Oxford beat Cambridge.

The CDSC responds that Oxford did beat Cambridge.

Raucous applause ensues.

Questions to the CDSC:

There are no questions to the CDSC.

Changes to the Composition of this Committee

There are no changes.

Any Other Business

There is no other business.

Date of the Next Meeting

Monday 1st Week Michaelmas Term 2015 (Monday 12th October 2015), 16:00, in the President's Office.

The President closes the meeting at 13:14.

Signed,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ssuuna Golooba-Mutebi', written in a cursive style.

Ssuuna Golooba-Mutebi
St John's College
Secretary