

*Draft Minutes of*

THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE ACCESS COMMITTEE

3<sup>rd</sup> Week Michaelmas Term 2018

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October

The TV Room, 13:00

**Present:** **The Access Officer** (Kirsten Stewart, *Trinity College*), **The Access Officer** (Brian Wong, *Wolfson College*), **The President-Elect** (Daniel Wilkinson, *Oriel College*), **The Elected Member** (Joseph Grehan-Bradley, *Christ Church College*), **The Elected Member and Secretary** (Sara Dube, *St. Hugh's College*), **The Standing Committee Delegate** (Anisha Faruk, *The Queen's College*), **The Standing Committee Delegate** (Rebecca Collins, *Balliol College*), **The LGBTQIA+ Officer** (Dominic Gray, *New College*), **The Disabilities Officer** (Rebecca Wright, *Keble College*), **The Ethnic Minorities Officer** (Antonia Heng, *Christ Church College*), **The Women's Officer** (Minal Haq, *Christ Church College*), **The International Officer** (Lee Chin Wee, *Trinity College*), **The Ordinary Member** (Naren Koratamaddi, *St. Hugh's College*)

**Apologies:** **The Brookes Officer** (Olly Woodhouse, *Oxford Brookes University*), **The Graduate Officer** (Thomas Crook, *Wolfson College*)

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*Access Committee opens at 13:18*

**Absences**

The Disabilities Officer requests to pass her absence from last week due to an immovable commitment.

The Access Officer Brian Wong moves to pass the Disabilities Officer's absence due to an immovable commitment.

The Elected Member Sara Dube seconds the motion

*Motion passes nem. com.*

The Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk requests to move her absence from the previous week due to an immovable academic commitment.

The Access Officer Brian Wong moves to pass Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk's absence from the previous week due to an immovable academic commitment.

The Elected Member Sara Dube seconds the motion.

*Motion passes nem. com.*

The Ethnic Minorities Officer requests to pass her absence from last week due to an immovable personal commitment.

The Access Officer Brian Wong moves to pass the Ethnic Minorities Officer's absence from the previous week due to an immovable personal commitment.

The Elected Member Sara Dube seconds the motion.

*Motion passes nem. com.*

### **Ratification of Minutes**

The Access Officer Brian Wong moves to ratify the minutes of the two previous meetings

*Motion passes nem. com.*

### **Business of The President**

No business.

### **Business of The Access Chairs**

#### Access survey

The Access Officer Brian Wong says that they have circulated the access survey draft to the rest of the committee.

The President-Elect says that he will deal with the technology aspect of implementing the survey.

The Access Officer Brian Wong says that they will take the survey to TSC to pass on Monday.

#### Class rep

The Access Officer Brian Wong says that there should be a class representative on Access Committee who can discuss socioeconomic and class-related concerns.

The Standing Committee Delegate Rebecca Collins asks what the eligibility requirements will be for the role.

The Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk says that the rep should be someone who self-identifies as coming from a socioeconomic background that may face accessibility issues in the Union.

The Elected Member Joseph Grehan-Bradley says that in the Christ Church JCR the eligibility of working class classification comes through self-identification.

The President-Elect says that we can leave the decision of picking the most appropriate person to the people choosing the rep.

*The Bursar enters the room at 13:25.*

The Access Officer Brian Wong explains to the Bursar that they are discussing the possibility of adding a position for a class representative on Access Committee.

The Bursar says that people may feel singled out as the position may create a class separation.

The Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk points out that there are separations between other groups on Committee with positions such as Women's Officer and says that having a voice on Committee for those from disadvantaged backgrounds is important.

The Access Officer Brian Wong suggests drafting a motion to bring to TSC advising on the establishment of a class rep position on the Access Committee with the specific eligibility criteria for the position being up to the discretion of the Committee.

The President-Elect says that he prefers the term socioeconomic rep to class rep.

The LGBTQIA+ Officer points out that they would need to decide whether the position would be created at the end of this term or during the term.

The President-Elect asks whether it should be a position the President is mandated to fill or has the option to fill.

The Access Officer suggests including it as a mandate.

The President-Elect agrees.

### **Business of The Disabilities Officer**

The Disabilities Officer brings up her idea of holding a Halloween movie night the day after Halloween for people who may want to celebrate without drinking alcohol and says that the movie could start after the 18:30 debate.

The President-Elect says that the debate begins at 20:30.

The Bursar says that there's something going on every night in 4<sup>th</sup> week except for on Tuesday.

The Disabilities Officer asks whether they could hold a Bake-Off screening on Tuesday.

The Bursar points out that there is not much time to organize the event.

The Disabilities Officer replies that there is not much to organize for the event.

The Access Officer Brian Wong says that the event would be in the Goodman on a Tuesday night and that there would need to be publicity for this.

The Disabilities Officer asks who is in charge of publicity.

The President-Elect says that he is in charge of the Facebook page and that he can publicize the event if the Disabilities officer sends over the text, title and cover photo for the event.

The Disabilities Officer asks whether there would be a budget for buying cakes and soft drinks.

The Bursar says that the final budget needs to be brought before Finance Committee at 3pm on Monday and that this will also have to be run by the President.

The Disabilities Officer asks if it would be unrealistic to hold the event so soon.

The President-Elect says that he thinks it is not unfeasible.

The Access Officer Brian Wong asks whether the Disabilities Officer would still like to hold the event during 4<sup>th</sup> week.

The Disabilities Officer says that the coming Tuesday is the last Bake-Off day so it would have to be in 4<sup>th</sup> week. She asks how she should get a budget for the event.

The Bursar asks whether the event would be ticketed.

The Access Officer Brian Wong says that the event would be free for anyone.

The Bursar says that the Disabilities Officer would have to work out the expenditure for the event so that Finance Committee can vote on it on Monday.

The Disabilities Officer asks whether the budget is likely to go through as it would be problematic to publicize it if Finance Committee votes against it.

The Bursar says that the budget is likely to be quite small and won't be voted against.

### **Business of The Ethnic Minorities Officer**

The Ethnic Minorities Officer asks if it is possible to use the Oxford Union's name to run an event in a different location, such as a board games café where people can socialize and meet students from different countries.

The Bursar says that it would be a first to have an event elsewhere and that she is personally against it as Union events should only be for members and their guests.

### **Business of the LGBTQIA+ Officer**

No business.

### **Business of the Women's Officer**

The Women's Officer says that she would like to hold a Women's Tea event in 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> week and says that she can contribute to the budget for this event herself. She says that tea and cakes would be a more inclusive event than drinks as it would be open for anyone to come, even if they don't drink alcohol.

*The President enters the room at 13:29.*

The President says that they have done drinks in the bar before where people bought their own drinks but that sometimes events take place in the Gladstone room where drinks are provided out of a budget.

The Women's Officer says the money would not be spent on drinks if it's a non-alcoholic event.

The President says that the last time the Union held such an event the budget for it was covered and adds that he thinks a non-alcoholic event is a good idea.

The Bursar asks The Women's Officer to work out how much tea and how many cakes she would need for the event and to also consider anything else she would need to run the event.

The President suggests having the event before a speaker's address.

The Women's Officer suggests holding the event from around 3-5pm in an afternoon of 7<sup>th</sup> week as a nice end to the term.

The President asks the Women's Officer to think about which room the event will be in as the Goodman/Gladstone rooms may be in use. He asks her to send him an email with the proposed date, time and place of the event to get his confirmation.

The Bursar brings up the Disabilities Officer's idea of having a Halloween movie night and of doing an event on Tuesday instead.

The Disabilities Officer says that she would like to go back to her initial idea of a Bake-Off screening.

The President says that the Bake-Off idea may be easier to sell than a movie night. He says that the Goodman Library should be free by about 18:30 and asks the Disabilities Officer to speak to the House Manager about the event and to send him an email detailing the date and time.

### **Business of the Graduate Officer**

No business.

### **Business of The International Officer**

The International Officer brings up the idea of his international geography-themed pub quiz on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November and says that he will get in touch with the Secretary after the Union Ball and send the proposed budget for the event to the Bursar over the weekend.

He asks if each liberation officer could potentially draft up a guide for their successors next terms and says that this document can be updated every term. He volunteers to take lead on this initiative.

The International Officer says that she is happy to help with this.

The President says that he thinks this is a good idea.

### **Business of the Brookes Officer**

No business.

### **Business of The Standing Committee Delegates**

The Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk suggests holding election workshops next term, especially as slates will be banned, in order to raise awareness on how to run for election and get involved.

The Access Officer Brian Wong mentions that this will fit in well with the election guide they are trying to revive and suggests combining the election workshop and guide ideas. They suggest having someone to work on drafting a proposal on what the workshops will look like.

The Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk asks whether she should bring this as a motion to TSC.

The Access Officer says that if it's a detailed proposal Access Committee can look over it first but that if it's a more general idea it could be taken to TSC first.

The Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk says that she will bring a substantive proposal to Access Committee.

*The Women's Officer leaves the room at 13:48pm.*

The Bursar tells the Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk to speak to the RO about the election workshops.

The Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk says that she will bring this as an item for discussion to TSC.

The President says that his only concern is that the workshops would have to be sensitively handled – they should be run by those who have themselves run in an election and who will also be fair and unbiased. He says that they would have to think carefully on who will be running the event.

The LGBTQIA+ Officer suggests holding the workshops not just on elections but also on how to get involved in the Union more generally.

The Standing Committee Delegate Anisha Faruk agrees and says the workshop can cover how to get involved in any of the committees.

### **Business of The Elected Member**

No business.

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

The Ordinary Member Naren Koratamaddi says that he was an Elected Member on Access Committee last year and that he would like to step back into this role.

The Access Officer Brian Wong asks Mr. Koratamaddi to leave the room.

*Mr. Koratamaddi leaves the room at 13:50*

The Access Officer Brian Wong moves to elect Mr. Koratamaddi to the Access Committee.

The Elected Member Sara Dube seconds the motion.

*Motion passes nem. com.*

*Mr. Koratamaddi re-enters the room at 13:51.*

The Access Officer Brian Wong sets the date for the next meeting of the Access Committee at 13:00 on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2018 in the President's Office.

*The Access Officer Brian Wong closes the meeting at 13:52*

Signed,

Sara Dube

**Elected Member**

*St. Hugh's College*