

Ratified Minutes of
THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE
7th Week Hilary Term 2018
Monday 26th February 2018
President's Office, 16:00

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** (Mr Stephen Horvath, *New 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 Elected Member** (Mr Chris Garner, *St. Peter's College*), **The Chair of the Consultative Committee** (Mr Julian Kirk, *Magdalen College*), **The Returning Officer** (Mr Harry Samuels, *St. Peter's College*), **The Bursar** (Ms Lindsay Warne), **The Senior Treasurer** (Mr Stephen Dixon, *Downing College, Cambridge*), **The CDSC** (Mr Andrew Seow, *Lincoln College*), **The Access Officer** (Mx Brian Wong, *Pembroke College*).

Attending: Mr Edward Evans (Ex-Officio, *St. John's College*), Mr Chris Zabilowicz (Ex-Officio, *Worcester College*), Ms Melissa Hinkley (Ex-Officio, *Keble College*), Mr Maan Al-Yasiri (Ex-Officio, *Brasenose College*), Mr Matthew Vautrey (*Magdalen College*), Ms Freya Dixon Van-Dijk (*St John's College*), Mr Brendan McGrath (*Oriel College*), Mr Lucas Barnfather-Jones (*Christ Church*), Ms Alexandra Galloway (*Magdalen College*), Mr Thomas Laver (*Balliol College*)

Apologies:

Absent:

The President opens this Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee at 16:00.

Requests to Pass Absences from Previous Meetings

The President moves that Ms Athis' absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week be deemed as with good reason, due to disabling and infectious illness.

nem. con.

The President moves to pass Ms Athis' absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week.

nem. con.

Mr Wang enters the room at 16:01.

The President moves that Mr Cheesman's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week be deemed as with good reason, due to an immovable academic commitment.

nem. con.

The President moves to pass Mr Cheesman's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week.

nem. con.

The President moves that Ms Risino's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week be deemed as with good reason, due to a pressing and extraordinary engagement, namely a job interview.

nem. con.

The President moves to pass Ms Risino's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week.

nem. con.

The President moves that Mr Kirk's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week be deemed as with good reason, due to a pressing and extraordinary engagement, namely a job interview.

nem. con.

The President moves to pass Mr Kirk's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week.

nem. con.

The Librarian enters the room at 16:02.

The President moves that Ms Sayeed's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week be deemed as with good reason.

nem. con.

The President moves to pass Ms Sayeed's absence from the Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee in Sixth Week.

nem. con.

Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

The Senior Treasurer recommends that a weekly report from the CDSC should be added to the weekly agenda.

The Secretary responds that she adds to the agenda all that is sent to her.

The Treasurer-elect enters the room at 16:05

Ratification of Minutes

The President

Business of the President

The President has no business.

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 Bursar asks why some DSC purchases were not made using the Union's retailer discount, and notes that no receipts were included for some purchases.

The CDSC replies that the invoice from the retailer has not yet been sent.

The Treasurer moves that, following the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Standing Committee pass DSC expenses of £1055.

Seconded by the President.

nem. con.

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.

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

Mr Garner has no business.

Questions to Mr Garner

There are no questions to Mr Garner.

The President-Elect

Business

The President-Elect has no business.

Questions

There are no questions to the President-Elect.

The Librarian-Elect

Business of the Librarian-Elect

In response to proposed changes to Rule 34, **the Librarian-Elect** believes this is an issue to be discussed with more time. She looks to Rule 67(b)(iv) which states something considered of paramount importance should be delayed. She notes that the Rules change proposed by Mr Harkness, Magdalen College, has far-reaching consequences. She does not wish to comment on the merits of the proposal, but merely on its importance.

The President moves that TSC grant the Ex-Returning Officer, Mr Michael Harkness, speaking rights.

There is an objection by the Librarian

The Treasurer argues that an ex-RO who has proposed the motion should have speaking rights, in the interests of opening debate to a valuable perspective.

The Secretary, Mr Watson and the Treasurer-elect agree.

The RO clarifies the mechanism for proposing a secret ballot.

The Librarian-Elect moves that the Standing Committee conduct a secret ballot on the previous motion.

Seconded by the President.

nem. con.

The President-Elect moves that the Standing Committee give the Senior Treasurer control over the ballot.

Seconded by Mr Mediwaka.

nem. con.

The motion passes and speaking rights are granted to Mr Harkness 12 to 4.

The Librarian-Elect says that we should delay the Rules change so that it is sufficiently publicised.

The Returning Officer says that TSC may decide that the proposed rules change be of such importance that it be brought to the special attention of members, and delayed to a later Public Business Meeting. He outlines the processes for proposing Private Business Motions. He explains that

the Private Business Motion received the required 30 signatures, and that the proposition alters the start date of the term of office of the CCC and allows ex-CCC's to run for President.

The Treasurer says we should advise TSC regarding cost of advertising, which Rule 67 would require.

The RO recalls a disciplinary committee of Walsh and McCerys, in which it was decided that such advertisements must go in 'unbiased' newspapers. He notes that notice must be given in a local and national newspaper, and sent to every college and hall.

Mx Wong asks if the Returning Officer could give examples of where national publicity was invoked in the past.

The Returning Officer says the last case was Walsh and McCerys, regarding a smoking ban.

The Treasurer-elect asks if such publicity was invoked regarding the cancellation of a speaker invitation.

The Bursar replies that it was.

Mr Harkness raises a procedural question to the Returning Officer, saying the Union has to expense the advertisement. He claims that in Standing Order B6(c)(i) it states that no expenditure should be passed by TSC over £100, unless the sum and purpose are stated on the meeting's agenda. He believes newspaper expenditure would be over £100 and so doesn't believe it can be procedurally discussed.

The RO says the question is whether the motion is in itself a motion for expenditure, and expenditure by TSC in particular.

The Bursar remembers that one paper was £600 ten years ago.

The Ex-Librarian says that the monetary question misses the point and that TSC should decide whether the motion fits the requirements of 67(b), not how much it should eventually cost. She also thinks in regard to the Private Business Motions she interprets signatures as a route for ordinary members, rather than committee members, to propose rules changes.

Mr Harkness says that the procedural question might save us time.

The Ex-Librarian says we are bound by the Rules to invoke publicity, if it is decided that the issue is of sufficient importance.

The CCC says that the Rule specifies that the Rule is important for the specific purpose, therefore doing so implies we are incurring a direct cost that TSC must account for. He accepts that this motion should be shown to members. He believes, however, that there are more effective and cheap ways of advertising than in a newspaper, and spending so much money would not raise awareness more

effectively. He suggests it could be done in an email or be specified on Facebook. He believes these provisions are a better use of the Union's time and money.

Mr Watson agrees with the CCC, saying that though this is an important issue we can easily discuss it, and requiring Committee to go to every college and put notice in newspapers is a waste of time and money. He says that TSC can recommend to the President now to post on Facebook regarding the motion.

The CCC leaves the room at 16:34, and reenters 16:35.

The Librarian-Elect says that the important part of her proposal is the time required for appropriate discussion; the proposal would fundamentally alter the Society, and should be considered at greater length. She claims that there is provision to waive the requirement that proper notice of expenditure is given in the agenda.

Mx Wong argues that it is not clear what distinguishes the importance of this rules change in comparison to that of other regularly passed rules changes.

The Treasurer agrees with the Ex-Librarian, saying most of points the CCC and Mr Watson raised with expenditure are problems with the Rule, and that perhaps we should modernise it at another meeting. He argues that the important argument is that regarding the importance of the issue.

The Returning Officer leaves the room at 16:38.

The Ex-Secretary returns to the CCC's point about expenditure, saying that this is a significant change, and that bypassing TSC is unfortunate.

The Bursar says the Facebook page is public, and that the mailshot doesn't go to all the members, or to only members.

The Secretary says that TSC's role is to discuss such changes, and that they need not be brought to members.

The CCC says that the only legislative body is the members, and that TSC can pass a motion that mandates a special notice, without activating the rule introduced by the Librarian-elect. He agrees with Mx Wong that the key issue is of importance, and recounts that the CCC was previously eligible to run for President. He argues that, because no publicity was invoked for this change, there is therefore precedent for not seeing the change as sufficiently important. He claims that not all members will be reached by circulation in newspapers, and that more circulation will incur a greater cost. He continues that under rule 67(b)(iv), an automatic cost is incurred, and that there is a requirement that 8 days notice is given of the total cost and purpose of spending.

Mr Harkness says that the discussion is worth having, and hopes the motion is put before the house on Thursday. He doesn't think that TSC can validly vote on it, as the mentioned requirement cannot be waived retrospectively.

The Librarian-Elect argues that who guides the Society is of the utmost importance, and that until Thursday is not enough time to discuss a change which fundamentally and immediately changes the Society.

Mx Wong says that there was no judgement that a previous rules change was of paramount importance, even given that this change expanded the size of TSC.

The President-Elect takes the Chair at 16:46.

The President leaves the room at 16:47.

The Returning Officer enters the room at 16:48.

The Ex-Librarian distinguishes said rules change in that it went through Standing Committee, and that it increases democratic political competition. In contrast, she argues, the CCC is not democratically elected. She says most rules changes are referred to Standing Committee, and that she doesn't understand why this isn't.

The Ex-Secretary leaves the room at 16:50.

The Treasurer disagrees that precedent is important in this debate, when no precedent is binding. He encourages TSC to debate the importance of this change. He insists, though, that before further discussion the RO confirms this is validly on the agenda.

The Returning Officer says it is his opinion that Rule 67(b)(iv) does not require TSC to put the notice in the paper; so it would affect the RO's budget and not TSC's. He hesitates to make a formal ruling, and notes that this conclusion is tentative, but believes this would not prohibit TSC from deeming the issue sufficiently important.

Mr Watson says the quantity of time has been raised a lot, even though there will be little actual discussion by members prior to the debate. He notes that proper discussion will take place in the chamber itself, and argues that delaying debate is unnecessary. He says that all members know that rules changes are placed on the notice board. He argues that the debate will be well attended, and that members of TSC are free to speak on the issue. He does not think people would come back to vote due to a newspaper advertisement.

The President-Elect moves that the Standing Committee should limit further speeches to two minutes.

nem. con.

The CCC notes that the primary means of notifying members of anything the Society does is the noticeboard, and that this action has been given with ten days notice. He says that every member of TSC was aware of the intention for someone to bring this Rules change in 4th week, and that no one who opposes the change has put discussion of the change on the agenda. He says that there is a chance for members of TSC to discuss it in the PBM.

Mr Harkness requests a formal ruling from the Returning Officer, or asks him to consider his previous conclusion more carefully. He argues that any member can bring a change with 30 signatures, as he has done. He claims it is unfortunate to claim that TSC being unable to discuss the issue is sufficient reason for delaying it.

The Returning Officer says Standing Order B6 is not within his remit, so that he cannot issue an interpretation or ruling on it. He recounts that he went to the Rules archives to look at situation for past 25-30 years, and found that the CCC was able to stand for President as recently as 2000. He makes the point that TSC must not be consulted on all rules changes. He suggests that motions should be publicised on the same level as show debates, as they are similarly important to the function of the Society.

The President-Elect moves to grant Thomas Laver, Balliol College, speaking rights.

nem. con.

The Treasurer leaves the room at 16:59.

Mr Laver says that the CCC is elected by TSC and CC, so democracy is in play. He argues that it is important that TSC is not the only avenue for rules changes. He further says that notice has been given of the motion.

Mx Wong believes Mr Harkness has the right to have this motion debated. He notes that it might be our fault that people don't read the notice board, but that we shouldn't penalise Mr Harkness for this failure.

Mr Wang enters the room at 17:03.

The Librarian-Elect notes she didn't say that we shouldn't give members the chance to have business discussed. She argues that they should simply have more time to deliberate on the issue. Further, on the point of members of TSC being aware of the rules change being brought in advance, she wishes to discourage the habit of important business not being openly acknowledged and discussed.

The Treasurer-Elect argues that Life Members may still be involved in the Union after leaving Oxford, and so should have the chance to know of significant. Only through the avenues of publicity discussed, he claims, can such members be alerted to the change.

The Librarian says that the attendees of the debate will be coming for hustings and the main debate, and have very little interest in this motion.

The Ex-Librarian says the central conflict is to do with the archaic ways that the Society communicates with its members. This issue should be discussed at TSC. She asks the Returning Officer if there is a way to delay this motion without the specific publicity requirements of newspapers.

The Returning Officer says it cannot, and that TSC can pass a motion requesting that there is a withdrawal of the motion, but that this is not binding.

The CDSC leaves the room at 17:10.

The CCC says we should modernise the means of communication, through Facebook, email or the website. Rather than invoking the rule discussed, these should be used.

The Treasurer reenters the room at 17:11.

The Secretary says that the time requirement is excessively lengthy, and that the given notice is sufficient.

Mr Vautrey enters the room at 17:12.

The Librarian and the Returning Officer leave the room at 17:12.

Mx Wong says discussion would be more constructive if it focussed on how useful the increase in time is, weighed against the financial consideration.

Mr Harkness says he wouldn't see this notice were it published in a newspaper, and there are no further PBMs after the next one so it will be delayed many months. He says there should be a chance to debate on Thursday, and he doesn't see that more time benefits members, given that arguments will be put forward only in the debate.

The Librarian-Elect says that the given timescale limits discussion to members currently resident in Oxford. The three days' notice which would be given were TSC to mandate special notice, she says, is not enough to allow non-resident members to return to the Union. She says that several months is an appropriate timescale to consider so substantial a change.

The Bursar says she didn't mean to give the impression that a mailshot isn't as good as a newspaper.

The Treasurer-Elect argues that members do care about the issue, and so would give thought to the issue. He further contends that the role of the President is of paramount importance to the Society, and also that a lengthy timescale is crucial to allow members to individually contemplate the issue.

The CCC says the only place that a Private Business Motion can be genuinely discussed is at a Public Business Meeting, and that therefore it is largely irrelevant when this occurs. He says more notice has been given than the rules stipulate. He claims that the proposed mechanism involves too much expenditure, and that his proposed alternative is superior.

The Returning Officer enters the room at 17:18.

The Librarian enters the room at 17:19.

Mr Watson says several people have said that this change alters the Society's dynamics permanently, but that he disagrees. He notes that if the Rules are changed now, they can be changed again in future. He argues that this change does not select who becomes President, but allows more candidates to run for President. He believes that the chamber is the appropriate forum for discussion of the issue.

The Ex-Librarian says the main objection to the Librarian-Elect's motion is feasibility of publicity, given that we are unsure of the cost.

Ms Risino leaves the room at 17:23

The Librarian-Elect says in response to Mr Watson that she hopes the rule is being proposed on its merits, rather than to promote an individual's candidacy. She argues that the rule does fundamentally change who is open to running the Union.

Thomas Laver leaves the room at 17:24.

Ms Athis notes that most people agree that this should be debated in the chamber by the members, and that noticeboard and newspaper are outdated. She claims that the issue is that, were TSC to mandate the CCC's alternative publicity mechanism, this publicity would only be out for an insufficient three days.

The Secretary says that Mr Harkness's only option to enact this change was via the notice board; he was unable to use the publicity mechanisms open to the Union.

Mr Watson says that we should look to the Bursar regarding the point of cost. He looks up the cheapest Guardian advert, which costs £3700.

Ms Risino enters the room at 17:26.

The Bursar says costs should not be considered, and that TSC must only find the most economical way of carrying out the action if it is deemed necessary.

The Senior Treasurer says costs are important and this is a very uneconomical means of publicity, and that the Rules need updating.

Ms Risino leaves the room at 17:26.

The CCC notes that the change functionally expands the franchise for President by about 4 or 5 people, most of whom have not expressed desire to run for President. He argues that the functional effect of the change is therefore less than has been supposed. If the members have the desire to decide who is elected, they will come to the election. This change is therefore less significant than election in 7th Week, which has not been deemed sufficiently important to be advertised in a newspaper.

Mx Wong says that the uncertainty of a delay must be weighed against its importance. He diminishes the importance of the change, by comparing it to hypothetical changes to other committees.

The Treasurer asks the Librarian-Elect if she believes the publicity rule should have been evoked in the case of expanding TSC.

The Librarian says she does.

The Treasurer then asks why members need more than three days to decide how eligibility should work. Consideration of the issue is complex, but does not require lengthy deliberation. Regarding workload, he argues that the CCC has a significantly greater one than members of TSC, who are nevertheless eligible to run for President. Regarding a democratic check, he claims to be unpersuaded that there is substantial importance to an additional individual being eligible to put themselves forward to democratic election.

The Treasurer-Elect notes that the CCC doesn't have to do vac days, and the CCC very rarely attends Standing because of logistics. These considerations mean an ex-CCC could be unqualified in crucial respects to become the President-elect.

Mr Watson says that if the CCC does not have the required experience, the members will see that in the election campaign.

The President-Elect moves that the Standing Committee should limit further speeches to one minute, with the exception of Mr Garner who has not yet spoken.

nem. con.

The Senior Treasurer leaves the room at 17:38.

Ms Athis asks if the motion can be passed pending a change to the rule which would alter the nature of the publicity requirements.

The RO replies it can not.

Mx Wong leaves the room at 17:38.

The Ex-Librarian says that the CCC can run for Offices other than President,

The CCC says CCC is considered to be an Office, and that general experience should not apply exclusively to vac days. He argues that CC is open to all members, and so the democratic deficit argument does not apply. He says it would be irresponsible to pass this without an idea of what this would cost.

The Librarian-Elect says that experience would be clear on the manifesto. He says electoral experience is also very important to holding the Office of President.

Mx Wong enters the room at 17:40.

The Returning Officer worries that discussion of the merits of the rule is irrelevant to the current motion. He proposes that a poll may be called following the vote in the chamber, which would have the advantage of publicity and delay.

Mr Harkness says the President-Elect term is a term for learning, and that the CCC is more senior than elected members of TSC.

The Treasurer-elect says the financial issue is not the relevant issue, compared to the importance issue.

The CCC says the discussion is about whether members are sufficiently engaged. If the members are sufficiently interested, they will make that known by demanding a poll.

The Treasurer notes that co-opted members of TSC would be eligible to run for President despite not having been through an election. He claims that the purpose of eligibility rules is to eliminate 'joke' candidacies. He argues that an elected member of TSC does not have a considerably greater democratic mandate than an official elected by CC.

The Returning Officer says polls do not in fact require publicity.

The CCC says there is a clear mechanism, namely a poll, which does not incur a cost.

The Treasurer is unclear what is gained from waiting so long, and is sceptical that debate will occur over several weeks.

Mr Watson says that costs have not been computed, and that this should be done prior to debate.

The Treasurer insists that principles, rather than the financial issue, are discussed.

The Ex-Librarian says we should decide on whether we want to have a poll.

The Librarian-Elect says that the reason we have strong opinions is because TSC is not reflective of the Ordinary Member. She asks the RO to outline the mechanism of a poll.

The Returning Officer explains that an ordinary poll mechanism is that when a motion is voted on, immediately thereafter a poll must be demanded. The following day, he says, 150 signatures must be collected. He says an ERO would be appointed, and that the actual vote would be similar to a normal election. He expresses doubt that TSC itself can call for a poll.

Ms Athis leaves the room at 17:51.

Mr Vautrey leaves the room at 17:52.

The CCC agrees we should invite members to demand a poll.

Mr Harkness believes a delay would be a couple of months, and this wouldn't help to better inform the members, and that he should be able to argue this case at a Public Business Meeting.

The Ex-Librarian asks what would happen if debate on the motion ran until 8.30pm.

Mr Harkness replies that the Chair may limit time.

The Treasurer agrees now that the change is an important issue. He wonders whether the upcoming election's hustings will pose an obstacle to debate on the motion.

The Librarian-elect agrees that hustings may interfere. She argues that the audience will not be interested in engaging with the issue.

The CCC says that hustings will attract an engaged audience.

Ms Galloway enters the room at 17:59

The Secretary designates the role of secretary to the Ex-Librarian as the Secretary and the Treasurer leave the room.

Mr Mediwaka leaves the room at 18:01.

Mr Garner leaves the room at 18:03.

Mr Watson asks if the increase to seven standing was brought to Standing Committee.

The President-Elect explains the mechanism of the seven standing Rules change, that it went through an SPBM.

Mr Watson wonders why TSC did not then deem that issue of sufficient importance to demand publicity.

The Librarian-elect defends the failure of any member of TSC to deem the change sufficiently important, claiming that the commotion caused by the seven standing change is potentially a reason why TSC is currently keen to avoid rushing in to the rules change being discussed.

Mr Garner enters the room at 18:05.

The CCC says the most democratic way is to demand a poll through members; they can also trigger the minimum of 6 days in a 48 hour poll.

Mr McGrath and The President enter at 18:06.

The President resumes the Chair.

Mr Cheesman enters the room at 18:06.

The Librarian-Elect would like to move her initial proposal to enact 67(b)(iv).

The CCC would like to make a procedural point, that we have not yet settled the ruling adequately, and it automatically incurs printing expenditure.

The President-Elect says this is not necessarily over £100.

The CCC says it would be irresponsible as a Standing Committee to pass this without a comprehensive financial estimate.

The Librarian-elect says with the advice of the RO this doesn't need to fall under the Standing Committee's budget. She doesn't think this is a violation of procedure and thinks it's something that should be voted on.

The Ex-Librarian says the CCC has made the same point as her, and that if he has come round to that idea, a vote should be called.

Mx Wong draws attention to the Rules change that occurred regarding the CCC a decade ago, noting that it was not done via a poll. He asks why things are so different now to ten years ago, when it wasn't taken to the membership.

The CCC points out that we don't know if we're in violation of the Rules in passing this. He thinks it would be irresponsible to pass the motion under these circumstances. He insists the most democratic way to get publicity is by poll.

Ex Secretary, Maan Al Yasiri enters the room at 18:11.

The President-Elect leaves the room at 18:11.

Mr Harkness asks for a formal ruling from the President that this was not formally placed on the agenda.

The RO explains to the President that this motion could be a motion by TSC involving £100 of expenditure, and therefore not validly be on the agenda. He says that a ruling on this point is required.

Mr Watson raises the issue of newspaper costs.

The CCC argues that a motion which necessitates expenditure involves expenditure.

The Librarian-Elect comments that the CCC is now dwelling on procedural questions after having previously defended substantive points.

The CCC says he has addressed both types of points.

The Librarian-Elect says 67(b)(iv) does not undermine the members' say in this issue. She claims that a poll may incur costs greater than £100.

The Ex-Librarian asks how to appeal the Rules after the fact.

The President and Mr Harkness answer the question.

The Ex-Secretary asks why, if the CCC argues on the metric of democracy, he is rushing the motion through.

The CCC says he gave more notice than required by the rules and he is talking about whether the Society should expend a large amount of money on this issue. He asks that the members be given the opportunity to decide on the money expenditure via a vote.

Mr Watson says there is a Rule that allows members to petition to get increased publicity. In 67(b)(v) there is provision to petition for more publicity for rules changes, if members thought this was of such extraordinary importance.

Mr Zabilowicz, Ms Dixon Van-Dijk and Mr Barnfather Jones enter the room at 18:20.

The Librarian-Elect says that Mr Watson overestimates the tendency of members to read Rule 67(b)(v). She echoes the Ex-Secretary's drive to get information to the members. She reiterates the procedural importance of this vote and would like to have a secret ballot and vote.

Mr Harkness agrees we are going in circles. He would rather have a ruling on the formal validity on agenda item, if not a secret ballot. What is being asked for here is a delay of several months, and Mr Harkness wouldn't be present. He thinks it is pointless money incurred, given that little discussion is had.

The CCC makes a substantive point on notice and time, repeating that he has outlined alternative ways to give members notice in advance of the debate. He repeats it is irresponsible to vote on the motion before it is known whether this would be in violation of the rules.

The Librarian-Elect repeats that she wishes the issue to be debated by members on democratic grounds.

The Librarian requests a ruling on the issue.

The President says the RO has gone to find out the cost of publicity.

The Bursar notes that printing costs for posters will be £8.

The CCC says this must be considered in addition to newspaper advertising costs.

Ms Risino leaves the room at 18:24.

The Ex-Librarian asks if TSC can vote on this motion subject to the cost incurred.

The President believes not.

The Ex-Secretary says he disagrees with Mr Harkness, in that he assumes that the membership is naïve.

The CCC says the members will choose whether they want a poll, and therefore whether they want to spend money on this.

Mr McGrath and Mr Barnfather-Jones leave the room at 18.27

Mr Watson is investigating the cost of printing in local papers, and is admittedly struggling with it.

The Treasurer-Elect asks the Bursar if it is feasible to carry this out with less than £100.

The Bursar replies that it is not with press adverts, which are admittedly archaic.

Mr Harkness reiterates that Rule 67 does require press, which is not waivable. He responds to the Ex-Secretary's criticism, saying that he wishes the debate to go to the members on Thursday; only in putting forward his arguments in the chamber can the rationale be communicated to members.

The Librarian-Elect says the meeting is understating the costs of the poll. She says she doesn't understand the obstacle to a vote for 67(b)(iv).

Mx Wong echoes the proposal that the Ex-Librarian flagged, that the poll is a very sensible strategy. He claims that democracy requires expenditure, which is acceptable. He argues that a poll is more democratic than the proposed mechanism, because the debate will take place at the beginning of the process. He further argues that individuals are less likely to engage with a Union whose Standing Committee delays action. He suggests that the interpretation should be left to the Chair, given the conflicting motivations of members of TSC.

The RO and the Treasurer-Elect enter the room at 18:34

Mr Watson gives reason to believe that newspaper costs may be more than £100.

The Ex-Librarian asks what kind of newspapers need to be informed of this.

Mr Harkness says the relevant DAC establishes that there are only three eligible newspapers.

Mr Watson says it is established it is more than £100 to put this in newspapers.

Mr Zabilowicz and Mr Evans leave the room at 18:37.

The CCC says the Chair will be liable to an SDC if she rules wrong, which puts her in an unfortunate position. He notes that, on democracy, there are more people that have signed in support of this

motion than the number of people in this room. Accusations of sneakiness, he argues, are therefore misleading.

The Ex-Secretary wants agreement that the DAC ruling is outdated, and that the spirit of the rule pulls in the opposite direction. He emphasises that delaying the change will guarantee more publicity.

Mx Wong disagrees with the CCC. He says that though the Chair is potentially liable for misinterpreting the rules, the Chair has the right to interpret as they like on reasonable grounds.

Mr Zabilowicz and Mr Evans enter the room at 18:39.

Charles Wang enters the room at 18:40.

Ms Dixon Van-Dijk and Ms Risino leave the room at 18:40.

The CCC says the DAC report specifies what national newspapers are eligible, and specifies 3 that we are required to publicise in. He argues that this will clearly incur more than £100, so that the motion cannot be brought before a ruling. He insists that evidence be brought that it will be less than £100.

The Ex-Librarian says that the President must rule, as costs are unknown.

The Librarian-Elect says it is irresponsible to base objections to this invocation of a rule on a Google search. She insists that a secret ballot is conducted, and that delay would allow valuable debate.

Mx Wong discusses the fragmentation of national media, arguing that many more newspapers may need to be brought into the process.

The CCC argues that it is more democratic for members to decide whether money ought to be spent. He insists that only the letter of the rules may be considered, and that there is clear evidence of costs in excess of £100; the motion is almost certainly procedurally invalid, and he does not wish to open the Chair to an SDC.

Ms Risino and Ms Dixon Van-Dijk enter the room at 18:46.

The Returning Officer clarifies that the DAC interpretation specifying specific newspapers is binding. He returns to his earlier point, that the expenditure may have been under the RO's budget, and notes that he is still unsure; a ruling would therefore be required. He suggests that the Chair decide whether the prohibition applies, and notes that anyone who makes a ruling will be liable to an SDC.

The President temporarily adjourns the meeting at 18:49.

The President re-opens the meeting at 19:02.

The President says she and the RO and have decided to give TSC a vote on whether the expenditure will exceed £100. She notes that the newspapers specified in TSC are binding.

The Librarian-Elect asks if the vote will be taken on the invocation of publicity requirements if it is passed as less than £100.

The President says the RO will determine who is eligible to vote depending on the time present at the meeting.

The RO determines the eligibility requirements for TSC.

The President calls TSC to a vote.

The RO declares abstention is possible.

The Bursar clarifies abstention policy.

The President moves that TSC deem that invoking Rule 67(b)(iv) would incur expenditure in excess of £100

4 votes for, 6 against and 1 abstention.

The motion fails, and TSC has voted that invoking 67(b)(iv) will not incur expenditure over £100.

The Librarian-Elect asks if we can move that we now pass the original motion via secret ballot.

The Librarian-Elect moves that TSC votes via secret ballot whether 67(b)(iv) should be enacted regarding the Rules change proposed by Ex-Returning Officer, Mr Michael Harkness, Magdalen College.

For = Enaction. Against = Against.

Seconded by the Treasurer-Elect.

5 votes for, 5 against and 1 abstention.

The motion falls.

The RO reads the rules concerning what happens in this case. He says that in disciplinary committees, the case of a tied vote means the motion is deemed to have fallen; in contrast, in Rule 23(f) the Chair has a casting and deliberative vote.

The President asks what happens if she wishes to keep her vote secret.

The RO claims this would leave no other option than to deem the motion not passed. Though he acknowledges the rules are quiet on this, he sees no other way of proceeding.

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 to 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 The Senior Librarian

The Senior Librarian has no business.

Questions to the The Senior Librarian

There are questions to the The Senior Librarian.

The Senior Treasurer

Business of the 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 has no business.

Questions to The Bursar

There are no questions to The Bursar.

The Returning Officer

Business of The Returning Officer

The RO says that as required by Rule 32, he must appoint an 8th deputy following a resignation. He says he must propose to appoint George Penny as a DRO. He notes that capability is the criterion on which TSC may vote, and defines this criterion.

The Returning Officer moves that TSC ratify Mr George Penny, The Queen's College, as DRO.

5 objections, 5 abstentions.

The motion fails

The RO moves that TSC deem George Penny as capable as per the definition in Rule 32(a)(7)(ii).

10 abstentions

The motion fails

The RO continues that he must propose a different candidate, James Brennan, St Peter's College, who resigned as ROA.

The Returning Officer nominates James Brennan and moves that TSC deem Mr Brennan capable as per the definition as per the rule in 32(a)(7)(ii).

1 vote for, 1 vote against, 8 abstentions.

The motion fails

The Librarian leaves the room at 19:25.

The Returning Officer moves that TSC ratify Mr Edward Pexton, Brasenose College, as DRO, and deem him capable as per the definition in 32(a)(7)(ii).

6 for, 3 abstentions.

The motion carries

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

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

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

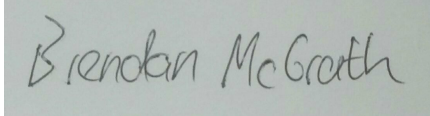
There is no other business.

Date of Next Meeting

- TBC

The President closes this Ordinary Meeting of the Standing Committee at 19:28.

Signed,

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Brendan McGrath".

Brendan McGrath

Oriel College

Secretary