

Meeting Details

Location: Nuffield G19

Date: 27/10/2021, 5PM

Chair of Meeting: Benjamin

Members In Attendance

- Benjamin
- Caolfionn
- James
- Daniel
- Rosemary
- Adam
- Umar

Summary of Motions Passed

Constitution Change Voted Upon (pending approval by Guild/SGX)

To insert an additional role into the constitution:

10. Roles and Responsibilities of other committee members

10.1 Other committee members shall be:

10.2 Events Organiser

10.2.2 To work with the committee to organise, plan and run events/activities to meet the objectives of the society.

Committee Election Results

Treasurer - Umar(Unanimous)

Secretary - Rosemary(Unanimous)

And pending approval of constitution change:

Events Organiser – Adam (Unanimous)

Minutes

EGM started with question to make sure members were happy for an audio recording to be taken so that meeting minutes could be written up later. EGM minutes start from this point onwards.

Benjamin: Ok, audio recording.

So, in case you haven't been to an EGM before, here's a quick run through of how they work.

We're meant to have an apologies section first, for if people can't come, but I don't think anyone does that. Then amendments to the constitution, but we're not proposing any today, and then electing committee which is the main thing we're doing, and finally any other business is case anyone wants to say anything at the end.

So... Committee.. What do committee do? They help out with the planning and running events for the society with other specific responsibilities to the role. Once we have a full committee we're able to use the money raised from fees which can be used to buy things for the society etc. which can help you. [Committee members] have to complete training set by the Guild on Canvas (which I think takes about two evenings to complete).

Procedure: I'll show the description on the [committee] roles, anyone interested in the role should then make themselves known, you then get to briefly speak for a few minutes on why you'd be good for the role, and then members may ask questions if they wish. And then we'll do voting, ever vote has a re-open nominations option. If multiple people are voting we'll do a ballot, if not we'll do the thing where the person [candidate] leaves the room, and then everyone does a show of hands to vote, and unless anyone objects to that in which case we'll do a ballot (as per guild rules).

So first is Treasurer, is anyone interested in running for treasurer?

Rosemary: I mean if nobody else is doing it, I'd do it, but like if someone else is interested...

Umar: Which was it, was it secretary and treasurer?

Benjamin: Yes, Secretary and treasurer.

Umar: Which one were you going for [Adam]?

Adam: Which ever you weren't going for.

Umar: Well, I was going to do the other one to you. And then there's you [Rosemary], would you do secretary if one of us did treasurer?

Rosemary: I'd prefer secretary.

Umar: Ok, so 3 people, 2 rules, is there any other spare role?

Benjamin: We can add roles in the future, but we need to give 7 days notice if we're going to put another role in. We were going to add in a role 2 years ago at an AGM but that AGM never happened due to covid, because the guild said just 2 days before the AGM "No events in person." So that was a load of fun.

James: I think members can propose changes to the constitution.

Benjamin: When I read the thing [EGM handbook] it said you still have to give relevant notice to members, even if people do.

James: Yeah

Umar: What if your notice got lost, and they didn't respond to you, and you lost the proof of that. Can you say yes that will happen, and that will be proof that it did?

Benjamin: Umm... Let me get the documentation up.

...

"You must give members at least 7 days' notice of a proposed constitution changes so that they can think about them and consider their position. This applies when committee members are proposing changes on behalf of the society. However any member could propose a change in an EGM or AGM, but these should not normally be significant changes due to the lack of notice for members to consider them."

Rosemary: So what role would we add if we were to add a role anyway?

Benjamin: That's a good point, the role we were looking to add quite awhile was just a ...

James: I think it was social secretary you wanted to add.

Benjamin: I think it was something like that but we called it something else in the end. I've got the file on here somewhere...

There we go, that was the proposed change we were going to try and propose 2 years ago, Events Organiser. To organise and plan events with committee towards the aims of the society.

Umar: I think that's a needed role.

Benjamin: Umm, so..

Umar; That was proposed already.

Benjamin: We didn't formally propose it, I think we sent an email out and had printouts ready, but...

Umar: Was this an email by any chance?

Benjamin: Probabbly

Umar: So that means you kinda did officially propose it?

Benjamin: But it was in a different ... [year], the members signed up here wouldn't have seen that as they signed up in a different year.

James: yeah, I think I got that email.

Umar: And when would we next have the chance to propose that role?

Benjamin: Either if we have another EGM (you have to give 7 days notice) or at an AGM.

Umar: Quite a while then

Benjamin: Well, you could have EGMs every week if you wanted to, no reason why not.

Umar: So that's an easy fix, someone just has to go without a role for a week.

Who's interested in this role anyway? If it was there who'd go for it?

Benjamin: You sound the most interested to be honest.

Surnames have been redacted from this document.

Umar: I just want everyone to have a role cause I feel bad, I don't want anyone who goes for something to not have it.

Benjamin: Elections, yay, democracy.

Does anyone materially object to if we were to ask about adding this role.

Multiple people: No

Benjamin: In that case, lets have 3 minutes to think about it in silence, and we can discuss it after that.

Umar: So who was going to go for roles today?

James: No, not really, I was only going to go for one to keep the society alive, otherwise it's too much work for me. I've done committee already for another society.

Adam: I would want to go for it, but I struggle to think of anything which I'd be able to plan.

Umar: You seem the type of guy who would be able to plan good events. Just give a few examples and I'll tell you if they're fun.

Adam: I've got no ideas right now.

James: I mean, the scope of that role shouldn't be coming up with idea it's more of here's an event and organising it at all, so theory we could do a cinema trip, and then that person in that role is just responsible for planning it.

Umar: True, it's not like you're going to decide for us what we're going to do. Easy way to get a role then.

Adam: I'll run for doing that then.

Umar: I think he wants to do that.

Benjamin: Well, you'd have to get voted in first.

Umar: Ok, well in that case treasurer or secretary [to rosemary] ?

Rosemary: I prefer secretary.

Umar: I can go for that then.

Benjamin: Well, you could be contested, and everyone could vote for reopen nominations. And then we have an infinite loop.

Umar: We could...

James: That won't happen.

Benjamin: That's probabbly about three minutes.

Adam: It wasn't in silence though so should we start again.

Multiple people: *laugh*

Benjamin: So let's of back to the thing I crossed out, amendments to constitution. Let's take a vote on it.

So we're voting on adding the highlighted segment for the events organiser into the constitution.

Does anybody object to a raise of hands vote?

Ok then...

Constitution Amendment Result: Changes Accepted (Unanimous)

Benjamin: Ok, so now we can move on to treasurer, so who'd like to run for treasurer?

Umar: I think I would like to.

Benjamin: So would you like to come up to the front and say anything then.

Umar: So what do treasurers do then.. deal with finance, umm, interesting. So: Bottom line is we need money, and I feel like the guy who can help us get this money, as the society doesn't get much funding, we had a discussion about this in the guild earlier, , and we need funding. I don't know how, but we could essentially.... Yes, we could do that, exactly, I haven't read that fully but that.

James: I don't mean to burst your bubble but I'm very sure those grants have passed.

Benjamin: There's one in January I think?

James: Yeah but the main one has already passed.

Umar: So I will get on that stuff, and we can use that money to go on events/trips/whatever and umm, the other reason I obviously want to do this is to keep the society alive and have some fairly important role. You've said before that treasurer can have the role of helping set these things up and what-not, some of you guys might be ok with once every 2 weeks kind of thing, but for me the society is more of a space place I like to go to, obviously to destress and be around people I feel comfortable around, so, I also want to get more people to join, so people know this is a thing to join, so this can run after [cobs?], obviously he can't spare all his time, to as he's a very busy guy, he does a lot for the society on his own. Some assistance, possibly have more socials like me and Shannon we're saying earlier in the group. Last point would be besides this being fun, playing board games, going on trips. Id' also like to help on something which hasn't been touched on and that's awareness, and educating people about autism, whether that's people with autism (like I didn't know a lot by myself) and or anyone, and that's within the uni, and obviously try and get more accommodations for us too with said funding. So yeah, that's the basically the real reason. And not the fun part of this pitch. So. Yeah, I'm treasurer, vote of me, I was a good fascist last time as I helped the liberals, and I won at uno so I think that's enough is it.

Benjamin: Ok, thank you.

Umar: I didn't put much effort in because I won anyway.

James: You've won yet.

Benjamin: Ok, so does anyone want to ask any questions to all candidates available?

Umar: Yes, please, I love answering questions.

James: What's your time schedule looking like at the moment, as this would take a fair amount of time?

Umar: So, yes, I do physics and it is very time demanding, except I'll make time, that's all I can say. I am on top of everything, I have a few hours a week and even Wednesday, if I could do another one of these when Benjamin can't, I got this whole time free, I'm kinda bored every time this kind of week when we don't have this, and then looking at numbers and finances.

Benjamin: You say that, but 2 years ago it was every 3 weeks.

Umar: True, it's becoming more frequent and I like that. We had good turnout in the first week, obviously first session, I want the society to grow, and I want everyone to know more about autism, and it to be a less taboo topic, and with this role hopefully a lot more people.

Benjamin: What kind of numbers are you imagining?

Umar: A range, as autism...

Benjamin: I mean in terms of quantity of members.

Umar: We'll see about that as this room does have seats for more people, but I want to imagine it being more than this, and as time passes. I mean I'm just a treasurer, what's this got to do with my role.

Benjamin: it's in your manifesto.

Umar: Any other questions then?

Rosemary: Does it have to be relevant or can I ask anything?

Umar: Ask anything.

Benjamin: Can technically.

Rosemary: If you could learn any language, which would you pick?

Umar: That's really interesting, English. Umm, no. What language? Sign language, I think that's an interesting, as it's more of a deep answer, sign language fascinates me and I saw a video about it this morning. I feel like anyone can learn each others language, but sign language is one of those people don't tend to learn and that bars off a whole group of people, and relating to autism, I feel I can relate that to not being able to being involved with society, accommodation for people who need to sign language would be great, if everyone could speak it. Well not speak it, but you know.

Benjamin: Given it's a treasurer role, does anyone want to pose a maths question to test.

Umar: I do maths in physics, so you can be assured I know how to do my maths.

James: Square root of 101.

Umar: Really... no. That's a very good point, it's above 10 that's all you need to know. It depends if you want it in decimal form or...

James: No, I wasn't serious.

Umar: It's not like anyone can check the answer anyway but now I've said that someone will, even if I said 10.2 someone wouldn't believe me.

Surnames have been redacted from this document.

James: Yeah, 10.2 10.1 somewhere around there.

Umar: Think about what language I'd like to learn, I'd like to learn to speak, French, no, Spanish.

Rosemary: I'm half Hispanic.

Umar: Oh, that's really cool then. Oh my god, you are really doing it.

James: it's about 10.04.

Umar: So I wasn't that far off, I said 10.02.

Benjamin: No.

James: No.

Umar: Check the audio.

Multiple people: Laughing

Benjamin: Right then, any more questions?

In that case we'll go to the vote.

Does anyone object to show of hands method?

[One hand raise]

You do?

Umar: I was only joking.

Benjamin: Ok, in that case, if you'd like to leave the room for a few seconds, and don't look through the window please.

Treasurer Election

Candidates: Uma, Reopen Nominations

Result: Umar (Unanimous)

Benjamin: You have unanimous won that vote.

Umar: Thank you everyone, I will do you all proud, also no one wanted this role really.

James: Well it is mainly going back and forth with the guild, fees in to pay.

Umar: I didn't think that far..

James: Sorry, I feel like [unaidable] to committee positions.

Benjamin: To be fair, when we did it 2 year ago, we hardly ever used finances, were constantly chasing the £50 start-up fund societies are meant to get, which we do still have so can spend that.

Umar: What do you think we can spend £50 on?

James: Well it's not really that, but you can do subsidies for that, so film soc use to do a cinema trip, and we'd pay some money and subside the rest, so it's cheaper than going to the cinema, just the society pay for a bit of it.

Umar: Ok cool.

Benjamin: Of course you can't spend it on things which just benefit committee, because that would be bad.

Would anyone like to run for the role of secretary?

Ok, if you'd like to come to the front please.

Rosemary: Ok, so I don't have a romantic speech or anything, so yeah, um, I want to do that (pointing at slides), I have committee experience with other societies, so I know how they work, although I was treasurer on those. And I don't really have anything too romantic to say or anything but yeah, so there we go. I don't want to get [sappy?] or anything.

Benjamin: Shall we jump to questions, any questions?

Adam: I think all my questions have been answered.

Umar: If you would like to learn any language, what language would you pick?

Rosemary: I'm always learning a few so.

Umar: So what languages are you learning:

Rosemary: Well I'm taking a Japanese course. Also German and French, though French wasn't intentional, I just happened to somehow learn it some time. But I am going on a year abroad in [maltaya?] in the future. So that's useful. And I speak Norwegian, And I'm half Hispanic, though I'm not so good Spanish.

James: What other committees are you on?

Rosemary: Well I'm on the Liberal Democrats, well I still am, and Scandinavian society.

Umar: Can you teach me how to be a treasurer since you already have experience?

Rosemary: Umm.

James: That one vote is looking more attractive for you.

Rosemary: Just turn up that's all.

Benjamin: I actually have to type this up you know?

Umar: Disclaimer then, that was a joke.

Benjamin: What's your time availability like then given you're on a lot of committees?

Rosemary: Well the thing is, one of those societies actually, well it disappeared, although it's coming back, admittedly on the Lib Dem one, I don't do that much because they tend have a lot of pub meet-ups, and I don't go to those. But I do have the time, I'm not particularly... If I'm committed to something I'll do it anyway, even if I'm short on time.

Benjamin: Any final questions?

Umar: How did that final society go down like?

Rosemary: Basically what happens is, the chair, held an EGM and no one applied to be Chair, a the chair was leaving, and the thing was there weren't enough committee members, so that's what happened, although it's being set up again as I messaged the group chat, and like "hi, what's happening".

Benjamin: I think I might have sent my laptop to sleep by accidently waving a magnet over it.

Ok, so. If there are no further questions...?

If you'd like to leave the room then please.

Secretary Election

Candidates: Rosemary

Result: Rosemary (Unanimous)

Benjamin: And yes, you won unanimously as well.

And then we'll just do those events organise one people voted to add. We have thought about in the past, so let's just insert another slide [PowerPoint] to put it on.

So who would like to run for the Events Organise position?

Would you like to come up to the front place?

Adam: So yeah, I'm going to become the events organiser. When I'm the events organiser I'm going to work with the committee to organise, plan and run events/activities to meet the objects of the society. I think I'll do that very well, I can organise things, so I'm not going to make a mess of it all, so yes, vote for me, there's no one else to vote for so...

Benjamin: Does anyone have any questions?

Rosemary: if you had to learn a language, which one would it be?

Adam: I'd learn Russian because my dads Russian, but I don't speak Russian, so I end up looking like an idiot when I have to explain to people "No I don't speak Russian" even though my name is Russian, so I'd learn Russian for that reason only. Which is actually a really difficult language to learn, so I won't look forward to that.

Rosemary: All of the case endings and stuff like that.

Surnames have been redacted from this document.

Benjamin: I'm rather disappointed the lack of programming language appreciation.

Adam: I already know them all.

James: What course are you on?

Adam: Electronic and rail.

Benjamin: Any other questions?

What are your time commitments like which I'm going to ask again, James' one originally.

Adam: I'm not on the committee for anything else, so I guess this has my full attention, yeah. If I need space to work for the events organiser, I will make sure that that happens. Even if it means cancelling everything else.

Benjamin: If there's no more questions then I think we'll go for the vote. If you'd like to step outside please.

Secretary Election

Candidates: Adam

Result: Adam (Unanimous)

Benjamin: And yes, you won unanimously again.

Adam: Thank you everyone, I'll try to not fuck it up.

Benjamin: Any other business:

James: Stupid business.

Adam: We could play secret hitter to do all of this.

Benjamin: Would anyone like to raise anything related to the society? According to the documents, this can cause things to go on and on for ever, but if no ones enthusiastic at all about anything, nobody thinks that our colour scheme is terrible and we should go for a beige colour scheme instead...

James: Committee can probably decide that for themselves.

Benjamin: Could still be raised as any other business. Ok then...

Umar: No, no, I feel that yellow is a bit too bright, should be one tone darker.

Rosemary: Yeah.

Benjamin: It's actually green so...

Umar: Well that proves my point...

James: It could also be the projector.

Rosemary: [inaudible, something about the logo being too bright?]

Benjamin: The idea behind the colours is that it's meant to be a colour spectrum, of a darker tone, as not to be confused with the LGBT colour spectrum. That's all I'm going to say, because Autism is a spectrum condition and there's lots of arguments over jigsaw representation, as some people don't like that.

Umar: Yeah, I hate the jigsaw.

Rosemary: I hate it when it's like the really bright jigsaw colours, it's like it hurts to look at.

Benjamin: And then there's the infinity symbol which I think's meant to be more favourable.

Umar: I prefer that to the jigsaw.

Rosemary: Yeah.

Benjamin: There was some reason I thought I better not [use the infinity symbol], the suggestion we had from at the time of treasurer was an orange circle with the letters AS in the middle

Umar: That's boring.

Benjamin: I think this is a little more creative than that.

Umar: Yeah, what's the logo again?

Benjamin: Which logo?

Umar: The colour scheme, but what's the societies... Actually looks nice.

Rosemary: I like the red.

Caolfionn: It kinda works too as AS is kinda like abbreviation of Asperger's Syndrome.

Benjamin: The funny thing about that is if we had have become an association, as I mentioned earlier, we could have become the Autism Spectrum Disorder Association which would be ASDA, so It's a good job we didn't do that.

Benjamin: If no one's got any other business I'll stop the recording there.