

Joe Mawer's Manifesto for Secretary

Why I am suited to the role of Secretary

Organisation: I am the External Events Officer of the York Politics Society, which means that I organise talks. To do this role, you have to be organised, to make sure the events don't clash with others and to make sure that everyone is clear what is going on. This will be a transferable skill that would be useful in the role.

Experience with increasing membership: I am the Internal vice Chair of the largest political party society at York. Part of my role is to increase membership and even in the pandemic membership of the society has increased to near record levels and way above the amount of people that were members last year. I would emulate this success with the Think Tank.

Communication: With the External Events Officer role, I have to communicate to lots of people organising the talks. This would be useful with the organisational side of being secretary.

Experience in YSTT: I have been involved with the YSTT for well over a year. I went to many of the Socrates Cafés last year and have written for every issue of the Cortado this year. I have also tried to get a very impressive speaker for a joint talk between the Think Tank and York Politics Society.

Things I want to change

A weekly newsletter: This weekly newsletter would include all the things that is going across the society. It would be used to promote events and socials taking place, thus helping to increase the engagement. It will also include highlights from that week's Cortado and have updates from what is going on in the larger projects. This will mean that people are kept abreast of what is happening in parts of the society they are not involved in. This email will be sent to all members and there should be a box on the website where you can put down your email to get the newsletter.

Committee meetings to take place on zoom: Even when the restrictions end committee meetings should take place on zoom as this makes it easier for people to get involved in the society and how it is run. The link for the meeting will be put on the newsletter so that people can voice their opinions more easily.

Create incentives for being a member: A reason why membership is not as high as it could be is that there is no reward for being a member. You can take part in all of the activities that the society provides without being a member. This means that to drive membership, I will make some of the more popular events at the end of next term as members only. This means that people can still be involved in the society and not be a member, as many do at present but it will also create an incentive to be a member.