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# 2020/21 ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING

## **DRAFT** MINUTES

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FRIDAY 6th NOVEMBER 2020 on MICROSOFT TEAMS

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### 1. Welcome and Attendance

Chair of the meeting

- Students' Union President - Becky Thomson (BT)

Members

- 113 Canterbury Christ Church University students who are also Members of Christ Church Students' Union

Speakers

- President (Development) - Beth Elwood (BE)
- President (Sports & Engagement) - Maddy Young (MY)
- Emily Bagnall - Student (EB)
- Kieron Cadey - Student

In Attendance

- Chief Executive Officer - Ben MacPhee (BM)
- Head of Engagement - Kate Little (KL)
- Digital & Communications Manager - Adem Djemil (AD)
- Opportunities Manager - Adam Roche (AR)
- Advice & Projects Coordinator - Ellie Martin (EM)
- Medway Coordinator - Anna Mniszko (AM)
- Office Administration (Minuting) - Hadley Chick (HC)

The Chair opened the meeting and presented the speakers, presented general information, and explained the voting process for the online meeting.

### 2. Consideration of items for Any other Business

No items of Any Other Business were raised.

### 3. Minutes from last Annual Members' Meeting

The minutes of the previous Annual Members' Meeting were agreed as accurate and APPROVED. 26 voted approved, 4 voted against and 42 abstained.

### 4. The Union's 2019/20 Impact Report

BM presented Union's 2019/20 Impact Report, which was available on the website. There were no questions from Members.

## 5. Trustees Report and Financial Statements for 2019/20

BM presented the Trustees Annual Report and gave insight into the income and how it is processed and spent on members behalf, as well as the full Financial Statements, which could be found on the Union's website. It was confirmed that the majority of the Union's income comes from the University as we are not a commercial Union.

BM presented the finances, including an expansion of the section on income and expenditure from that of previous years. It was confirmed that all figures had been approved by Trustees and the University.

BM explained the £40,000 (estimate.) decrease in events was due to COVID-19 and the cancellation of such events as Sports Federation Awards.

Q: Regarding the Financial Statements, is there a missing sheet covering pages (8-11) and if so what was on them and why was it missing?

A: (BM) Possible issue with formatting as this is the full report. Will look into this with auditors to get a better explanation and if the charity status of the company is the reason a footnote will be provided in future reports to explain this.

Q: Regarding the expenditure displayed on page 28, advertising, sales and marketing 2019 = £31,737 this year = £61,075, why the increase?

A: (BM) Down to presentation or internal re-categorisation issue as the actions/activities of the Union were not different.

B: BT presented Union Affiliations:

- A. National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) £0 - This was voted upon and APPROVED. In Favour - 50, Against - 1, Abstained - 9
- B. British University and Colleges Sport (BUCS) £5,928- This was voted upon and APPROVED. In Favour - 48, Against - 7, Abstained - 5
- C. National Union of Students (NUS) £28,383 - This was voted upon and APPROVED. In Favour - 38, Against - 3, Abstained - 6

## 6. 2019/20 Leadership Team Updates and Questions

The Leadership Team presented achievements for the year so far and Members were invited to ask questions:

C. Sabb introductions from MY & BE, and an explanation as to the Sabbaticals joint manifesto and 'The Big Ten' was given and supported by BT:

1. Increase and diversify engagement in the Union;
2. Reduce the Black Attainment Gap;
3. Increase wellbeing support;
4. Enhance engagement with physical activity;
5. Champion widening participation in the University;

6. Broad academic opportunity;
7. Improve the experiences of students with dependents;
8. Improve the experience of postgraduate students;
9. Get the Students' Union back on campus; and
10. Increase and diversify the Union's revenue.

No questions were given regarding this from the floor.

Beth Elwood, President (Development)

- Met with every sports and society president 1-1;
- Held virtual committee training;
- COVID-safe Freshers' Week;
- Delivering wellbeing boxes to students in isolation in both Canterbury and Medway;
- Both USEC and Sport Exec committees have been appointed;
- Running the Medway Breakfast Club;
- Supported the More For Medway campaign;
- So far, 13 new societies this year (68 societies in total);
- The return of society takeover; and
- Ran a period awareness week.

Maddy Young, President (Sports & Engagement)

- Got clubs back to training while being COVID-safe and keeping to NGB regulations;
- Increased fitness with club sport members;
- Lobbied for Club Sport and had team memberships reduced for Semester 1;
- Attended as many club trainings as possible and where possible;
- Ran a mental health campaign;
- Supported the Movember campaign;
- Supported Period Awareness Week; and
- Ran a physical health campaign.

Q: Accessibility of online learning across the Uni?

A: (BT) We are pushing to ensure across the institution MS Teams is being used because it is more accessible and regarding ReCap and some lecturers not using Captions, there is a policy that has been curated for staff, students and associates to ensure consistency and accessibility things that are included are: cameras are to be on, every lecture must be recapped, and captions must be on.

Becky Thomson, Students' Union President

- Wellbeing Boxes;
- How the Union demonstrates value for money to ensure next year's grant is not cut;
- A CCSU App;
- The Lounge reopening for students, which this was initially uncertain financially; and
- Involved in many University discussions and decisions that affect students' experiences.

Q: Does the Graduate School use Collaborate?

A: (BT) The Graduate School will be included in the aforementioned policy going out and therefore will no longer use Collaborate, only MS Teams.

BE made the floor aware of upcoming campaigns and events from the SU.

## 7. Approval of the Updated Articles of Association

BM gave an explanation as to what the Articles of Association are, what an Ordinary Resolution is, and that the Union was asking members to approve the updated Articles of Association, and to do so this would require a vote of 67%+ positive vote. There were no questions from the floor.

This was voted upon and APPROVED. In Favour - 36, Against - 2, Abstained - 5

## 8. Student Motion - Palestine Solidarity

BT explained that the student motion regarding Palestine Solidarity will not be discussed during this meeting due to religious date conflicts (the meeting being held on the Jewish Sabbath) and this debate will take place during the next Union Council meeting to ensure inclusivity.

EB and KC explained their full submitted motion and understanding for it being moved.

Q: Why was this AMM held on a Sabbath?

A: (BT) The AMM needs to be held at a certain time and due to requirements needed be done before and after. That being said it is something that will be given more consideration in the future. (BM) The motion was submitted by the student after the AMM date was decided upon, and would usually be discussed at Union Council but due to this being the next open forum the students were given the opportunity to discuss during this AMM.

Q: Can any student go to Union Council meetings?

A: (BT) Yes, Union Council meetings are open to all members.

Q: Has this been shown to have any impact, has HP/G4S responded to the BDS?

A: (EB) G4S have pulled out some of their services from the Israeli prison systems in response to the BDS and HSBC have stopped providing funding. EB believes it is a proven tactic to get a response.

Q: Can any student vote at Union Council?

A: (BT) No, only elected Council members, but the Council is made up of elected students.

## 8. Any Other Business

There were no items for Any Other Business.

**The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting.**

Signed by TBC  
Position TBC  
Date TBC