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# 2022/23 ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING MINUTES

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15:30 ON WEDNESDAY 7 DECEMBER 2022 - AUGUSTINE HOUSE 3.31, CANTERBURY

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## 1 Welcome and attendance

Chair of the meeting

- Students' Union President - Dan Bichener (DB)

Members

- 44 Canterbury Christ Church University students, who are also Members of Christ Church Students' Union were present in the room, with additional students watching via a Facebook live stream.

Speakers

- President (Campaigns & Societies) - Frankie McGregor (FM)
- President (Engagement & Sport) - Max Elvin (ME)
- President (Community, Diversity & Inclusion) - Inés Abella Romero (IAR)

In Attendance

- CEO - Ben MacPhee (BM)
- Deputy CEO - Hannah Alcock (HA)
- Head of Business - Chi Lau (CL)
- Digital & Communications Manager - Adem Djemil (AD)
- Opportunities & Events Manager - Ryan Penny (RP)
- Advice & Representation Manager - Ellie Martin (EM)
- Student Voice Coordinator - Aliosha Seraphim (AS)
- Student Voice Coordinator - Holly Bringes (HB) - Minutes
- Advice Casework Coordinator - Bethany Chater (BC)
- Opportunities Coordinator (Sports Lead) - Alex Cotter (AC)
- Opportunities Coordinator (Societies Lead) - Jack Roberts (JR)
- Medway & Cost of Living Coordinator - Laura Trussell - In Medway (via livestream) (LT)
- Communications Student Staff - Yasar Ozbalci

The Chair opened the meeting and each speaker introduced themselves.

The Chair ran through the agenda, providing general information, and explained the voting process for the meeting with the help of mentimeter.

## 2 Consideration of items for Any Other Business

Nothing to be added.

## 3 [Minutes from the last Annual Members' Meeting](#) - 6th Dec 2021

The Minutes were agreed to be an accurate record of the meeting last year. 44 Students voted in total:

- In Favour - 74%
- Against - 2%
- Abstain - 23%

#### 4 The Union's 2021/22 Impact Report

DB presented the Union's 2021/22 Impact Report, which was available on the website, giving some highlights from last year's activities:

- Marched with Reclaim These Streets;
- Campaigned to bring sports and social facilities back to the NHR Campus;
- Sports and Society Awards held in person for the first time since 2019;
- Freshers' Fayre had a new venue;
- 1,000 trees were planted - one for every vote in the Leadership Elections;
- Contactless card readers to allow easier fundraising for student groups;
- Developed our partnership with The Hub at the Medway Campus;
- £1,500 raised during Puppy Days; and
- Improved content accessibility online.

#### 5 Trustees Report and Financial Statements 2020/21

##### A. Presentation of the Union's 2021/22 finances

BM: Introduction of utilisation and allocation of income

- Does not include finances for The Lounge, as this is run by the University.
- The surplus for the year was £393.
- Commercial income had grown, but still half pre-pandemic levels.

##### B. Approval of Union affiliations - EM

- A. National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) - £0
- B. Advice UK - £263
- C. British University and Colleges Sport (BUCS) - £6,561
- D. National Union of Students (NUS) - £17,778

EM: runs through affiliations and uses mentimeter to cast votes

- NCVO: For - 98%, Against - 2%, Abstain - 0%

BM: mentions results of affiliations, reminding that NUS cannot be changed due to referendum.

- BUCS: For - 77%, Against - 2%, Abstain - 20%
- NUS: For - 76%, Against - 14%, Abstain - 10%
- Advice UK: For - 100%, Against - 0, Abstain - 0

#### 6 2022/23 Leadership Team Updates and Questions

DB highlighted the Big Five for the Union, the biggest push is for the Cost of Living & Learning

Crisis. Current efforts from working with the university support group included:

- Lowering food costs on campus;
- Making graduation gowns cheaper;
- Removing library fines;
- Covering sports and society memberships;
- Providing free parking for Medway students; and
- Contacting Canterbury City Council about the £150 energy support grants for students, and talking to the three local MPs for campuses about the support for students overall.

Cafe 41 is now being used not just as a warm bank with free soup and hot drinks, but a chance to engage with students and receive feedback on what support they would like with the Crisis. The key responses have been support for international students, free and low cost food on campus as well as subsidies for travel to placements and heating facilities on campus.

FM success at Freshers' Fayre and week including committee training for USEC and having a Nighttime Safety Hub at the Fayre.

- Working on campaigns, including the "I Can" campaign that has worked to include all student groups and communities through a team up of societies and sports.

ME continuing on with the "I Can" campaign, all events held were free and included disability taster sessions to increase accessibility of sports. Another campaign that covers health and the Cost of Living & Learning Crisis, is "Healthy Eating" to support new and returning students on how to prepare nutritious and cost effective meals.

- Sports wise, also held committee training that covered wellbeing and operations.
- Fixtures have had a lot of success with some teams even progressing to BUCS Varsity Cup.
- Awards are being organised well in advance to previous years, and a venue change has even resulted in a drop in the cost of ticket prices by removing the cost of transport.

IAR continues to work on "Chooseday Chill" with Wellbeing every Tuesday in Augustine House as well as working with the Wellbeing Team to provide drop-ins on campus for advice and support.

- Campaigns currently working on; Sexual Health in response to World AIDS Day, Period Poverty, and EUR to increase education and awareness of pronoun use.
- Plans already being made for the LGBTQIA+ History month.
- Post Christmas plans include working on the Nighttime Safety Campaign.
- Continued focus on International Students.

DB/FM/BM make reference to further achievements made by the Students' Union through Union on Tour with the most course reps trained; better wayfinding around campus; and raising £2,562 for the British Heart Foundation as well as continuing to work towards support students with the Cost of Living & Learning Crisis.

Upcoming projects include "Good Neighbour" and improving the "Stressless Zone" in the library, with awards evenings fast approaching for sports and societies.

Ideas from campaigns to desired changes can all be sent to the Sabbs and uploaded to the Union Council Padlet to be discussed at their regular meetings. All projects and aims for the Students' Union can be found on our Trello board which details the Union's annual Success Plan with live updates of progress.

[Union Council Padlet](#)  
[CCSU Success Plan](#)

7 Any Other Business

BM notifies students of opportunities including the Leadership Elections that will take place next year, information will be circulated in the new year, and the 5 positions available with the Board of Trustees. Positions are live and rolling, all information can be found on the [CCSU website](#).

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

Approved by Zachary Woodward,  
Union Council Chair 2023/24 and Chair of the AMM  
6th December 2023