



the DURHAM UNION

MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE

Minutes – Wednesday 1st May 2019

Present: - **Dan Egglestone**, *President* (DE)
Freddie Hyde, *Secretary* (FH)
Ben Cooper, *Custodian* (BC)
Martha Muir, *Director of Debating* (MM)
Sarah Kuszynski, *Social Secretary* (SK)
Connor Forster, *Sponsorship Secretary* (CF)
Alastair Sledge, *President-Elect* (AS)

Apologies: - **Sarina Rivlin-Sanders**, *Treasurer* (SRS)

Meeting began in the Debating Chamber, Palace Green at 1:00 p.m.

DE in the chair, and FH minuting.

DE opened the meeting.

DE noted **SRS** has resigned the position of Treasurer.

DE updated the Standing Committee on events which took place over the Easter holidays, including sponsorship for the Andrew Roberts address and the cancellation of David Moyes. He regretted a significant number of dropouts for Friday night debates but was confident that the losses could be made up for. He hoped Steven Woolfe MEP would attend despite a lack of communication. **DE** admitted the risk of controversy surrounding Bill Etheridge but hoped the debate environment would allow any controversial points to be countered. He said he is contacting The Brexit Party for speakers at the forthcoming EU debate and Change UK. **DE** noted the number of people who expressed interest in attending the address by Bernard Hill and the positive results of publicising the event on Overheard at Durham. He noted the forthcoming events for Easter Term.

The Standing Committee discussed the Technologies Officer amendment which was drafted in the previous term. The amendment was accepted, and it was agreed that it would be put to the General Committee at the next meeting.

BC asked about the criteria in the amendment. **DE** assured the committee that it would be analysed.

In the absence of the Treasurer, **DE** assured the Standing Committee that Union Stash will be arriving soon.

FH informed the Standing Committee of the sponsorship arrangement he has negotiated with the Society for Army Historical Research; specifically, the SAHR will pay the Union Society £300 in return for their members being granted free access and publicity of the SAHR in advance. **DE** noted that the University History Society will be providing additional promotion.

AS talked about the pre-fresh campaign and the impact of GDPR. He hoped JCR Presidents can be contacted and other exams create some kind of forum to discuss the college operations review with the university and members of the DSU, open to both members and non-members. He hoped that in return, such an arrangement will provide the Union with access to college Facebook groups. **AS** regretted that the hardcopy freshers' brochures will likely no longer take place.

BC talked about dates for Union events. He said the International Affairs pub quiz will take place on 5th May in cooperation with Lawyers Without Borders. He also said a Karaoke night will take place after exams and the rota for door duty on 24 North Bailey Club is filling up nicely. **BC** said that if takings are noticeably low, the bar will likely be closed before exams.

MM said that the Durham Open is going well. She asked about elections taking place at the next meeting of the General Committee. **DE** replied that Treasurer, Director of Debating and Debates Training Secretary will likely be elected.

SK noted the upcoming Cherry Blossom social and asked **FH** to get Consultative Committee to promote it. She said it will be a cheaper social so money can be saved to be spent on the Ball and Garden Party. She said one hundred tickets for the Summer Ball will be sold at a price of £58 (including Klute vouchers) and three tickets at a price of £55 (without Klute vouchers). **DE** said he was fine with whichever band **SK** chose to hire.

CF said he will be sending the bulk of sponsorship emails out in the next month and a charity drive will take place after exams. **CF** said the Assistant Sponsorship Secretary will target local restaurants in Durham for the Sponsorship term card.

AS talked about his planned Michaelmas Term, which currently has 39 speakers confirmed with another 10 potentially. **AS** discussed his plans for the 'Union Live' scheme, which will entail buying a projector, speakers and a mixing desk so international conferences can take place in the chamber. In response to concerns about attendance, **AS** stressed this will only be for events which other people cannot attend. He said this will cost the Union approximately £800 and the kit could be used for 24 North Bailey Club.

BC and **SK** noted the benefits of such a scheme.

FH mentioned several IT problems. **DE** said he will contact Miss Rivlin Sanders.

The committee discussed dates for the upcoming General Committee meetings. It was agreed such meetings will take place on 8th May, 12th June and 19th June – before the Easter Ball. The photograph will be taken on 19th June.

DE closed the meeting.

Secretary: ***F. W. Hyde***

President: ***D. J. Egglestone***