



# *the* DURHAM UNION

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## MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE Minutes – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2018

*Present:* - **Chris Clarke**, *President* (CC)  
**Sarina Rivlin-Sanders**, *Treasurer* (SRS)  
**Jack Perry**, *Secretary* (JP)  
**Dan Egglestone**, *Custodian* (DE)  
**Sarah Kuszynski**, *Social Secretary* (SK)  
**Connor Forster**, *Sponsorship Secretary* (CF)  
**Rahul Prakash**, *President-Elect* (RP)

*Apologies:* - Martha Muir, *Director of Debating*

*Meeting began in the Debating Chamber, Palace Green at 1:45 p.m.*

*CC in the chair, and JP minuting.*

CC opened the meeting, reading a letter from St John's College about members of the Durham Union at 24s being disrespectful towards the residents of the College. He noted on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November there was an incident about not only loud noise but also inappropriate chanting.

CC outlined the issues with the letter, noting they are not DUS members but simply customers of 24s. He stated one would not blame St John's College if rugby lads caused problems in their bar. He noted he has viewed the CCTV footage and it looks like the individuals in question are not being excessively rowdy. He also noted he and DE were not spoken to and outlined policies they have implemented out of their own initiative.

DE noted both St John's and St Chad's Colleges want to take 24s off us and use it for their College.

CC noted the importance of a polite response and clarifying they are not necessarily members of the Union.

SRS suggested showing St John's College officials the CCTV footage.

CC and DE discussed how to work out who the culprits were.

CC noted upcoming events including the address from Maj Gen. Nanson which is open to members of various Armed Forces Societies.

RP noted Andrew Bowie can no longer speak in Friday's debate.

CC noted he will consider who to get as a replacement. He outlined the other speakers for the debate and noted he is pleased with having 3 MPs and a Parliamentary Candidate.

CC noted his President's Committee has been not doing much work apart from **SK** and Yasmin Rufo.

CC noted an address next week from Dame Athene Donald and the Second Chance Debate. He noted he hopes to get an MP or a Brexit panel for the following week.

CC noted the complaint from Sergei, mentioning the difficulties in understanding what he is trying to say. He stated he has organised a meeting with him. He noted the threat to take us to an Ombudsman which would have to be on the grounds of a drastic financial loss or illegal activity.

**SRS** noted the misunderstanding that the DUS Debating Page is for debating ideas when it is actually for organising debating.

CC outlined **MM**'s response to Sergei.

**DE** had nothing to report.

**RP** had nothing to report.

**CF** noted the Teach First event on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

CC provided the Teach First contact number.

**CF** outlined how he is keen to share the event on Facebook via General Committee.

**SK** noted preparations for the Christmas social, and the lack of a slow cooker for the mulled wine.

It was discussed as to how this might be acquired.

**SK** noted preparations for the Cathedral Dinner in **RP**'s term.

CC noted potentially exorbitant corkage prices.

**RP** asked how much it is to book the private Klute room.

**SK** stated she doesn't know but can find out.

**SRS** noted the Christmas bonuses for staff members which must be signed off by Standing.

The amounts for the bonuses were outlined as follows:

Sharon: £500

Sue: £300

Alison: £100

Donna: £100

CC suggested buying flowers for Sue.

**JP** noted warnings for Roshni Gulati and Cameron Amoils for dereliction of Consultative duties.

CC gave his permission to issue a final warning.

CC closed the meeting.

Secretary: **J. Perry**

President: **C. J. Clarke**