



# *the* DURHAM UNION

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## MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE Minutes – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2019

*Present:* - Mr Alastair Sledge, Esq., *President*  
Mr Freddie Hyde, Esq., *Secretary*  
Miss Helen Paton, *Treasurer*  
Mr Tristan Pahl, Esq., *Custodian*  
Miss Lucy Jackson, *Social Secretary*  
Miss Sarah Kuzsynski, *President-Elect*  
Miss Kristen Price, *Sponsorship Secretary*

*Apologies:* - Miss Rosie Vorri, *Director of Debating*

*Meeting began in the Debating Chamber, Palace Green at 1:55 p.m.*

*Mr. Sledge in the chair, and Mr. Hyde minuting.*

Mr Sledge explained the projector screen he ordered has been refunded through a shipping accident. He expressed displeasure that most speakers for the Facebook debate had dropped out and said he would improvise to find speakers. He hoped poor attendance on the Friday night debate might boost the Wikileaks event on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October.

Mr Sledge feared that David Moyes would drop out, though he hoped the Friday night debate on vaccinations would have a high turnout.

Miss Jackson informed the committee that 67 out of 90 Oktoberfest tickets had been sold, which amounted to a massive increase since ticket sales went online, though only 93 out of 220 Michaelmas Ball tickets had been sold, with 115 the break-even point. Miss Jackson was unsure why ticket sales were so low compared to previous years.

Mr Sledge thought it might be due to changes to JCR levies

Miss Jackson said the Union needed to come together and it is not acceptable when general committee members refuse to attend social events of this kind. She suggested the entertainment for the Michaelmas Ball be promoted online. She noted the high number of people comprising the general committee, very few of whom had purchased ball tickets. She suggested international students might be a good target market for the ball tickets.

The committee discussed posting images from previous balls online.

Miss Paton said the Second Chance debate would not be happening and regretted that not many tickets were sold for the Players event, though more than expected. She said she was finalising the Treasurer's Treats.

Mr Pahl talked about the vandalism in 24s which had occurred on Saturday, which he possessed CCTV images of.

Mr Sledge asked if they were presumably responsible for vandalism in the Botanic Gardens.

Mr Pahl was not sure, though he said investigations were under way and the vandalism was being painted over.

The committee discussed the likelihood of protests at the WikiLeaks event.

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting.

Secretary: ***F. Hyde, Esq***

President: ***A. Sledge, Esq.***