



the DURHAM UNION

MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE Minutes – Wednesday 16th 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 Rosie Vorri, *Director of Debating*
Mr Jack Perry, *Returning Officer*

Apologies: - Miss Kristen Price, *Sponsorship Secretary*

Meeting began in the Debating Chamber, Palace Green at 1:20 p.m.

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

The committee discussed whether there should be a DJ for the Michaelmas Ball, especially given Beamish Hall's offer of a free DJ if 200 tickets were sold. The committee discussed whether to hire a PA system instead.

Mr Sledge thanked Miss Price for negotiating a sponsorship deal with Slaughter and May.

Mr Hyde referred the committee to the report he would be presenting in the general committee meeting.

The problems caused by hosting the race and sport panel on Halloween was noted.

Mr Perry was invited to update the committee on matters relating to the Easter 2020 Presidential election. He noted the online system had been fixed and the potential problems of switching halfway through an election advertised as utilising paper ballots, or of keeping with paper ballots when an online system was available. Mr Perry proposed a compromise by which the election could be ruled out of order and nominations re-opened to allow for an election utilising online voting. He said he would inform the general committee of this development and answer any questions.

Miss Vorri asked whether it was possible to have paper ballots and online voting.

Mr Perry noted the difficulties of preventing people from voting twice. Mr Perry feared the elections would not be seen to be free and fair if paper ballots were implemented. He also noted the old system did not have the current freshers added.

Mr Hyde asked if the candidates Facebook pages would be deleted.

Mr Perry said this would be the case.

Miss Vorri asked about the Complaints Panel.

Mr Hyde assured the committee he would oversee the creation of a Google Form.

Miss Vorri noted the Durham IV was scheduled for the upcoming weekend. She implored the committee to search for places to crash.

Mr Pahl asked Miss Vorri to ensure that the Armistice Room was not in any way damaged.

Mr Pahl noted the issue with takings consistently differing from till reading in 24s. He wondered whether this was due to a problem with the till, though Mr Hyde and Miss Vorri opined it was more likely due to staff difficulties. Mr Pahl also assured the committee that Amstel would be installed very soon.

Miss Kuzsynski informed the committee of the work she had been doing in relation to the Alumni Weekend.

Miss Paton said the Union Society had made a loss of £3,000 during Easter Term and talked of her budget overview. She said the North Bailey donation had allowed the Union to make a profit of £6,000 for the year, which she intended would go to the reserves. She said the risk of the Union losing 24s to the University is currently high and that at least 900 life members would be required to counter this.

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

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

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