Societies Executive Committee Meeting 11 Minutes

8th Feb 2023

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Kelsey Murray - clerk

Justyna - chair

Emma - present

Shreya – present (late)

Jamie - present

Benn – present

Sheik - present

1. **Approve Minutes from Societies Exec 10**

* approved

1. **Matters Arising**

* Reminder of Arts & Culture vs General Pot funds
* KM – the amount we get in the general pot is not guaranteed every year so it needs to be fully spent or else funding will be reduced for next academic year
* JK– don’t need to change SUSO application
  + spoke to KM about them purchasing their sheet music from a previous grant application but they have retracted this – stick to the grant application
* Reminder of Socs exec interim position – EGM
  + Total is deadline for interim position at 12pm
  + 1 person has put themselves forward
  + JK – should we hold an online EGM to vote for them?
  + All approve
  + JK – 5pm after next socs exec meeting (22/02) – all agree
* Staff action – KM to email societies committee members about EGM date (make Native event)

SS joins the meeting

1. **Budget Update**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Arts and Culture** | **General Pot** |
| **Total Budget** | £15,000.00 | £40,000.00 |
| **Exec 1 Spend** | £375.00 | £315.00 |
| **Exec 2 Spend** | £801.91 | £1540.00 |
| **Exec 3 Spend** | £690.00 | £1540.00 |
| **Exec 4 Spend** | £3566.27 | £435.00 |
| **Exec 5 Spend** | £1178.39 | £350.00 |
| **Exec 6 Spend** | £346.00 | £1691.83 |
| **Exec 7 Spend** | £227.50 | £1094.70 |
| **Exec 8 Spend** | £731.00 | £3122.80 |
| **Exec 9 Spend** | £700 | £495 |
| **Exec 10 Spend** | £2,574.89 | £5,428.46 |
| **Enhancing Engagement comp** |  | £500 |
| **Reclaimed welcome grants** |  | + £1,333.15 |
| **Remaining Budget** | **£4,184.04** | **£24,820.36** |

1. **New Affiliation Requests**

* Low Rollers
* BR – rollerblading is not a BUCS sport
* KM has spoken to Ronan and doesn’t seem like a conflict with sport
* SM – likes the comparison to Strath Skate – model for the society
* All approve
* Strath Gigs Society
* JK – doesn’t look like a clash with bands, it’s not playing music but enjoying it and they have established this
* All like the free membership
* All approve
* StrathAfghan
* SM – believes there used to be an Afghan society
* KM - there was a ‘Afghan Society’ last active in early 2021
* ‘Free Mantu’ what is this? – free food
* All approve
* Dodgeball Society
* Staff action – amend the form to mention sports?
* KM has spoken to sports union and awaiting response from Abby and Leanne, conflict with BUCS and StrathActive sessions
* Deferred to next meeting

1. **Welcome Grants. Total: £45**

* Engineers with Beers

1. **Grant Requests. Total: £14,754.48**

* Calisthenics
* Grant Name: Equipment for Training Sessions
* Grant Number: 1224
* Request Amount: £368.80 (100%)
* Total amount: £368.80
* JK and BR – core equipment
* BR – likes that they have offered cost comparison
* BR - Asking for full funding
* SM – society has existed for a while, have the considered other sources of funding such as alumni fund, just to make it part funded?
* JK – however it is core equipment and it’s a good application
* SM – we have told other societies and encouraged part funded applications
* ER – could tell soc to look into part funding/alumni fund
* **All approve to fully fund from general pot**
* Travel Society
* Grant Name: Grant Application for WWII Tour on Berlin Trip
* Grant Number: 1226
* Request Amount: £153.90 (100%)
* Total Amount: £153.90
* KM – they aren’t asking for full funding of their trip, only full funding for tickets for one activity
* JK – sounds like they’ve listened to their advice
* SM – could come from Arts and Culture, cultural activity
* All agree it’s a good idea to come from Arts and Culture – good to see report of activity
* **All approve to fully fund from Arts and Culture**
* Travel Society
* Grant Name: Wristbands for traffic light social
* Grant Number: 1227
* Request Amount: £14.97 (100%)
* Total Amount: £14.97
* ER – something to consider - it’s for a social (re grant guidelines
* BR – it’s not directly funding the social however
* JC – they could do the social without it, with paint for example
* SM – is it related to travel?
* Others mention that it’s not directly funding the social, just an aspect
* JC – not a large amount
* **Approved to fully fund from general pot - 4 approve, SM abstain**
* Travel Society
* Grant Name: Inverness trip
* Grant Number 1232
* Request Amount: £1596 (100% - actually 53%)
* Total Amount: £2996
* SM – good that they’ve got people to partially contribute
* BR – they offer a wide variety of trips, different areas
* JK – picked one of the cheapest accommodations, and it’s a hostel
* SM – why did they not approach the Union for the coach
* KM – the Union hires cars and vans for societies but not coaches
* BR/SM – happy to give them the money
* SM – part funding from ticket sales which is great and we’ve funded lots of applications for less
* JC – participation fund – email them to look into it to allow more people to go
* BR – really like that travel society apply a lot but are conscious of what they apply for and how much for
* SM – half and half? Arts and culture and general pot
* **All approve to fully fund – half from arts and culture and half from general pot (£798 each)**
* StrathAIS
* Grant Name: Personal Protective Equipment Grant
* Grant Number: 1238
* Request Amount: £438.33 (100%)
* Total Amount: £438.33
* SM – core equipment, especially related to health and safety so clear case for being needed – however a lack of evidence that they have spoken to their department to reach out about this equipment if they could borrow/where to source
* SM – if it was me, I would reach out to my department as this is standard equipment they will likely have that they could borrow
* ER – they’ve mentioned that they are reaching out to MAE department and externals for sponsorships
* BR – we sell labcoats in Re-Store, is this a clash? We wouldn’t fund societies to bring in external food to union
* KM – re-store might be willing to do a bulk order for slightly less than individual price?
* JK – willing to give PPE equipment (and gloves) but not the lab coats due to this conflict
* StrathAIS could re-apply for the lab coats from the Union as it’s not for an event (repeat applications are not allowed if for the same thing)
* **All approve to partially fund from general pot - everything except from 10 lab coats = £298.43**

ER leaves the room.

* WILN
* Grant Name: #NominateHER Networking Coffee Morning and WILN+ Roller Banners
* Grant Number: 1235
* Request Amount: £632.48 (100%)
* Total Amount: £632.48
* BR – are they seeking full funding?
* JC – in the evidence, it shows they’re part funding the certificates
* BR – good they’re sourcing their pastries/coffees from the Union – cyclical
* Really good application – should publish it so all socs can see and help for future application – JK potentially at AGM?
* **All approve to fully fund from general pot**
* WILN
* Grant Name: #CelebrateHER Awards Ball
* Grant Number: 1237
* Request Amount: £1559 (67%)
* Total Amount: £2334
* BR - Good their hiring students for ceilidh band and likes that they’ve highlighted everything they’ve part funded
* JK – evidence of part funding
* SM – evidence of external sponsorship which is great, good to see
* SM – looking at the 5ft letters – they are actually reasonably priced, wouldn’t need to look at cost comparison – TedX are usually more expensive so aware this is good costing
* SM – good application, we can see what funding comes from where
* SM – should include ticket price in application
* **All approve to fully fund from general pot**

ER enters the room. SM leaves the room.

* Hot Air Balloons
* Grant Name: Hot Air Balloon Basket – Core Equipment
* Grant Number: 1233
* Request Amount: £10,000 (65%)
* Total Amount: £15430
* ER – we haven’t given any money to this specific project yet
* KM – if this gets approved, it’s contingent on the risk assessment and insurance etc being approved. If it doesn’t get approved, the money cannot be spent on this purpose and would go back into the pot.
* BR – lots of external funding from sponsors - £40k!
* JC – they offer 2 options, one is £8,000
* BR – the more expensive one is accessible with a door
* ER – would like to give them some money but not all – such a huge chunk of the budget
* JC – if we did give them the £10k, we would still have £14k left
* KM – unsure if it couldn’t be used, if it would be returned to the general pot before the last meeting
* There is a risk that 10k gets put away and it does not get used
* ER – the balloon has a big Strathclyde University logo but nothing about the Union who would potentially be part funding this
* JC – how long does a risk assessment take?
* KM – unsure – can make sure it gets done before the last meeting if they need to re-apply
* BR – even though it’s a large sum, it’s a great project – could last for a very long period of time – could be very cool in terms of what socs exec do and contribute to
* JC – this would also bring a lot more people into the society if they actually had a balloon
* Will this society be sustainable after their committee graduates?
* KM – where would they store this basket? No room in Societies cupboard
* BR - Working with lots of great people on this project
* BR – wants to fully fund – great project for the Union and the University
* ER – it’s a lot of money and we won’t be left with a lot for the next couple meetings – what about the other societies? Does the society reach a lot of students?
* JC – could we give them half? They can find the rest, looking at their sponsors
* BR – not a good idea to go for the cheaper option when that sacrifices accessibility
* JC – willing to allow them to re-apply with the same application for later
* ER – means that we’ll know later how much budget we have later
* All agree that the Strath Union logo needs to be on something (e.g. basket if not on the balloon)
* **All agree to part fund from general pot £7,500 – contingent on assessment from Union staff**

1. **Remaining Budget**

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| --- | --- | --- |
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| **Enhancing Engagement comp** |  | £500 |
| **Reclaimed welcome grants** |  | + £1,333.15 |
| **Exec 11 Spend** | £951.90 | £11,216.68 |
| **Remaining Budget** | **£3,232.14** | **£13,603.32** |

1. **AOB**

* JC – some societies can’t find the GM dates or the sign up on the trainings page
* Staff action – make AGM event and send it out
* ER – some societies are unsure what the comms mini badge is
* Staff action – be clearer what the comms mini badge is, change wording of criteria
* ER – language café would like their award of society of the year to be recognised on the website
* KM – they can add it on their page
* KM - Battle of the Societies
* Student Engagement and commercial staff teaming up to run trial event after the AGM in the Venue
* £10 entry per society for a pub quiz style event hosted by Justyna, winning team gets all entry fees into their savings account
* Trial run to see if the engagement from societies is there, providing another way of raising funds for your society and making the AGM more social and fun!
* JK – 4-5 after next meeting, before EGM – film tiktoks to promote Enhancing Engagement competition – calendar invite sent