Societies Executive Committee Meeting 14 Minutes

06/03/2024

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

**In attendance**: Jamie Campbell (JC), Cameron Pattinson (CP), Jo Fitzpatrick (JF), Shania Maritz (SM), Karen Low (KL) – remote,

**Chair:** Justyna Kardasz (JK)

**Clerk**: Alexandra Bodnar (AB)

**Apologies**: Olivia Page (OP)

1. **Approve Minutes from Societies Exec 13**

Change: Page 2 JK Acknowledges some societies… Giving more support to Widening Access Societies

**Vote: Minutes approved**

1. **Matters Arising**

* Charity Month entries

JK thanked everyone who took part and announces entries are now closed.

NOTE: Discuss before next meeting

Before STARs announce winners

JK proposes the extension of the next two meetings by one hour before to discuss this. Staff to change calendar to reflect this.

* Grant Guidelines
* Societies Policy

1. **Budget Update**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Arts and Culture** | **General Pot** |
| **Start of year** | £15,000 | £40,000 |
| **After Exec 1** | £14,410 | £38,785.26 |
| **After Exec 2** | £12,964.82 | £38,135.26 |
| **After Exec 3** | £10,324.82 | £36,328.79 |
| **After Exec 4** | £9780.77 | £35,233.79 |
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| **After Exec 6** | £6992.08 | £30,723.79 |
| **After Exec 7** | £4962.68 | £28,528.88 |
| **After Exec 8** | £4962.68 | £27,836.10 |
| **After Exec 9** | £4783.02 | £27,592.10 |
| **After Exec 10** | £4783.02 | £27,592.10 |
| **After Exec 11** | £4497.02 | £25,017.10 |
| **After Exec 12** | £4347.02 | £16,760.67 |
| **After Exec 13** | £3447.49 | £16,520.67 |

Exec agrees to subtract £500 for the Creative Hub from Arts & Culture. Staff to submit a formal grant request to have this on record.

1. **New Affiliation Requests**

* Saudi Students Society (missed previously) –

SM: Asks if it’s a re-affiliation or not. It’s not clear from their application

JK: Go back and ask if it’s a re-affiliation.

JC: Notices Treasurer and VP are the same person.

JK: Treasurer and VP can be same person, but it would appear as Treasurer on the website.

Feedback: Clarify if this is a re-affiliation or not.

1. **Welcome Grant Requests (£45) – For Information. Total: £45**

* Strathclyde Oxfam Society (£45)

**Approved**

1. **AGM Grant Requests (£25) – For Information. Total: £75**

* Walking Women Strath (£25)
* Electronic Music Society (£25)
* SUSO (£25)

**Approved**

1. **Active and Engaged Silver Grant (£15) – For Information. Total £15**

* Strath SEDS (£15)

**Approved**

1. **Grant Requests. Total:**

Modern Foreign Languages Social Network – Language Alumni Mixer (#1599)

* + Requested: £50 (100%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £50
  + Members: 297

JF: Evidence is not good. There is not enough information, including basics like where the event is taking place.

JC: Points out the event is tomorrow.

JF: Asks who is this benefiting. No information on how many Strathclyde students will benefit from this event and how, as we only fund activity for Strathclyde students.

This looks like a small amount for a reasonable activity so Socs Exec is willing to fund on this occasion provided the society addresses the feedback in future applications.

**APPROVED- FULLY FUNDED** Feedback: Approved on this occasion, but society should make use of the following feedback for future applications. Read grant guidelines, provide more information, say how many Strathclyde students are affected by this event, as the exec only pays for Strathclyde students. Mention how is this benefiting current students, say where your event is taking place. Give yourself enough time to apply in case of rejection, so you can re-apply. In the future you can contact your Socs Exec rep for help and guidance. If they are not available contact the socs team.

Economics Society - The Strath Amumili Economist Event (#1600)

* + Requested: £244.80 (100%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £244.80
  + Members: 129

JF: Retrospective. It happened yesterday.

Feedback: Retrospective, be aware of when meetings are happening, as your application has to be approved before your event takes place.

**NOT APPROVED**

SUMSA – Islamic Awareness Week – Calligraphy (#1601)

* + Requested: £120 (100%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £120
  + Members: 414

JC: Retrospective as well.

JF: More evidence on where the event is. Who comes to the event etc.

SM: People are not reading the guidelines before submitting their applications. Suggests making a post on Instagram for this.

**NOT APPROVED**

K-Pop Society – Spicy Noodle Challenge (#1610)

* + Requested: £81(100%)
  + Expected Income: £6
  + Total Budget: £81
  + Members: 34

**JC leaves the room**

CP: They didn’t list the prices.

JF: They did, but it’s not ideally placed. Plastic water bottles not sustainable, could use union fountains if the event is in the union.

JF: It doesn’t say where it is. They do have all info it’s just not ideally laid out.

CP: Evidence of the costs is the main thing, also the room where the event will be is missing.

JK: Suggests part funding everything apart from the water bottles.

JF: Points out not enough people are present to vote for this. Should wait for KL to join.

JK: If KL doesn’t show up, we can do it out-cycle for this event.

**KL joined meeting and JC left the room**

CP: We can part fund everything besides water.

**APPROVED – PART FUNDED** -everything besides water. Feedback: Clean up application next time. Contact your socs exec for help if you don’t know what to include. Confirm how much water costs and we will subtract that.

**JC returns to the room**

Fusion Radio – SRA Trip (#1613)

* + Requested: £600
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £0
  + Members: 44

JF: This is not filled out correctly.

JC: Points out a car is the most effective transport option for them

JF: Good comparison for all the different options.

JC: They are trying to lower the cost for members

JK: Notes this is a conference they are going to and they should separate the costs for accommodation, food and conference price.

JC: Points out everything is included in that ticket

SM: Can work out a way to subside the price.

JK: We could just fund the travel cost.

SM: Suggests funding two tickets and travel cost.

JF: Need confirmation on who is driving.

CP: It says they get entry to the awards. Accommodation could be separate since it’s £80 without accommodation.

Feedback: Only funding two tickets as this is in the policy. Appreciates listing out all travel types.

**APPROVED – PART FUNDING £400**

Cooking Society – Cooking Society Banner (#1615)

* + Requested: £42.33 (100%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £42.33
  + Members: 35

JF: Points out this is a welcome grant.

**APPROVED**

Women in Banking and Finance - WIL Empower conference at Leeds university (#1619)

* + Requested: £119 (100%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £119
  + Members: 67

JF: Notices everything has already been bought.

JK: It’s retrospective because it’s been bought already.

Feedback: We can’t reimburse you, read guidelines next time and reach out if you are unsure on how to make your application. Sign post to grant guidelines.

**NOT APPROVED**

SMTS - SMTS Presents: All Shook Up - Costumes, Props and Set (#1604)

* + Requested: £1208 (100%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £1208
  + Members: 103

CP: Expected Income is confusing.

JF: Do they want to wait until they have confirmation from sponsors as they can’t reapply for this again.

Feedback: We can’t fund this on the basis you said you’ll apply for more money depending on how much you are able to raise. Give them last socs exec date.

**NOT APPROVED**

SUHABS - Hot Air Balloon Burners Core Equipment: No Flame, No Flight. (#1623)

* + Requested: £7500 (46%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £16,425
  + Members: 4

JC: Spoke with committee. Society is aware they can’t get the full amount and are happy with any sum the socs exec can offer. They want to bring the balloon in Glasgow in order to increase memberships.

JF: We gave funding last year and the Strath Union logo was supposed to be on the ballon, which did not happen. Wonders if Strath Union giving funding influences Strath Inspire to give more funding, as this seems to be the case from their application.

SM: They have money from a sponsor and money in their savings, are they going to use all of this money? That is not a smart financial decision.

JK: Points out they need permission to fly the ballon in Glasgow.

JC: Says society confirmed they have permission, but this is not included in their application.

SM: Asks if they need the burners whether the balloon is in Glasgow or not?

JC: Confirms they need the burners even if the balloon is not in Glasgow.

JF: They have only 4 members, to what extent is this benefiting the members of the society. Points out socs exec is here to fund strath students, not to increase university reputation.

JC: Committee said is a long-term project and having the burners will increase their memberships.

JF: They were given a lot of money previously and the conditions were not met.

JK: Points out they got a cheaper basket than what they said in their application the last time.

JF: If we give money, they should spend it on what we gave them the money for. Where did the extra money go the last time?

JK: They haven’t raised memberships in the last 4 years this has been going on. They need a better marketing person. It sounds at the moment you are not willing to give any money to the socs.

CP: Application is fine, but marketing within the society is not good. The investment doesn’t seem to be worth it.

JK: How will this benefit current students? Will this project get to an ending where it benefits students or will it be the same 4 people in the society.

SM: We shouldn’t be giving money in the hopes that more students will be interested. It should benefit current members of the society.

Feedback: Permission to fly the balloon in Glasgow is not in the evidence. The Strath Union Logo should be on the balloon as promised. Need a better marketing strategy, and evidence on how current members will benefit from this. Get more people interested in the society and then re-apply.

**NOT APPROVED**

Ghanaian Students Association - 67th Independence Day Celebration (#1622)

* + Requested: £200 (72%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £279.76
  + Members: 2

SM: The Costco prices are not relevant, that is not how Costco works.

JK: Points out the event is in the union and they can’t bring their own food.

AB: We usually allow society to bring their own food if it’s a cultural event, with culture specific food.

JF: The ingredients are all raw, so they will cook their own food.

SM: They have taken on board on the advice JF gave

JF: Should include more information about the person who is travelling.

SM: Points is a 7 hour journey. Will this person stay overnight in Glasgow? Who is this speaker? These details are not in the application

JK: We need to know the speaker, and have the speaker approved, as there have been problems in the past with external speakers.

JC: Can’t fund the speaker.

Feedback: Everything except travel costs for speaker. For future application if external speakers are invited you should include who the speaker is. All evidence needs to be in £, travel costs are in $.

**APPROVED – PART-FUNDED £115.76**

**KL joined the meeting online.**

**JC leaves the room.**

**Going back to K-pop society application.**

Ukrainian Support Society – Arts and Culture Grant (#1618)

**Note: this will show as a draft due to GAS issue but has been submitted.**

* + Requested: £247 (100%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £247
  + Members: 56

JF: Would like more evidence about who the person holding the masterclass is

JC: Have they already paid the person? Can’t fund printed leaflets.

SM: Poor evidence.

CP: No comparative costs, they just say what they’ll get.

SM: When is the event?

JC: They do have time to re-apply, but they might not be able to purchase the kits.

JF: There are no comparisons, but they do have evidence on why they need these things.

JC: It could be better, but they did provide evidence.

SM: Not comfortable funding the money they’ll pay the person, and can’t fund printed leaflets

JK: They say they have external funding as well, but there is no evidence of this

**APPROVED: PART-FUNDED: £147 from General pot**

SUSO – Grant for SUSO Spring Concert (#1624)

* + Requested: £200 (30%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £678
  + Members: 101

KL: Confirms music societies usually hire people if they don’t have a person who plays a specific instrument.

SM: Looks retrospective, they gave us receipts not invoices.

KL: They had a winter concert so it’s probably just evidence to say roughly how much is going to be.

JC: Its part funded as well

JK: The whatsapp conversation is from November. Is this another example of how much they paid in the past?

SM: They should say when they are providing examples, as this can be considered retrospective otherwise.

KL: It will not be retrospective, from own experience. They only get paid after the event, so it’s hard to get invoices from them, so usually old receipts get used to provide evidence.

CP: They did say these are examples.

SM: That’s fine then. Happy to approve.

**APPROVED. FULLY FUNDED from A&C**

SUMSA - Ramadan Project 2024- UPDATED DOCUMENT ADDED

* + Requested: £6000 (40%)
  + Expected Income: £0
  + Total Budget: £15,000
  + Members: 414 – 200 actually

JK: This is re-application after comments made in last meeting.

JC: They met with OP for this application. The money will be added to the general pot so will not benefit just strath students.

JF: Negotiated on the phone. It would be good to include an email or some evidence.

JK: Attendees will show their strath app, so with this we can make sure the money goes to Strathclyde students.

SM: The only issue by showing their bank account is basically saying that they will give everything out from their bank account. They are basically relying on us to pay the £6000.

SM: Funding £6000 seems too much. Would be comfortable with £3500 max. There is nothing wrong with the application, but we don’t really have the funds to give the full £6000.

JF: Points that each application in isolation, not consider how much money we’ll have left after.

SM: They are giving out as much as they can from their savings.

JF: There is no reason why we couldn’t fund it.

**APPROVED – FULLY FUNDED from general pot**

1. AOCB

Coordinate with Erin for STAR awards.

SM and JC happy to collaborate to encourage people to sign up for socs exec and make a post two weeks before the AGM.

NOTE FOR ALISON: Arts and culture evidence for Creative Hub. If Rachel needs help with application socs team should help as this is beyond socs exec.

Glasgow City Council are changing parking regulations and it’s affecting SMTS.

**Meeting ends:** 16:01

**Budget Update:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
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| **After Exec 14** |  |  |

**Next meeting:** 20th of March, 1PM