**Societies Executive Committee Meeting 14 Minutes**

**12/03/25**

1. Welcome and Apologies

Present:

Jamie Campbell, VP Community (Chair) – JC

Rachael Baird – RB

Chep Jackson – CJ

Cameron Pattinson - CP

Jo Fitzpatrick – JF

Shania Maritz – SM

Olivia Page - OP

In attendance:

Ellie Gomersall, Activities Coordinator (Clerk) – EG

*JC welcomed members to the meeting. The minutes for Meeting 13 were approved. JC noted that the Societies AGM is taking place before the next meeting, and members can reach out to them if they wish to speak to them.*

1. Matters Arising:
* The Central Asian Society have resent their constitution with new aims. Name has changed from Central Asian Turk Society to Central Asian Society. (Attach with other constitutions)
* Peever Society would like to keep their name for now.

*Socs Exec had no issues with this.*

1. Budget Update: <https://www.strathunion.com/groups/societies-exec/>
* A&C officially empty
1. New Affiliation Requests
* Central Asian Society

*Approved.*

* Strath Beer Garden Project

*JC spoke to Exec, and the feeling was this should be an Action Group, or go through Parliament instead. SM also queried why this would be a society. JC said this shouldn’t be what a society is set up for, and perhaps the students were misinformed. CJ queried meaning of “student-run beer garden”. SM noted the risk that if the campaign is unsuccessful (or successful) then the society will no longer have a purpose. Not approved, but signposting to JC or other Union Staff to direct them to more appropriate ways of enacting this.*

1. Reaffiliations (for information)
* N/A
1. Welcome Grant Requests (£45) & AGM Grant Requests (£25) – For Information.
* Welcome Grants
	+ North African Society
	+ Indonesian Society
* AGM Grants
	+ HPFStrath – 580
	+ DMEM Society – 818
	+ Indonesian Society – 424
	+ StrathAIS – 936
	+ SUSO - 914
1. Grant Requests. Total:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **#** | **Society (Finance code)** | **Description** | **Fund** | **Amount (%)** | **Memberships** |
| 1864 | Strath Skateboarding - 511 | 2025 StrathSkate Barcelona Trip | Exec Grant | £4844.28 (100%) | 44 |

*CJ notes this is roughly half-funding per person, with the other cost coming from attendees. Multiple members noted there wasn’t evidence of cost comparison. CJ noted the extra cost of private rooms. OP noted it’s a lot of money for 11 people. JF noted this is slightly more than last year. SM noted £912 of the money is for a deposit which will be returned, but CJ notes this will be after the final Socs Exec meeting of the year, so the benefits won’t be reaped. CJ noted this activity isn’t core to their society activity. JF noted this is an annual event, so more should be done to fundraise to avoid overreliance on Socs Exec grants. SM asked if there could be other sponsorship opportunities for the society; JC noted they think the society gets sponsorship for free use of services. CJ asks why the society doesn’t charge more for membership. Is there alumni money? SM notes the largest cost is accommodation, and potentially more could be done to lower this cost.*

*Rejected, but encouraged to reapply with full information on the total cost of the trip. OP and SM note that last year’s application for this trip was of good quality with a helpful spreadsheet. JC asks to clarify if any funding is going to non-Strathclyde students.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1873 | SUSO - 914 | Grant for SUSO Spring Concert | Exec Grant | £400 (43%) | 117 |

*Members note that not everything is cost-compared – there isn’t evidence for the van or extra players. JF asks if there can be evidence of venue comparison, or other justification of venue use? It’s unclear if the extra players are included or not. What is miscellaneous expenses? JC asks can we see a breakdown of the gifts? JF asks if we have enough evidence where we’d be happy to fund part of this.*

*Rejected on basis of incomplete application – encouraged to reapply with evidence of van hire and extra players, ticket costs and expected attendance, venue choice (including cost comparison and/or justification) and explanation of not using further funds from their Savings.*

*RB was not in attendance from #1876 onwards.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1876 | StrathAIS – 936 | Personal Protective Equipment for Lab Work | Exec Grant | £282.60 (100%) | 198 |

*OP notes students in the courses are required to have PPE so would be expected to already have these. SM notes this is important for health and safety and is therefore sympathetic. CP asks what the consequences are if we don’t approve this? SM asks if each set of PPE will be able to be reused each year or if they’ll be given to each individual member. SM suggests they could sell the lab coats to each member.*

*Queried – need a better understanding of why this is a new request (essentially what is done now and how they’d like to do things if this is granted). Is there a reason for the number requested (i.e. do the sizes provided match the current membership or are they hypothetical?)?*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1878 | Postgrad Psychology - 981 | Arts & culture grant | A&C Grant | £25 (100%) | 27 |

*Rejected – retrospective events cannot be funded.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1879 | USM – 891 | USM AI team cones | Exec Grant | £400 (39%) | 398 |

*It is noted that SM is dating the requester of this grant.*

*SM asks if this will benefit the overall membership. CJ notes appreciation for a clear description of the cost of the cones. JF notes it’s well-explained, part-funded, and the lack of comparison is clearly explained.*

*Approved.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1880 | Calisthenics - 513 | Calisthenics Society Grant - Equipment and Subsidised Events | Exec Grant | £633.41 (100%) | 89 |

*CJ notes that they live with the President of this society but are comfortable they don’t have a conflict of interest.*

*OP asks if the different aspects of this application should be separate applications. JF would like more information about each of the events in order to fund. JF asks if they could fundraise to part-fund the equipment.*

*Part-fund £234.41 to fully fund the equipment only with suggestion to consider part-funding equipment costs in future – advised to reapply with separate applications for each event and with more solid confirmed details for each one.*

*RB reentered the meeting.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1865 | Shogi & Go – 499 | Core equipment | Exec Grant | £422 (100%) | 2 |

*Members note that they don’t currently have substantial membership – will the boards be fully utilised? JF notes it’s an investment and allows the society to grow their membership. Can they give justification for using Amazon over another supplier. CJ notes that although they have justified the cost comparison, it is a substantial cost difference. OP notes this is core equipment.*

*Approved.*

1. AOCB

*JC notes that members had requested an out-of-cycle meeting to discuss some concerns. This will be scheduled for Friday 21st March at 13:00 in the Board Room.*