Societies Executive Committee Meeting 4 Minutes

05/10/2022

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

In attendance:

Justyna Kardasz (JK)

Chris McMahon (CM) – Clerk

Kelsey Murray (KM) – observer

Sheik Malik (SM)

Benn Rapson (BR)

Emma Reavey (ER)

Haroon Tarar Muqadas (HM)

Shreya Sachdeva (SS)

Jamie Campbell (JC)

1. **Approve Minutes from Societies Exec 3 - Approved**
2. **Matters Arising**

Food for GM

* JK asks if the Socs Exec budget can be used to pay for the food at the GM (£50). Everyone is happy with this. **Approved**.

Widening Access Competition - £500 Alumni Fund

* SM explains the proposal to all members. £500 has been secured from the Alumni Fund. SM is asking the committee to match this funding for this new initiative. ER asks if there is potential for possible training for societies on widening access – to help them be successful. Societies that are successful will be transferred the money and they can use as they wish for their societies purpose. ER notes that this type of initiative can raise awareness of the benefits of widening access even if this project only occurs over a limited time period (e.g. Semester 1). JK asks about societies that are already classed as widening access, as they are already stretched thin and this may not be possible given their resources – meaning this opportunity could be limited, or even not possible, for some societies. SM argues that he wants this project to encourage students to be able to join and be welcome in any society. ER suggests the “widening access” name could be problematic – so a rebrand may help the project not clash with existing widening access societies and the extra resources they have. SM explains that the prizes will be in 3 categories (still to be agreed). Under the proposed timeline decisions on prizes would be made in December. [SM leaves for the remainder of the committee to discuss]. JK and BR think the timeline, as currently proposed, is too tight. ER suggests waiting until January as the application deadline. KM notes some of the concerns in the application that uses staff resources that may not be possible – so this will have to be agreed. KM also notes that it needs to be clear what the committee are asking for societies (this is where training may help). ER suggests the training could be delivered by the committee (but designed by the full team, and even staff). ER suggests the committee meet separately to discuss criteria and timeline. BR asks who the project belongs to (i.e. Socs Exec). JK thinks the project is still too vague, needs more structure. HM agrees with the points JK raised. Socs exec will discuss again.
	+ Vote on matching the Alumni Fund funding (£500): Deferred.
	+ Vote on ringfencing the money to match the Alumni Fund: **Approved**. (HM voted no)

**[Deferred to another meeting]** Discussion: Retrospective applications for grant funding. Some points from the last meeting below to consider:

* Should there be a small emergency fund? (i.e. £50)
* How many times could this be claimed per society?
* How do you define “emergency” vs deliberate over expenditure?
1. **Society Name Changes**
* “Whovians” wish to become the “Sci-Fi Society”
	+ Vote: **Approved unanimously**.
* “Strathclyde Virtual Business Networking Society” wish to become “Business Networking Society”
	+ Vote: **Approved unanimously**.
1. **Budget Update**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Arts and Culture** | **General Pot** |
| **Total Budget** | £15,000 | £40,000 |
| **Exec 1 Spend** | £375 | £315 |
| **Exec 2 Spend** | £801.91 | £1540 |
| **Exec 3 Spend** | £690 | £1540 |
| **Remaining Budget** | **£13,113.09** | **£36,605** |

1. **New Affiliation Requests**
* Sneaker Society

Vote: **Approved unanimously**.

* Creative Café

ER notes this is very similar to Arts and Crafts (existing society). The committee asks that the students use their university email on their applications so the students applying can be identified. ER and SM suggest Arts and Crafts are asked for their opinion. HM feels they are different from Arts and Crafts – but they should be asked to clarify what makes them different. **Action:** Staff will ask them to be clearer to outline what makes their society unique and discuss with Arts and Crafts.

Vote: **Not approved.**

* Prosthetics and Orthotics

Vote: **Approved unanimously.**

* The Strathclyde Marketing Society

Vote: **Approved unanimously.**

* Strathclyde Greens Society

HM asks if this groups is affiliated with the political party itself.

Vote: **Approved unanimously.**

* Criminal Justice and Penal Change (SCJPC)

Vote: **Approved unanimously.**

* Strathclyde History Society

JK notes that all course-based societies do not need to work directly with the department.

Vote: **Approved unanimously**.

1. **Welcome Grant Requests (£45) – For Information. Total: £360**
* 3D Printing Society
* Motor Racing Club (SUMRC)
* Nordic Society
* Pokémon Society
* Podcast Society
* Taylor Swift Society
* Esports Society
* Pakistan Society (SUPAKSOC)
1. **AGM Grant Request (£25). Total: £0**
* None.
1. **Grant Requests. Total: £4553.77**
* Jazz Orchestra - **£25.58** (100% of total of £25.58) (#1138)
	+ New Drum Head

The committee notes that societies should provide evidence of multiple options for purchase to show the option they are using is justified. SM suggests that they should come to JK to show this evidence before this is approved. **Action:** Email the society to ask them to get in touch with JK to evidence why they chose this option.

Vote: **Approved (conditionally) unanimously. (Arts and Culture)**

* Skateboarding - **£700** (98% of £712 total) (#1145)
	+ StrathSkate

ER asks how they chose the sizes of the items – need to consider this for the prizes. ER suggests that funding these items (clothes etc.) sets a tricky precedent. ER suggests they should ask for raffle prizes (etc.) from local businesses. HM agrees. JC notes other societies (e.g. sneaker society) may also try similar applications. BR and ER state that if the skateboards are for use as core equipment, then they would be happy to fund them. ER suggests they resubmit a core equipment grant request for the skateboards. The committee debated – considering procedure and the lack of information.

**Action**: Staff will feedback that they should resubmit a grant application for core equipment for the use of the club if they are interested, or to revise their request and make it clearer what exactly they are using the prizes for (and this may be part funded).

Vote: **Not approved.** (ER, JC and HM vote no. SM and BR vote yes)

* Modern Foreign Languages Social Network - **£40** (100% of £40 total) (#1146)
	+ Quiz Prizes

Vote: **Approved unanimously.**

* Strathclyde Jazz Orchestra - **£433** (100% of £433 total) (#1143)
	+ Brass Mutes (Trombone and Trumpet)

The committee note that there are a lot of applications for core equipment from the SUJO and other music societies. The committee advises they also try to look for other funding. **Action**: Remind society to provide evidence (comparison on cost) and that they can’t have all of their core equipment funded via socs exec grants. BR suggests part funding.

Vote: **Approved** (BR votes no). (Arts and Culture)

* Strathclyde Jazz Orchestra - **£212.50** (100% of £212.50 total) (#1141)
	+ Additional sheet music and printing

The committee are confused to exactly what they are funding.

**Action:** The committee ask for more information on the sheet music. Is it already purchased and what has been the extra cost? If you have already bought – the committee will not fund retrospectively. Needs more clarity.

Vote: **Not approved.**

* Podcast Society - **£153** (100% of £153 total) (#1151)
	+ Podcast Hosting Subscription

JC asks if they have any comparison to prices of other services.

Vote: A**pproved unanimously. (Arts and Culture).**

* Language Café - **£360** (100% of £360 total) (#1137)
	+ Language Café Tutoring Project (Updated)

The committee wants to make clear that although this is funded this semester, there is no guarantee this is funded next semester or next year.

Vote: A**pproved unanimously. (Arts and Culture).**

* Concert Band - **£2594.69** (84% of 3094.69 total) (#1153)
	+ Band Camp

Vote: **Approved unanimously (Arts and Culture)**

* Hot Air Balloons - **£35** (100% of £35 total) (#1154)
	+ Membership Renewal

Vote: **Approved unanimously.**

1. **AOB**

None.

**Updated Finances:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
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| **Exec 2 Spend** | £801.91 | £1540 |
| **Exec 3 Spend** | £690 | £1540 |
| **Exec 4 Spend** | £3566.27 | £435 |
| **Remaining Budget** | **£9,566.82** | **£36,170** |