**Societies Executive Committee Meeting 5 Minutes**

**23/10/24**

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies – Cameron Pattinson

Present:

* Jamie Campbell – VP community (Chair)
* Jo Fitzpatrick
* Chep Jackson
* Ollie Page
* Shania Maritz
* Sarah Holmes – Activities Coordinator (Clerk)
* Rachael Baird joined later at 14:37

Amendments for minutes from Socs Exec 4

* Request for clarity to add note at top of minutes – items in red were added after the meeting after discussions/amendments
* Comment about the grant applications: Denials after telegraph and concert band should be highlighted red rather than font colour red to avoid confusion with additions/changes to minutes
* After telegraph – change ‘JF’ to ‘JF and RB to contact society’
* Otherwise, happy with minutes
1. Matters Arising
* Social media content
* Open to group to run rather than just OP
* Content: ‘Meet the Socs Exec’ to go ahead, members to create their own profile for this
* Post GM dates on Socs exec Instagram as well
* Confirmed that the room was Mandela for all further GMs
* Videos of FAQs, e.g. grant requests, balls
* SH pointed to information/resources on website for these FAQs
* SM suggested creating/utilising examples of good/bad grant requests and a video of a mock discussion of how Socs exec handle these, e.g. part funding, rejections, acceptations.
* Kilimanjaro Team
* JC caught team up on meeting with the group who had planned on submitting their request before socs exec and explained that they couldn’t find the date on the website, weren’t familiar with the process. JC asked socs exec whether or not they’d consider affiliating them today
* SM asked about insurance and whether or not that falls under their fundraising. JC agreed to bring this up to the society if they were to be affiliated.
* Agreed to approve their affiliation
1. Budget Update: <https://www.strathunion.com/groups/societies-exec/>
	* £33,571
	* General spent £599.91
	* Arts and culture spent £533
	* Remaining in Arts and Culture: £11,595
2. New Affiliation Requests
* The PGR Podcast
	+ JC explained podcast society has not reaffiliated
	+ SM asked if it covered all postgraduate research or just engineering
	+ CJ queried whether or not copyright could be an issue, what license would it be covered under. OP suggested that as long as they referenced correctly that could be ok.
	+ JC asked whether or not they should just be a podcast society. Consensus was if there was another podcast society, this is different enough to stand on its own legs as a society.
	+ Approved – with comment from CJ about being cautious surrounding copyright legalities
* SCOPE: Strathclyde Community for Optics, Physics and Engineering
* Their constitution does not align with the union, e.g. committees lasting 2 years without re-election
* Society must agree to follow policy to be affiliated. It is not clear that they are affiliating with Strath Union
* Society should fill in the Society Constitution to be re-affiliation
* Not Approved – can reapply with a constitution that aligns with strath union, suggest meeting with JF and SM to cover course and community
* Graduate Apprentice Society Strathclyde – GASS
	+ JF commented that their handover/reflection was 2026 in their constitution – this has to be every year so should be amended to 2025 to reflect this
	+ Could be more explicit on focussing on Strathclyde apprentices, should make this more clear in the constitution, no mention of “Strathclyde students”
	+ Query - With conditions of meeting these comments, will approve with updated aims out of cycle through teams
* AgriCu
	+ Aims need to be fleshed out more
	+ CJ questioned whether they wanted to be an action group or society – thinks they should be an activism society
	+ Not approved – Suggest a meeting with CJ to improve their constitution before reapplying
* Strathclyde Spirituality through Flexibly and Mobility
	+ Not fully understanding difference between this and yoga/calisthenics. Yoga have not been reaffiliated.
	+ Have they spoken to yoga or calisthenics? If Yoga reaffiliate, they can discuss further
	+ Approve
1. Reaffiliations (for information)
* Strathclyde Pakistani Society (SPS)
* Pokemon Society
* Andersonian Chemical Society
* Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers
* Indonesian Society
1. Welcome Grant Requests (£45) – For Information. Total: £315
* Strathclyde Pakistani Society
* ReAct Theatre Group
* StrathSpeakers
* Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Society
* Future Teachers Society
* SEDS
1. AGM Grant Requests (£25) – For Information. Total: £0.
2. Grant Requests. Total: £3538.11

**Chinese Students & Scholars Association – Halloween Special Escape Room #1796**

* Amount: £300 (71% of £423.64 total)
* 40 Memberships.
	+ Query – where is the items they bought last year, could they have reused them for this similar event?
	+ Income involves ticket sales- - are they still going to have enough income to cover costs?
	+ Willl the items arrive in time for their event? (express shipping is 4-8 days) Would not be a good use of money if items wouldn’t arrive on time. And considering they need to wait for the money to come through before purchasing, this would extend the length of time before items arrived.
	+ Looks like there could be a lot of plastic waste.
	+ Is this the best way to purchase items like these - could they avoid the shipping?
	+ Have they already bought the items?
	+ Where are they planning on storing it – socs cupboard?
	+ Not approved – with feedback that they did not apply far enough in advance, inefficient use of money/environment, storage situation

**Malaysian Society – Halloween Party #1795**

* Amount: £60 (100% of £60 total)
* 72 Memberships.
	+ CJ noted that they rounded up by nearly a tenner
	+ Queried whether or not they wanted £60 or £40 because of comments
	+ Believe they are actually looking for £40
	+ Sustainability – could they use paper rather than plastic
	+ Agree to fund £40 with feedback of don’t round up, look for paper alternatives to decorations, risk assessment for fruit knife use

**Concert Band – Band Camp 2024 #1782**

* Amount: £2700 (90% of £3024.93 total)
* 119 Memberships.
	+ JF Good that its part-funded, SM suggests it could be more part-funded, how much in their savings
	+ CJ Budget is a little off perhaps not accurate
	+ Could be more clear on how much extra they’re going to have to cover
	+ Agree to Fund £2700 from Arts & Culture – with comments from CJ would like to see estimates of what they’ve not included aka what is coming from their savings

**Travel Society – Prague Tip #1792**

* Amount: £314.31 (50% of £628.62 total)
* 187 Memberships.
	+ JF noted that there was no info on travel method, where they’re staying, how many members, just the activities they are participating in. JC noted this is how they have filled them out in the past that were approved. SM suggesting they should include this information in future applications.
	+ JC found on social media, members are paying £70 – this excludes flights.
	+ Agree to fund £314.31 - on condition of meeting with CP (provisional of JC asking them)
	+ Socs exec wanted to add “Have fun in Prague”

**The GIST – Print of Magazine Issue 17 #1784**

* Amount: £163.80 (100% of £163.80)
* 14 Memberships.
	+ CJ asked why have they chosen to sell for a £1 rather than cost price, SM pointed out their motive for accessibility
	+ JF- Don’t know what other institutions are contributing financially, based on the SRC logo being present, also would be good to see some price comparisons for printing
	+ Deny – strongly urge them to reapply with info of other financial contributors and price comparisons of print options

**Cafe Hopping Society #1767 (had to query on GAS waiting on reply)**

* Amount: £17.50 (400% of £70)
* 94 Memberships
	+ Didn’t respond after query
	+ Issue with net budget and requested full grant amount – have these gotten mixed around, are they asking for £70 or £17.50?
	+ SM Lacks comparative evidence – brought back to example where they compared aldi, lidl, Morrisons etc, however items are from different websites so suggests that they performed some price comparison. Could have included the statement that they have “picked the cheapest options available”
	+ Agree to fund £17.50 – with note of include comparative evidence of looking for cheapest options next time
1. AOCB
* JF brought up discord situation. Does the union encourage the use of discord, if so should the union be putting out guidelines on how to keep people safe based on incidents. Code of conduct, safe, friendly, accessible. JC suggests only solutions are to ban the use of discord for societies or create guidance. SM promoted that it works really well for some societies, so guidance is a good way to go, however should also be considered on a case-by-case basis.
	+ With reminder that the servers are affiliated with a society so there is an expectation of behaviour. Should it be the responsibility of the committee to police this
	+ JF suggested including this in their work on society guidance as disabled rep. CJ happy to work with them.
* OP brought up Urn bookings – what to do with urns if booking finishes after 8pm (SH to follow up on this)
* JC brought up BDS working group – looking at societies use of amazon and looking at ways of encouraging other suppliers in their grant funding. JC going to be working on this and asked for feedback and for socs exec to start working on this and thinking through ideas.