

# Union Council Minutes

## Meeting Information

Date:	Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
Time:	14:00 – 16:00
Location:	Hybrid; MS Teams & SU 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor Activities Hall – <a href="#">Recording</a>

## Attendance Registry

Role	Present/Apologies/ Absent	Name
<b>Executive Team</b>		
SU Chairperson	Present	Michael Pritchard
SU President	Present	Atul Rana
Vice-President Education	Present	Kwan Yuet Adora Wong
Vice-President Student Activities	Apologies	Aroubah Mazhar
Vice-President Welfare	Absent	Sana Azhar
Raise and Give Officer	Present	Anastasia Manousaridou
Women's Officer	Absent	Chidera Ferguson-Ukanacho
International Students' Officer	Present	Harsh Bahubali Jain
Disabled Students' Officer	Present	Patrick Crosby (Interim)
Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic Officer	Present (online)	Annmary Kalambattukudy Baby
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer + Officer	Apologies	Kirsty Allan (Interim)
Postgraduate Officer	-	<i>Vacant</i>
Mature Students' Officer	-	<i>Vacant</i>
Commuter Students' Officer	-	<i>Vacant</i>
Sustainability Officer	-	<i>Vacant</i>
<b>Student Activities Executive Team</b>		
Chairperson	Present (online)	Annas Mazhar
Events & Fundraising	Absent	Shamia Khalis
Media & Design	Present	Baldeep Singh
Welfare & Development	Absent	Siobhan Driscoll

Society Representative (Faith & Culture)	Absent	Brendon Yeong
Society Representative (Academic)	Absent	Hind Al Husaini
Society Representative (General Interest)	Present	Jemima Snell
Club Representative	Present	Anastasia Manousaridou
Club Representative	Apologies	Emilia Dyer

## Minutes

Agenda Item	Description	Minutes
1.	Welcome	<p>Chair (MP) welcomed students to Council and explained what council is and how it works within the Students' Union.</p> <p>Chair (MP) highlighted that for accessibility reasons voting will take place online, during the following week.</p>
2.	Approval of any appointments delegated to Union Council	
2.1	Approval of newly appointed trustee <a href="#">2.1 – UC2022.10</a>	<p>The President (AR) verbally explained why this individual has been chosen to become an Aston Students' Union Trustee.</p> <p>No questions came up during the meeting.</p> <p>Online voting approved the newly appointed Trustee with</p> <p>52 votes For 1 vote Against 8 Abstentions</p>
3.	Apologies for Absence	Above in Attendance Registry
4.	Previous Minutes	
4.1.	Approval of Minutes from previous meeting <a href="#">4 – UC2022.10</a>	<p>Online voting approved the Minutes from previous meetings with</p> <p>54 votes For 1 vote Against 3 Abstentions</p>
5.	Matters Arising from previous meeting	
5.1	Motions for Renewal, in accordance with New Bye Laws.	<p>Chair (MP) explained that in accordance with the New Bye Laws, motions will have to be renewed at least every 12 months.</p> <p>No questions or queries were raised during the meetings.</p>



<a href="#">5.1.1</a> – <a href="#">UC2022.10</a>	Decolonising the curriculum to be in line with the SU's core values.	Online voting approved renewal with 52 votes For 3 votes Against 4 Abstentions
<a href="#">5.1.2</a> – <a href="#">UC2022.10</a>	Non-Compliance with Prevent Duty 'Students not Suspects'.	Online voting approved renewal with 48 votes For 3 votes Against 5 Abstentions
<a href="#">5.1.3</a> – <a href="#">UC2022.10</a>	No to Sexual Harassment.	Online voting approved renewal with 56 votes For 2 votes Against 2 Abstentions
<a href="#">5.1.4</a> – <a href="#">UC2022.10</a>	The Student Union policy on freebies and giveaways.	Online voting approved renewal with 55 votes For 3 votes Against 2 Abstentions
<a href="#">5.1.5</a> – <a href="#">UC2022.10</a>	UN Sustainability goals and Aston University.	Online voting approved renewal with 54 votes For 2 votes Against 3 Abstentions
<a href="#">5.1.6</a> – <a href="#">UC2022.10</a>	In Solidarity with Disabled Student at Aston.	Online voting approved renewal with 58 votes For 1 vote Against 2 Abstentions
<b>6.</b>	<b>Executive Committee Plan</b>	Chair (MP) explained what the Executive Committee Plan is, it's purpose and importance.
6.1.	Approval of Executive Committee Plan for 2022/23 <a href="#">6.1 – UC2022.10</a>	No questions or queries were raised during the meetings. Online voting approved the Executive Committee Plan with 56 votes For 1 vote Against 2 Abstentions
<b>7.</b>	<b>Reports from other bodies</b>	
7.1.	Report from Trustee Board <a href="#">7.1 – UC2022.10</a>	The President (AR) gave a verbal update on recruitment at the Students' Union; and highlighted the important of transparency between the SU and the student body.

		One student asked for a clarification around the Student Engagement Coordinator (International) – this was answered by the President (AR)
8.	Motions for debate from Executive Committee	<i>No Motions Submitted</i>
9.	Motions for debate from other Student Members	
9.1.	Healthcare Provision at Aston University <a href="#">9.1-UC2022.10</a>	<p>Motion was verbally present by Tejaswini Madne. Tejaswini explained the perceived need of medical help for students, with special emphasis on international students and sports teams members.</p> <p>The Chair (MP) opened the floor for an against argument – there was no against argument. The Chair (MP) opened the floor for questions:</p> <p>One student noted that the NHS Website has a '<a href="#">Find a GP</a>' function, that can help students find the closest GP to their Residence.</p> <p>Tejaswini clarified that the difficulty for International Students is not registration, but how long it takes GP Practices to process registrations, which consequently delays access to healthcare services.</p> <p>The Disabled Students' Officer (PC) suggested that Sports Aston Produce a report of healthcare processes they have in place.</p> <p>An online attendee raised the importance of Walk In Centre – <a href="#">Find a Walk-in Centre</a>.</p> <p>The President (AR) assured students that the possibility of a GP Surgery on Campus was being discussed with the Vice-Chancellor and explained that a lot of what was being discussed was an NHS Issue, not an Aston University Issue. The International Students' Officer (HJ) emphasized what had been said by the President.</p> <p>The Vice President Education (KW) explained that all people employed by Sports Aston should be First Aid Trained.</p> <p>The President (AR) reminded students of their previous point.</p>

		<p>An online attendee raised the possibility of using supervised physiotherapy students to help students with injuries.</p> <p>The Student Activities and Voice Manager (NA), explained that UCB has an accessible priced <a href="#">Sports Therapy Clinic</a> open to all Birmingham based students – this is not the answer to the issue being discussed, however it might help students until a solution is brought about.</p> <p><i>No Motion changes were received before voting window opened.</i></p> <p>Motion was approved with 64 votes For 2 votes Against 0 Abstentions</p>
10.	Guest Speakers not related to the motions debate	<i>No Guest Speakers</i>
11.	Other Business Approved by the Chair	<i>No Other Business Submitted</i>
12.	Business that has arisen since the 7-day deadline for items and deemed to be an emergency by the Chair	
12.1.	Submitted by Annas Mazhar: Accessibility of Lounge Furniture	<p>AM explained that the recently purchased furniture for the Lounge in the SU Building was not accessible for wheelchair users.</p> <p>The Disabled Students' Officer (PC) informed students that they had secured an accessibility audit of the whole Campus, this includes University building, including the Library and Main Building, and the SU building. The accessibility report is expected to be finished by the end of Term 1</p>

## Decisions and Actions

Item	Decision/Action	Lead	Due Date	Status
1.	Update on Motion 9.1 – UC.2020.10	SU Chairperson (MP)	1 <sup>st</sup> December 2022	
1.1.				
2.				



2.1.