

December 2019 Trustee Board Summary.

The second board meeting of the year took place on 13th December. **Apologies** were received from John and the board also welcomed a new Trustee; Katy Baker.

The main item on the agenda was to agree the **Audited Accounts from 2018-2019**. Helen Drew from Crowe Auditors presented the accounts with the great news of a small profit (£40,000) for the year and a **clean audit**. The board agreed that once the two minor outstanding items were resolved (fixed asset register and a copy of the lease agreement were required), the report would be agreed and signed off by the Chair of the Board. The CEO is to set a date for the **AGM** in the New Year.

The **management accounts** for the year to date were considered. The University have since agreed to fund the electricity use in the building, which is good news and it was recognised that spending was managed well. However the commercial areas were suffering as students are not spending money as expected in the new building. They are using the space, but not spending in the space. The SU has various plans to change this over the coming weeks and will keep the board updated.

The **first quarter KPIs** were presented with emphasis placed on the great number of students who had self-selected to become a student representative. The Student Officers presented their priorities for the year and their progress to date.

The **Governance** of the Board will be changing soon with Sandra and John leaving the board and with Katy starting (her appointment needs agreeing by Union Council in January). The board also emphasised the needs for the new University –appointed trustees to be agreed soon.

When considering **Health and Safety** the board have requested the lone-working policy be revisited now the new building is being used by students outside of standard office hours. Also noted was the retirement of the Aston Brook Green Manager after 39 years and how the SU intends to take part in the NUS staff engagement survey in 2020

The board also **agreed**, that on a case by case basis the SU should fund work mobile phones, too many officers and some staff are unable to 'switch off' from work, particularly with the use of WhatsApp groups that involve student volunteers.

The Chair of the board gave an overview of the **recent strike action** and its impact on Aston Students.

Within the **AOB** section the idea of Sky Sport's in the bar was discussed and will be added to the plans for the coming year, although the cost can be very high. The CEO's objectives were considered and agreed for the year.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 13th 2019, with a meal with a meal with the VC planned for afterwards

END.