



Minutes of the Open Meeting Monday 8th May 2006

1. Welcome and introduction

James Campbell (CUSU LBGT Chair) introduced the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2. Apologies from the Exec

Colin Ferguson, Ingrid Nelson, Kaur Adamson

3. Corrections to the minutes of the last open meeting

None

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

None

5. Next CUSU LBGT Open Meeting

The next Open Meeting will be planned for the end of term after exams are over, venue TBA.

6. Announcements by the Executive

Luke – [No definition] has gone to the printers and will be distributed at the end of the week.

7. Questions to the Executive

Alex Leonhardt, Queens College (Rep)

Flyers advertising precious@Club22 are tasteless and not representative; does the Exec condone the use of these flyers in colleges?

- Jordan (President) – The leaflets are not designed by the Exec, they are professionally designed and we have no input. If people do not want to give out the leaflets on principal then if they make a member of the Exec aware of this then somebody else will distribute the leaflets.
- Olly Glover, Fitzwilliam College commented that the leaflets may be designed to appeal to the type of person who goes to clubs like Club 22. He suggested that Dan and Helene of Precious could be contacted by email or in person to make them aware of peoples' feelings on the issue.
- James and Noel (Ents Officers) will be meeting with Dan and Helene in the near future and volunteered to bring the matter up with them at the meeting.

Ben Buxton, Selwyn College (Rep)

Many colleges are introducing measures to prevent flyering and pigeon-holing, is there another method that could be used to advertise events, such as posters in college?

- Jordan (President) – Listings and Announce email lists are used to publicise events (people can sign up to these on the website). The best way forward would be to contact either the Ents Officers or Precious and request the use of posters in colleges instead of flyers (this would also be more economical).

8. Objections to the order of Agenda Items

None

9. Ordinary motions

9a. Subsidiary Committees (Proposed by Jordan Holland, President)

There are several sub-committees that have not stood for a number of years and when they have were often unconstitutional. The aim of the amendment is to empower the exec to form these committees as and when needed as often they are needed at short notice and there is not time always time to gain ratification from an open meeting. (A full copy of this amendment is available, email chair@cusu-lbgt.com).

Josh Robinson (Grad Rep)

Why can the President & Chair form a sub-committee without getting prior permission from the rest of the executive?

- Jordan accepted an amendment on this point, the insert into section F of the constitution should now read:

“In addition to the Executive Committee the President and Chair of the campaign in agreement with the executive members may form subsidiary committees as and when they are deemed appropriate.”

For the motion – 16

Against the motion – 0

Abstentions – 0

The motion was passed.

9b. Executive Accountability (Proposed by Jordan Holland, President)

There have been problems in the past with exec members not attending meetings and/or not doing their job. At present, it can take a whole term or more to pass a vote of no-confidence on these exec members, in which time their jobs are either neglected or must be covered by other exec members on top of their own work. This amendment is to make it easier to forcibly vacate an exec position if the exec member is not fulfilling their role, or if they miss 3 meetings without sending apologies – this then allows the position to be filled by a new exec member. (A full copy of this amendment is available, email chair@cusu-lbgt.com).

Josh Robinson (Grad Rep)

Please could apologies and the time scale of these 3 missed meetings be clarified?

- Jordan (President) – Apologies constitute any method of communication (email, phone, text) making it known that the exec member cannot attend the meeting, even very short notice will be accepted. The 3 meetings are over the whole year of the exec position and do not have to be consecutive.

Luke Andrews ([No definition] Editor)

Would the missing of 3 meetings bring an immediate vote of no confidence?

- Jordan (President) – No, first the position would become vacant (so that a replacement could be found) and then the vote of no confidence could be passed by one open meeting and the next meeting of the exec.

Alistair Fair, Pembroke College

Alistair filled the position responsible for apologies with the last exec. He commented that apologies should be at the discretion of the Chair and that if a member was in danger of ousting themselves the Chair should, if appropriate, remind them of the fact.

Ben Buxton, Selwyn College (Rep)

Exec members make up most of the attendance at open meetings. If the exec wanted to oust one of their members, then they could easily do this due to their dominance of the open meetings.

- Jordan (President) – Open Meetings are only poorly attended when there is minimal or uninteresting matters to discuss. A vote of no-confidence would bring in more interested parties so the exec would not make up the majority.

For the motion – 16

Against the motion – 0

Abstentions – 4

The motion was passed.

10. Emergency motions

None

11. AOB

11a. NUS LGBT Conference 2006

James Campbell announced that 2 places (1 open, 1 women's) for the NUS Conference will be elected by the lists. The information will go out on Announce requesting statements from people who would like to go and then these will be sent out collectively; people can then vote for the people they would like to represent them. James stated that the other 2 places would be allocated by the exec so that comprehensive feedback could be obtained from these individuals in the absence of an observer.

Next Open Meeting: TBA at the start of Easter Term