

1. Confirmation of Attendees

Trustees:

Ben France	President
Jack Appleby	Vice President Warrington
Sophie Bell	Vice President Education
Jack McGovern	Vice President Activities
Rob Winkler	External Trustee
Claire Marsland	External Trustee
Alec Spencer	External Trustee

Students:

Sophie Billingham	Ben Richardson	Jack Phillips	Gabbi Cuffin
Hiran Maher	Daniel Mitchell	Isobel Kidd	Gemma Smith
Rowena Young	Jennifer Twist	Zoe MacPherson	Olivia Williamson
Matthew Taylor	Jack Rankin	Megan Hare	William Houston
Calum Gilbert	Riley Moeller	Matt Daley	Chloe Tonge
Daniel Forrester	Steve Newman	Rebecca Jack	Lewis Jones
Joshua Powell	Emma Stretton	Shawn Hird	Carrick Hurley
Giorgia Holding	Hope Johnson	Daryl Blair	Frances Hopper
Alice Parker	Luke Cave	Gareth Russell	Megan Jones
Charlotte Humpage	Ed Dale	Sophie Brown	Meg Gates
Amy Jones	Austen Lowe	Charli Hopwood	Nathan Agnew
Ellena Mason	Bronwyn Latham	Kate Weaver	Laura Davies
Jake Clegg	Caitlin Asquith	Blaithin O'Neill	Jessica Hickman
Rio Hall	Alexandra McCann	Abby Pritchard	Jemima Pallister
Eleanor Lewis	Michael Jones	Ashlyn Baker	Ella Truman-Davies
Ellie Wiggins	Ciara McConnell	Alice Harmar	Elanor Webb
Whitney Plant	Leo Haley	Calum Rowlinson	Charlotte Humphrey
Laura Goodacre	Callum White	Zoe Deponeo	Reece Williams
Jacob Lloyd-Thomas	Courtney Newman-Broom	Bethan Fossell	Laura Nicholson
Charles Adams	Rebecca Greatbatch	Helen Marsh	Joe Foster
Monica Escobedo	Mark Allen	Charlotte Marsh	Ellie Mercers
Jack Marston	Michael Wilson	Tom Butler-Sainsbury	Danielle Olivant
David Morley	Alicia Harrison	Scott Hughes	Sophie Duckworth
James Gough	Molly Rose	Yoan Trangos	Maxie Malcolm
Matt Newbold	Adam Poole	Peter Davies	Arron Woodward
Chris Threshie	Patricia Bennett	Chloe Blencowe	Kelsey Rock
Callum Roscoe	Siphume Msimang	Rachel Jordon	Jonathan Murphy
Neill Baglin	Patrick Jones-Wright	Anna Porter	Alix Booth
Ben Castle	Aimee Morgan	Chelsie Watson-Nolan	Vic Macwilliam
Nathan Wong	Ella Ward	Amy Mullis-Watkins	Shauna Betts
Tyrone Johnson	Sianne Clovis	Ciara Boyle	Nicole Weyman
Danielle Timmins	Francesca Kiernan	Bethany Storey	Sabrina Beniffou
Daniel Wheel	Leah Pou	Leah Dobbs	Saskia Payne
Liam Smith	Rachel Willmot	Abby Darnell	Peter Rowlands
Marianne Hughes	Rebecca Lilley	Will Isaacs	Jessie T Johns
James Whitehead	Dan Nowosielski	Mia Wright	Jake Jones
Daniel Cann	Max Winter	Billie Tuck	

Observing:

Sarah Latham - Student Activities Manager
 Anne Benson – Student Activities Administrator
 Alice James – Events and Marketing Co-ordinator
 Hannah Griffith - Student Engagement Co-ordinator
 Gracie Donoghue – Academic Representation Co-ordinator
 Chris Lightfoot - Student Adviser
 Rachel Jones – Union Development Co-ordinator

In attendance:

Gareth Pye – interim CEO
 Alison Hewitt - Administrator

2. Apologies

Nick Hodson External Trustee
 Nicole Thomas

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed the agenda.

3. Ratification of Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

The previous minutes were presented and it was asked if these were an accurate representation of the Annual General Meeting held on 16 January 2017. They were proposed by Daniel Mitchell and seconded by Sophie Billingham who had been in attendance at this meeting. The minutes were approved but it was noted that the following students' names had been incorrectly spelt - Sophie Billingham, Hiran Maher and Abigail Elden.

4. Trustee Report

The Sabbatical Officers and Trustees of Chester Students' Union are constantly ensuring their work has been improving the student experience. The following was presented to the meeting:

Ben France, President:

- The Group Manifesto was shown which highlighted the gold targets and the current stage of each item.
- Recently held a Brexit debate which had been well received.

Jack Appleby, VP Warrington

- Briefed on the engagement weeks that had taken place across all campuses and the Union on tour's interaction numbers.

Jack McGovern, VP Activities

- The Loyalty card scheme had been successfully launched recently to reward our active members. CSU were now investigating the possibility of broadening the availability to the wider student body including Student Experience Reps.

Sophie Bell, VP Education

- The Academic Reps programme had been reformed from the previous StARs system. There had been a major rebrand and Rep Co-ordinator roles had been established.

5. Union Accounts 2017/2018

The audited Union accounts of 2017/18 were presented. The presentation highlighted the income performance over the last four years and the challenges CSU were currently facing. Meetings are taking place with the University regarding the low level block grant we receive and what now needs to be undertaken to increase our resources. Moving forward we will be building on our support for students and improving student experience to achieve this.

A full version of the accounts is available on the CSU website. Any further clarification on issues within this document can be sought from the CEO.

6. Formal Appointment of the Auditors

Auditors are the external financial experts that prepare and examine our financial accounts as a registered charity. A tendering process had previously taken place and Dains Accountants were appointed as our auditors for a 3-year period. This is due to be renewed from 1 August 2020.

7. Union Affiliations for 2019/20

BUCS - Vote took place to remain affiliated with BUCS at a cost of circa £8k.

For – 150	Against - 0	Abstain - 1
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NUS – Vote took place to remain affiliated with NUS at a cost of circa £20k.

For - 151	Against - 0	Abstain - 0
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8. Notification of Returning Officer

It was notified that NUS will be appointed as our Returning Officer. They are independent to CSU with vast experience in dealing with SU elections. This will ensure regulatory obligations are being met. CEO will operate as the local deputy Returning Officer.

9. Nightline

President briefed students on the recent discussions with the University regarding providing the Nightline support service. This is run by trained students for students who offer a confidential listening service. The students present were asked to vote if they would like the CEO and Student Advice Manager to work with the University on providing this initiative.

For - 151	Against - 0	Abstain - 0
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10. Questions from Members

The following questions were raised:

Q. With regard to the affiliation money is this what CSU receive?

A. It was confirmed that CSU pay this money to BUCS and NUS to continue with the affiliation.

Q. What is CSU doing to get out of their deficit?

A. The Trustee Board recently held a Strategy Day to look at the current student climate, mental health issues and value for money. It is a priority for both the CEO and Trustee Board to get back into a positive budgetary position.

Q. As a Nursing student is the loyalty card available to students not involved in Sports and Societies?

A. Hoping to extend the scheme initially to Student Experience Reps. Also looking at several more options with the card including the possibility of students not included in Sports and Societies donating their money to a nominated charity or accumulating points which could be used to buy merchandise or in our commercial areas. Consultation with students will take place. It was further stated that if individual students wanted to set up an Academic Society there were funds put aside from the Representation budget to assist with this. The student was requested to contact Student Activities.

Q. When will the loyalty cards be available to purchase?

A. During certain times within the CSU Finance office. Next session will be this Thursday 7 February.

Q. Will there be more investment in Societies?

A. We are looking at the way Societies should be funded and supported as the current system is not working. Student Activities Manager will be reviewing other SUs and how they work with Societies. Consultation with students will take place after the review outcomes.

Q. Can the loyalty card be used on all campuses?

A. The loyalty card can be used within CSU outlets on all campuses.

CEO concluded that half price memberships were now available and could be purchased with Aspire money through the website. It was also noted that Aspire can be used to purchase merchandise.

There were no further questions raised.

The President closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.