



SUSU LGBTQ+ SOCIETY

Minutes

Meeting Date:	15 th April 2023	Meeting Time:	Not Recorded
Meeting Location:	Discord		

Attendees	
AC	RG
ID	SH
LC	AW
DM	RP
Apologies	
Not Recorded	

Treasurer report

£530.10 – next grant round due 24th April, need to discuss if we need funding for anything – preliminary grant round for climbing social? peoples pride (badges?) – save waiting for grant round in September – talk about more in any other business. Reparations for taskmaster

Welfare report

Updating resources, signposting forum under construction

Kanban Board

Hobbit – No progress

Alumni Events & Newsletter – Alumni server now independent, removed from Kanban board

SUSU about risk assessment template – With AS

Expanding outside discord – leave for later, mailing list

Collabs – kung fu soc done, cashes collab soon, emailed vegsoc, femsoc, xr

Authentication system work – long term, AC to look at in more detail



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Buddy system – not many people used it, actively on it getting feedback, need to tailor it for in-person socials- send out satisfaction form more often – **note added for doing buddy system next year**

Outstanding from last minutes:

Handover for next committee – prepare handover note(s) for next committee – type out something to preserve knowledge – experiences (bad and good), stress management, valuable tips you've learnt. For more technical roles – how to use bot etc. For finance – how to access account, access treasurer report. Logins to Facebook, Discord, Instagram, Twitter-message details via a secure channel.

Agenda items:

Minutes approval

Minutes reviewed, to be published once 6th Feb, 3rd March, 15th April minutes received and reviewed. Quoracy reached with 8 Ayes

Harassment of committee members

Provocation, one member complicit of another's action, leaked documents breach of safeguarding. Vote for enacting disciplinary action on revocation of 2 members society memberships (they have the option to discuss this further via a committee meeting, subsequent AGM, or future committee) 6 Ayes 2 Abstains – quoracy reached, action to be taken.

Scribe (RG) went for dinner, LC taking over



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Measure to formalize the way motions are introduced and debated during general meetings

Formal procedure for the introduction and discussion of Motions at GMs

ARTICLE VIII

g. Resolutions (renamed "Motions")

- (i) any full member may propose a motion to be discussed and voted on at a general meeting
- (ii) one by one, these motions will proceed as follows
 - i. Introduced by chair with a brief explanation
 - ii. Chair will invite any willing full member to become the motion's proponent
 - iii. Proponent will give arguments for the motion
 - iv. Chair will invite any willing full member to become the motion's opponent
 - v. opponent will give arguments against the motion
 - vi. Chair will accept questions from full members of the society to the proponent or opponent until there are no further questions OR a vote is held to end debate
 - vii. The motion will be voted on

Activities and outreach officer rewrite (maybe, im not as confident with this)

ARTICLE VI

B

(vi) Socials officer: the socials officer is expected to take the lead in the organisation of social events. They are expected to work with the support of committee and society members to plan a balanced, diverse, and accessible set of events. The socials officer is also expected to work with the outreach officer on inter-society collaborations.

(ix) Outreach officer: the outreach officer is expected to lead the coordination of society events where the focus is not on socialising i.e educational events and activism. They are also expected to take the lead in collaborations with other societies or external organisations.

SH suggestions. Currently "members can introduce resolutions" - right word is "motions". Expansion on constitution. Motions at EGM presented, not well explained, no time for questioning these motions. Motions not explained too well in general meetings and no chance for these to be questioned, which could result in wrong votes for or against as a result of lack of understanding.

Changes suggested below:

Focussing on Article VIII currently. Provides explicit opportunity for people to explain why they want a motion, and why they do not want that motion. "Society members are then allowed to question the motion to scrutinise it further." At an AGM, you can't vote until there's been a chance to discuss the motion. People can filibuster if they want with this.



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These changes will have to be voted through at the AGM. Article VIII will need some slight tweaks, making it a bit more professional.

Considering Article VI

SH wants more opportunities for activism would be desirable, currently “hanging out with your mates society but your mates are gay”, contributes to cliqueness. Activism could be a nice solution. Providing institutional structure that facilitates an activism part to the society. Two officers can act in parallel, two parts of the society with events.

Fine line trying not to alienate the people who want socials only and not activism. DM suggested putting activism stuff into a forum specifically as part of a discord reform. SH suggests that providing a forum for people to organise could cause issues (legally?). Having activism as a separate society could cause them to step on each other’s toes. Creating another society will not solve problems of liability. DM wants society to be safe space as well as activism. Problem of cliqueness as a “discord society”. DM proposal of activism and current affairs forum. DM idea: People can make forums on activism in this forum, some resources and stuff.

SH - separate event notifications into social and activism/educational.

SH asks for a hand revising VIb.

LC voices concerns about ensuring society is a safe space and no targets are put on societies back.

AC raises that object of society says we should actively seek out charitable and political campaigns that help us.

Political campaigning re. Trans issues/NUS LGBTQ+/Loudspeek

AC suggests campaign of getting members to write to their MPs, with so many people gives us a wide impact. Can focus on what we have and try and make a positive impact. We’ve been offered Loudspeek for free which is used by Stonewall and a few others for political campaigning. Loudspeek can be embedded in campaign. Outreach officer should reach out to NUS LGBTQ+ network - once this campaign is going, can reach out to them for help.

AC asks for support with writing things, templates, and support with directing it, having an idea about what specific things we’re focussing on. Informal vote on doing this: 6 ayes, quoracy



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Discord Reforms

Want Discord changes done before AGM, best time would be during Easter holidays - next week. Things that need to be done - people good with discord need to enact the changes. RG, DM and LC filling in support signposting.

Message deletion policy interacting with threads and forums. Forums - hobbies, and identity discussion. DM suggests stuff in identity discussion forums does not get deleted, but hobbies does after 24/48 hrs of inactivity. Update to bot might be required for this to happen. Thread will be deleted after a certain time, rather than messages. Bot should be able to do so, will just need to be updated. AC will look into this.

SH proposes making a separate server to test run. Will put an invite out for people in the soc to join to get feedback. DM suggests we make period from 20th April to handover as trial, next committee put out a satisfaction survey, and can confirm and enact changes then.

SH raises point that if we have to switch back to old server, changing it might be tricky if we're using some in the new server. DM thinks there may be a backup of the server? SH says it won't take her long to mock up

LC raises that changing the normal server makes more people more likely to give feedback. DM suggests that changing normal server for everyone then getting feedback will get a fairer, more overall opinion from members of the server than inviting people to a separate one might. Also suggests that we don't have enough time now to get feedback before we make the changes. Informal feedback from DM friends has all been positive.

DM suggests compromise of making the changes for the 24th April - first day back. 16th April - announcement drafted announcing changes, please use x for suggestions - gives people time to process changes will happen. Aiming to get this done ASAP. This will be the trial period, and next committee can decided whether to keep.

People's roles in this change:

AC: Opt-in mailing list

RP + AC: Discord Bot Updates

RG + LC + SH + DM: Finish signposting Dan: Announcement of discord changes

SH suggests bot deletes old messages and empty threads - DM says only in hobbies. Identity and support channels should not delete as they often have important info in.

DM: Hobbies forum - threads deleted after 48hrs of inactivity, messages delete after a month.

Advice channel can delete threads after a week. Hobbies thread doesn't have a deletion policy.

AC suggests no deletion policy in gender chat, DM suggests people would rather there is a deletion policy because of personal information shared in gender chat.

AC suggests we could say we'll delete some threads manually after inactivity.



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Final decision: New advice channel retention time to a week (deletion after a week), and everything else (discussions forum) will be under manual review for deletion, any threads seen as inactive will be deleted following a review - voted on, result: 7 aye, quoracy
Signposting to be finished by 23rd.

AGM

Hybrid online/in person AGM. DM proposes to make announcement of AGM and sign up forms on 24th April alongside Discord reforms announcements, people sign up from 24th to 30th, hustings on 3rd and 6th.

24/04 : AGM announcement + Committee Sign Up

30/04 : Committee sign up closes

1-7th May = Husting period (online)

13th May = AGM

Voted on above, 6 ayes, quoracy

Election stuff happens on separate website which is only accessible from a previous committee member, access will be gained from them

AGM would be on Saturday 13th May

New discord will be made in "server 2.0" section

Email draft written up, voted on: 6 ayes, quoracy - email sent to members concerned

Society members concerned banned from Discord.

Any Other Business

Grant round application, 500 badges, application for £130 for Bouldershack event