

CANTERBURY COLLEGE

Minutes of the CONSULTATION MEETING OF THE CORPORATION WITH THE STUDENTS' UNION FRIDAY, 6 MARCH 2015 AT 1.00 PM IN J221

MEMBERSHIP: Corporation: **Colin Carmichael** (Chairman), **Steve Solly**, **Penny Williams**, **Alison Clarke** (Principal), **Bob Jones**, **Angela Tithecott**, **Danielle Banyai**

Students' Union: **Benjamin Gardiner**, **Tom Mills**

Guest: **Eric Harmer**, **Pastor – Barton Evangelical Church**

In Attendance: **Sharon Hollingsworth** (Clerk to the Corporation)
Tony Payne (Student Activities Manager)
Lut Stewart (Director of Student Support Services)

Student Union Representatives:-
Charlotte Butler – Welfare Officer

Italics denotes absence

578 APOLOGIES NOTED

- i. Apologies were received from Bob Jones and Tom Mills.

579 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- i. None declared.

580 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

- i. The minutes of the 7 November 2014 meeting were agreed and signed by the Chair as an accurate record.

581 MATTERS ARISING

- i. All matters arising were taken into the agenda.

582 PRESIDENT'S REPORT NOTED

- i. BBC Children In Need at Canterbury College took place on Friday 14 November. Although no records were broken by the end of the day, staff and students helped raise a College-wide total of more than £1300 for the charity. A new record for the College. The event was featured on the BBC South East and in the local press.
- ii. During 'Black History Month' October 2014 the SU celebrated the historical endeavours and cultural lives of individuals of African descent. The SU designed 1000 'Black History Month' badges and handed them out to students whilst their listened to Gospel Choir 'Royal Destiny' in 'The Street.
- iii. 'Blue Monday' event on the 19 January 2015 was again very successful. Blue Monday is termed the most depressing day of the year and this worldwide campaign is led by the Students' Union. The aim of the SU was to brighten up the day for students. Members noted that this is the sixth year that Canterbury College has been involved with the Blue Monday campaign.
- iv. The 'I Heart Consent' campaign aims to facilitate positive, informed and inclusive conversations about sexual consent in universities and colleges across the UK. The College was successfully selected by NUS as one of the 20 students' unions across the country to pilot the scheme. The first two hour 'I Heart Consent' workshop were run on 9 December 2014, and further workshops have been organised and training has been provided SU officers, Class Reps and any other students that would like to get involved. Members questioned whether there should be compulsory practical workshops for Students. It was suggested that the workshop could be made digital and included on the learning curve for students to access and Angela Tithecott was asked to liaise with the SU Welfare Officer, Charlotte Butler to discuss the option further.
- v. As part of the monthly Higher Education Committee meetings the SU are in the process of helping to train and recruit more reps to sit on the new committees. The SU are exploring the option to have a separate Higher Education SU running some events with the Christ Church Bar on New Dover Road with a mixture of live music and quiz nights.
- vi. A number of training and consultation events with the Class Reps this term both at Canterbury and Swale have taken place. Feedback has been very positive. The themes of these events have focused on the role of a rep, how the College works, discussions on how the College can improve communication through IT and the General Election.
- vii. Focus groups with each of the Assistant Principals' Faculties have been very productive in resolving issues such as IT problems, staffing and assignment feedback.
- viii. The annual "Meet the Managers" event is planned for Wednesday 1st April and the Student-led Staff Awards will take place on Wednesday 6th May. Governors were invited to attend both events which are held between 12-2pm.

- ix. Staff and students celebrated as Canterbury College won a prestigious Association of Colleges Beacon Award for Student Support. The award, sponsored by the National Association for Managers of Student Services, was announced by Lord Willis of Knaresborough, President of the AoC Charitable Trust, at the AoC Annual Conference in Birmingham on Wednesday 19 November. Members were extremely impressed and congratulated them on the success.
- x. A key focus of the SU's work has been the General Election. On 5th February the SU ran a day of action as part of National Voter Registration Day (NVRD). By the end of the day, more than 200 students had registered. Across the UK 81,000 people registered as part of NVRD day. More activities to engage young voters over the coming months is planned. A political debate is planned at College on Tuesday 31 March, featuring members of the local parties. Members recognised the good work and the Committee recognised that the challenge will now be to get young people to vote.
- xi. On the 28th of January the Liberation Officer, Melissa Pirbudak and the Welfare officer Charlotte Butler attended a one day training event in Milton Keynes. The event was around building a good network of individuals but also developing our skills as officers to be able to support students who face oppression.
- xii. On the 16th December the Welfare Officer Charlotte went up to NUS HQ in London to talk with the current Disabled Students Officer Maddy Kurkman about how the SU can develop a supporting structure for disabled students at the College.
- xiii. This year the SU have set up a successful disabled students group with the support of the College and for the first time the SU will be putting forward 3 motions to the National Disabled Students Conference in May this year.
- xiv. The SU continues its work in regard to the 'Green Impact' Awards scheme
- xv. Advertising for new Students' Union officers as part of our election process is progressing well. The elections will be held at the same time as both local Universities. The SU have built a small website for the election process and will be promoting the opportunities through progression week.
- xvi. The SU had been awarded a highly prestigious national award for the best Support for Students. Members acknowledged that this was the third year that the College had been short listed for an award and the first time that they have won. The Committee were delighted for the College and all of the support staff. A great achievement.
- xvii. Members noted the impressive list of trips that the SU are running.

RESOLVED

- i. The President's report was noted
- ii. The Clerk to circulate the dates of the annual "Meet the Managers" event and the Student-led Staff Awards to all Members of the Corporation.

583 TREASURER'S REPORT

NOTED

- i. All matters arising were taken into the agenda SU thanked the Corporation for the block Grant at £38,000 for the current year.
- ii. The financial performance of the Students' Union was noted.
- iii. Current spend was noted as £17,278 of the annual budget.
- iv. Income and expenditure was noted by the Committee
- v. There had been a good amount of income from the sale of NUS cards.
- vi. SU had received a £500 grant to support the election campaign.
- vii. The reported SU bank balance at the time of the report was £17,885.

RESOLVED

- i. The report was noted and approved.

584 SU CONSULTATION "SU 34"

NOTED

- i. NUS are currently facilitating a big conversation between students' unions, the education sector, external partners and key decision makers with a view to shaping the future of the student movement
- ii. Student Activities Managers presented a short video in respect of the 'SU34' Consultation and asked Members to contribute to the consultation by responding to 2 questions exercise.
 - What are your thoughts on the effectiveness of students' union in 2014 and why do you think this?
 - Imagine the world and the education landscape in 2034. In no more than a paragraph or two please explain what you think students' unions should be aspiring to and focusing on 20 years from in in 2034?
- iii. Members returned their individual responses to the Student Activities Manager.

RESOLVED

- i. Outcomes from the SU 34 consultation process will be reported back to the Committee in due course.

585 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

- i. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, 5 June 2015 at 1pm in room J221.

586 EVALUATION OF THE MEETING

NOTED

- i. Members noted the evaluation from the March meeting.
- ii. Members of the Committee were asked to complete the evaluation of the meeting form.