**Carmarthen Union Council Minutes – 22/11/2021.**

**In attendance:**

Becky Bush (Chair) (Carmarthen President) - BB

Liam Powell (Chair for Manifesto Report) (Swansea President)

Anna Holland (LGBT+ Officer - Open Space) - AH

Christine Joy (Mature Students’ Officer/ IMH Student Voice Rep) - CJ

Lauren Thomas (IEH Student Voice Rep) - LT

Ash Lewis (Gender Identity Officer) - AL

Rebecca Harrison-Everett (Women’s Liberation officer) - RHE

**Students’ Union Staff**

Taz Jones (Head of Membership Services) - TJ

Euan Morrison (Student Voice & Advocacy Coordinator) - EM

Rebecca Crane (Student Voice Coordinator) Minutes – RC

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| Agenda | Purpose | Minutes |
| 1. Welcome and Introductions | N/A | BB welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced herself. Asked all attendees to introduce themselves and their role.  BB explained how the council will run and the etiquet fo the commitee. |
| 1. Apologies | Info | No apologies received.  BB was made aware that LT would be late to meeting. |
| 1. The Minutes of the Previous Council | Approval | BB asked for comments on each of the pages of previous council minutes.  BB asked to take vote on the previous council minutes.  Result:  For: 4  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  Previous Council minutes approved. |
| 1. Actions of the Previous Council | To Consider | BB spoke about actions.  Regarding porters entering, no update from Georgia as it was towards the end of her presidency. However, BB informed Council that this is part of her manifesto, and will be addressed in her manifesto update. |
| 1. Chairperson's Update | Info | BB mentioned chairing themselves today and apologises for Vanessa not being here. |
| 1. Discussion Item - Terms of Reference   [View Council Byelaws](https://www.uwtsdunion.co.uk/bye-laws#Campus%20Student%20Council) | To Consider | BB asked students to consider this and to get in touch if they had any questions. |
| 1. Discussion Item – Nominate Union Council Representatives | Approval | BB asked students if they wished to nominate themselves for Union Council.  BB asked if anyone had any questions on what Union Council is/ what it means to sit on it.  LP talked about what difference between Campus Council and Union Council is.  CJ put themself forward.  BB asked to vote on CJ attending council.  Result:  For: 3  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  CJ approved to sit on Union Council. |
| 1. Discussion Item – QAA Student Written Submission. | To Consider | BB asked if anyone has any questions on the QAA, and also asked students to feedback via email.  No questions at this time. |
| 1. Campus President Manifesto   [View Manifesto Tracker](https://www.uwtsdunion.co.uk/becky) | Approval | BB passed chairing duty over to LP.  LP asked BB to go through their manifesto progress.  BB mentioned her mental health awareness campaign. This has been postponed due to staffing issues.  Engaging with students; BB has started writing and engaging with students on activities and events.  BB received great feedback from students on her Welcome events and the pottery class she ran with a trainer.  BB referred back to previous action about porters; in BB’s manifesto she explains that she has met with accommodation and has set up regular meetings with them to create an awareness pack so students can have an updated schedule on porters' rota, their name, why they would need access to student flats etc.  BB mentioned her regular meetings with Kelly from Operations who manages the porters.  LP asked if anyone has any questions.  BHE asked about a possible campaign collaboration on mental health.  **ACTION – BB to email BHE when she has a date for mental health campaign, to ensure they are involved.**  LP asked for vote on manifesto.  Result:  For: 4  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  LP passed chair duty back to BB and left the meeting at this point.  BB thanked attendees and asked them to keep in touch to see what she is up to. |
| 1. Part-Time Officer Update | Info | BB asked each PTO what they would like to do based on their manifesto.  BHE mentioned normalising periods and allowing for more access to sanitary products. More promotion of safety and also support for mental health issues.  CJ talked about wanting mature students to overcome IT issues, help with essay writing. CJ has started writing their own hints and tips to share with other students.  AL wants gender neutral toilets at the university, pronoun badges to be made available for students and to help find out more about any support students may need. |
| 1. To make Gender Identity Officer include Intersex Students by Jennifer Sargisson | Approval | BB moving on to voting on the idea.  BB asked if anyone would like to speak on this idea.  No response.  BB asked for any comments or help in understanding what this idea means.  BB started a discussion on what intersex means.  AL explained that this is when individuals are born with both genitals. Some individuals may be unaware of being born intersex.  Some conversation between BB and BHE on the definition of intersex.  Result:  For: 4  Against: 0  Abstain: 0 |
| 1. To update the LGBT+ Officers (open & women) to be display Queer in its title by Jennifer Sargisson | Approval | BB asked everyone’s thoughts on this idea.  BHE stated they were surprised that Queer was not already in the title.  AL identifies as Queer and also mentioned that 'Q' can also stand for 'Questioning' and it should be in the title.  CJ asked if we add the Q will we continue to add the rest of the identities as time goes on?  BB explained how the plus represents the rest of the letters.  AL stated that most charities etc. display their title as LGBTQ+.  BB asked on votes to approve –  Result:  For: 3  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  3 votes (Unanimous) |
| 1. Opt in/out system for physical/printed Lecture Handouts by Tamara Bowie | Approval | BB asked if anyone has comments on the idea.  No response.  LT not in attendance and BB explained that this PTO was going to turn up late. RC tried calling them in, with no response.  BB explained about quorum, and how without 4 voters the votes would not count, as we lost AH during the meeting.  LP came back to chair, however LT turned up and this then fixed the voting issue.  LT apologised for being late.  BB asked if LT could state whether they approved the previous big idea votes.  BB asked if LT approves agenda item 11. LT asked for some clarity on the point, and BB asked AL to repeat what they said about intersex individuals.  LT approved agenda item 11. BB explains this is now approved to go to Union Council.  BB asked for vote on item agenda 12, LT voted to approve.  BB now asked everyone again if they understand agenda item 13. LT asked if this is to do with saving paper, and explained how most of the information they receive is digitally. BB explained it is to do with sustainability.  BB asked for a show of hands to vote.  Result:  For: 4  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  4 votes, unanimous and approved for Union Council. |
| 1. To update the pregnancy policy to be more inclusive to trans-men and non-binary students by Jennifer Sargisson | Approval | BB asked if anyone would like to speak on this idea and asked for understanding.  BB asked for a show of hands to vote.  Result:  For: 4  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  4 votes, unanimous and approved for Union Council. |
| 1. Softwear support by Isabella Poh | Approval | BB explained what this is. LT asked BB to repeat explanation.  BB asked for hands to vote.  Result:  For: 4  Against: 0  Abstain: 0    Approved for Union Council. |
| 1. President Manifesto Timeline by Anonymous | Approval | BB stated this item was back dated from previous presidency. BB explained they now have manifesto tracker on website.  BB asked for hands to vote.  Result:  For: 4  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  Approved for Union Council. |
| 1. Introduction of \*NEW\* Part-Time Officer Role by Anonymous | Approval | BB asked for TJ to give an explanation on this idea.  TJ explained in more depth what this idea meant and how it would affect students. TJ explained this may not be approved until 2022 and the Officer team has changed due to the process of introducing new PTO’s.  BB asked if anyone has questions.  No response.  BB asked for votes  Result:  For:3  Against:0  Abstain:1  BB explained this has been approved by majority vote. |
| 1. Union Organising by Anonymous | Approval | BB asked for TJ to explain this idea.  TJ was approached by the student as a member of staff to discuss the matter at the time. TJ explained that the idea had been presented by a student in February as a response to events over the Christmas period.  BB asked for votes  Result:  For: 0  Against: 4  Abstain: 0  Not approved for Union council. |
| 1. The need of reduction in transportation system for all students   by Anonymous | Approval | BB and the council discussed how they were unsure of what the student’s idea meant; whether it referred to a reduction in the cost of transport or a problem with the reduction in transport itself.  BB asked for votes.  Result:  For: 0  Against: 3  Abstain: 1  Majority vote to not approve to Union Council.  CJ asked what happens to votes they abstained on. Didn’t feel some of the students’ ideas were explained well enough.  TJ explained that if all campuses vote against an idea, that student would be informed and an explanation of what was not understood would be given. |
| 1. Any Other Business | To Consider | BB asked for any other business.  **Parking issues:**  LP mentioned students not knowing where to park in campus. No clear signs or no email from Parking with map to show where students can park.  A few students have mentioned they think they should be able to park anywhere on campus.  BB explained that she spoke to the campus Provost about signage, and has a meeting this week with them where she will bring it up again. BB also mentioned bringing this up to Vice-Chancellor.  **ACTION – BB to speak to Provost and Vice chancellor on this.**  CJ asked if students get fined if parked in wrong place.  LP said they were told that students had to have a permit, and that at first they would have a warning if not registered, and then a fine. Although some students have been told they don’t need a permit. Some confusion of Parking and permit situation.  BB told students to get in touch if they have any other issues.  **Union Council seats:**  BB asked LT if they would like to sit on Union Council. LP was unsure as they are quite busy.  LT asked about timings due to family commitments. EM mentioned the dates and times for Union Councils this year.  LT asked if the fact she would be late would affect her being on Union Council.  EM explained how members can discuss changing times of councils.  LT said she would like to put herself forward.  BB asked for votes to approve LT going to Union Council.  Result:  For: 3  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  LT approved to sit at Union Council. |
| 1. Closing Remarks   Date of Next Council:  07/02/2022 | Info | BB thanked everyone for attending and stated the next campus council date. |