

Minutes of the Trustee Board of the University of York Students' Union

Date: 24 January 2019
Time: 17:00-19:00
Venue: Information Centre Board Room, York

Reserved Business

- I. Directors/ Trustees have met to cover relevant closed business.
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I. Present

Directors/Trustees

James Durcan (President) – Chair
Zac Sheppard (York Sport President)
James Hare (Academic Officer)
Steph Hayle (Community & Wellbeing Officer)
Ingrid Jenner (External Trustee)
Songtao Hu (External Trustee)
Jamie Sims (External Trustee)
Robin Brabham (Student Trustee)
Christian Stickels (Student Trustee)

In attendance

Ben Vulliamy (Chief Executive)
Tony Humphreys (Interim Director of Finance & Resources)
Rachel Barber (Director of Student Support and Representation)
Gemma Vessey (Director of Communication and Activities)
Laurie Smith (Director of Commercial Services)
Szczepan Swiatkowski (HR & Administration Manager)

Apologies

Maryam Taher (Student Trustee)
Fin Judge (Activities Officer)

2. Declarations of interest

- 2.1 JS declared that he has a responsibility for the Workforce Development Service at City of York Council (CYC) in addition to his existing duties in North Yorkshire County (NYCC). No other declarations were received.

RESOLVED (TB01/19-2)

- a) To review and confirm individual Trustee and Director Information held on the Company Books or the organisation.
- b) To note verbal declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 22 November 2018

RESOLVED (TB01/19-3)

- (a) To approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.

4. Matters arising

NOTED (TB01/19-4)

- (a) Financial Accounts – submitted to the Company House.
- (b) NUS update – The NUS white paper was circulated ahead of the meeting.
- (c) CS proposal – no further action.

5. Chief Executive Report

- 5.1 The Chief Executive report updated Trustee Board members on key work being undertaken to further YUSU organisationally, strategically and sustainably.

RESOLVED (TB01/19-5)

- a) To note the report.

6. Sabbatical Officers report

- 6.1 Sabbatical Officers produced their report on key priorities.

RESOLVED (TB01/19-5)

- (a) To note the report.

7. Management accounts for the period end of December 2018

RESOLVED (TB01/19-7)

- (a) To review and note the management accounts.

8. Digital Platform Selection

- 8.1 The Chief Executive presented an update for the Board on the selection of a new digital platform for YUSU.

8.2 This item was discussed by the board.

RESOLVED (TB01/19-8)

- (a) To approve the delegated authority of the CEO and senior management team to enter into a contract of supply with the chosen supplier subject to satisfactory due diligence

9. Governance and Byelaws

9A The Student Support and Representation Director presented a paper that updated on progress to update the bye-laws to ensure that they are fully aligned with YUSU's main governing documents. It was noted that a freelance policy expert is being commissioned to facilitate the review of the policy process.

RESOLVED (TB01/19-9A)

- (a) To note the paper.

9B The Ordinary Student Trustee brought a proposal to the November 2018 Board meeting to amend the Union's requirements for quorum in the main governing document, YUSU's Articles of Association.

After discussion the trustees expressed reservation about the proposals and particularly in the light of the precedent it could set for the board to make policy decisions without evidence of student demand.

The Trustees agreed to seek advice from the democracy consultant that is being commissioned to support a policy process review to establish what additional amendments may be needed in relation to the flexibility of the bye-laws

RESOLVED (TB01/19-9B)

- (a) To note the paper.

9C The Student Support and Representation Director presented a paper which updated the Board on the outcome to date of the first cycle of the 2018-9 policy cycle, the associated work programme and next steps including further review and implementation.

The board noted work should proceed to further explore the proposals and agree the design and implementation of these along with motion proposers after the election cycle is complete. Any further governance issues should be brought back to the board for further consideration.

RESOLVED (TB01/19-9C)

- (a) To note the paper.

10. Quality Students unions Evaluation Initiative

- 10.1 The Chief Executive updated the board on the current work to evaluate YUSU against Quality Students' Union (QSU) evaluation initiative as a core objective for 2018-19.

RESOLVED (TB01/19-10)

- (a) To note the paper.

11. Action and attendance Log*

- 11.1 Noted without discussion as a starred item.

12. Finance Committee Minutes 13 December 2018*

- 12.1 Noted without discussion as a starred item.

14. Any other business

- 18.1 There were none.

19. Date of next meeting – confirmed as Thursday 14 March 2019.
