

# **QUEEN MARGARET UNION**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023**

---

**PREVIOUS MINUTES - 31 MARCH 2023**



## 1 Sederunt

### Minutes of the Queen Margaret Union Annual General Meeting 2021-22 (11<sup>th</sup> April, 2022)

## 1 Sederunt

S. Zarli, L. Farquharson, I. Rogers, M. Eker, M. Bahilo, M. Kostoulia, R. Friels, S. Mullen, L. Binning, B. O'Donnel, L. Hills, J. Steel, A. Paja Garcia, G. Simpson, A. McAllister, D. Grindlay, A. Tsernoh, M. Anderson (CEO), I. Valentine, L. McWilliams, F. Pennington, B. McBride, F. Saeed

## 2 Apologies

A. Reece

## 3 Minutes from the last Annual General Meeting

**SZar** Everyone managed to read the minutes posted a few days ago?

### *Passing of 2021 minutes*

Proposed: R. Friels  
Seconded: M. Bahilo  
PASSED

## 4 Report of the President

**RCam** Report was exhaustive, it's been a transition year and has become quite clear it was a beginning of a process of returning to in person operating. The committees have been working on good projects which I'm happy to have been working on.

**LHil** Did you enjoy being president this year?

**SZar** Yes I did, not for the reasons I thought though. In some ways it was harder and in some ways it was easier, I've learnt a lot!

### *Report passed by:*

Proposed: I. Rogers  
Seconded: L. Hills  
PASSED

## 5 Report of Vice President Membership, Clubs & Societies

**LFar** Thanks to everyone who helped and was involved in the QMU this year, nothing much to push on from the report.

### *Report passed by:*

Proposed: G. Simpson  
Seconded: A. McAllister  
PASSED

## 6 Report of Vice President Board of Management

**LMcW** Apologies for not being there in person. Most things covered by the report. We voted to bring back Board Duty in the prerequisite of Wet Wednesday which ended up not happening because of the cancellation of Wet Wednesday. Thanks to everybody for nearly two years of being on Exec its been good craic.

**SZar** Numbers fairly similar to 2019 in terms of engagement, but hopefully with a bigger return to campus there will be a bigger bit of engagement across the union.

## 6 Report of Vice President Board of Management

### **Report passed by:**

Proposed: L. Farquharson  
Seconded: M. Kostoulia  
PASSED

## 7 Report of Honorary Treasurer

**BO'D** This year has been a challenging year for everyone, the QMU included. The usual aspects of fundraising for the union have been closed throughout the year. We've utilised JRS has been our main source of income this year. We've also utilised the Arts Schemes from Creative Scotland and claimed the maximum possible.

With the union being closed for most of 8 months, and a low bar period through Freshers' Week, funding has been massively reduced. The costs associated with income streams have been reduced to combat this with a tight close control of expenses.

The issue we've had going back for a few years is that we've had no reserves and since we have been trying to build up a reserve to convince auditors that we are not an ongoing concern (a 12 month period without concern of closure)—we use the university's support to combat this, but would seek to not have to rely on university through sufficient funding. This is still down the line, but we currently have around 4-5 months of cash flow to sustain the union if no funding came in.

It is worth mentioning within Northern Services we are the only Union to have made a surplus in the last 12 months.

**LFar** Numbers are getting better.

**BO'D** That's true, we're beginning to look forward to the future and be more positive.

**RFri** The reports are from 2019, is that correct?

**BO'D** That will all be changed when we resubmit.

**SZar** Did Ruaraidh send a report? I can still get one out to sort this.

**GSim** Creative Scotland funding—is there any stipulations on how that gets used?

**MDav** Creative Scotland funding cannot be used for capital expenditure- they are coming in to speak to us about how we can use it, and how we have used it. So far we have just used it to keep the venue running during cancelled events.

In theory it can be used for Freshers' Week, but it may not, we still need to look how the venue funding is looking come Freshers' Week and potential gig cancellations or delays into the future.

### **Report passed by:**

Proposed: L. Farquharson  
Seconded: M. Eker  
PASSED

## **8. Reports of the Convenors of Standing Committees**

## **8. Reports of the Convenors of Standing Committees**

### **8.1 Report of the Campaigns and Charities Convener**

**RFri** Not much to add to the report otherwise than the fact it has been quite a good year for C&C. At the end of 2020 we had a lot of impact on fundraising and charities. This year has been a year of recovery for C&C. Not only have we beaten some records but have also brought up committee attendance to years before Covid, and only £700 below the average yearly fundraising.

We still have a couple final things to add to the final fundraising total such as ink cartridge trade-in but waiting for exams to finish out before we do this. We also have our ongoing foodbank donation. I am incredibly thankful to the board and the support I and C&C have received this year, and I believe C&C has been put back into a good position.

### **8.2 Report of the Convener of Current Student Representatives**

**MBah** I'd just like to say on the actual document its only written the names of a few CSRs, but should probably just put it in my name as the rep for them.

### **8.3 Report of the Events Convener**

**FSae** Nothing to add, but it has been a good year especially concerning Covid.

**RFri** Event turnout, any advice for the future?

**FSae** Working with societies was very successful, we also need to improve the visibility of the events committee.

### **8.4 Report of the Welfare Convener**

**LBin** This was a challenging year bringing the committee forward for the first time. Nothing much else to add.

### **8.5 Report of the Publications Convener**

**MKos** I tried to make my report as concise as possible and include everything I needed to. It's been a really fun year and I hope the magazine keeps going in an upwards and positive direction.

### **8.6 Report of the Social Convener**

**N/A**

### **8.7 Report of Tech Convener**

**SZar** Ashleigh sent her apologies.

**GSim** I agreed it was a good report, summarised most things we've done. We're going to focus on recruitment through events and promote Tech and what we do. A focus on live music will be part of next year too.

**LBin** How would you feel about some sort of formal process for using tech at an event? It was one of the hardest things I had done this year.

**GSim** I agree, it's what we brought up, people didn't know what to ask for and we didn't know what to provide. We're hoping to set up maybe a form for booking and what is needed and ask convenors what they would like to see on it.

## **8. Reports of the Convenors of Standing Committees**

**RFri** It's probably best as well to put in a deadline for when to request Tech by.

**LBin** I think I was the one of the few confused people as I only just started on Convenorship, so convenor training is a good idea.

**SZar** Thank you to all of our convenors, its been like relearning everything and coming back to normality so thank you all.

### **Reports passed**

Proposer: L. Binning

Seconder: R. Friels

## **9 Announcement of election of President, Vice President (Membership, Clubs and Societies) and Vice President (Board of Management)**

The new Executive Committee are:

President:	Lachlan Farquharson
Vice President Membership, Clubs & Societies:	Andrew McAllister
Vice President Board of Management:	Alejandra Paja Garcia

## **10 Announcement of the Election of members of the Board of Management**

Campaigns & Charities Convenor:	L. Hills
Events Convenor:	N/A
Publications Convenor:	M. Eker
Social Convenor:	J. Steel
Tech Convenor:	G. Simpson
Current Student Representatives:	I. Rogers, M. Bahilo, F. Saeed, S. Mullen, I. Valentine, A. Tsernoh
Former Student Member:	D. Grindlay

**18 Alterations to the Constitution**

**11 Nomination and Election of Honorary President**

1 nomination: A. Anderson

Votes cast. A. Anderson deemed elected.

**12 Nomination and Election of Honorary Vice-Presidents**

2 nominations: L. McWilliams, B. McBride

Votes cast. L. McWilliams, B. McBride deemed elected.

**13 Nomination and election of Honorary Life Members**

1 nomination: L. Johnston

Votes cast. L. Johnston deemed elected

**14 Nomination and election of Honorary Treasurer**

**SZar** We would nominate an Hon. Treasurer, but we usually have Brendan stand as Honorary Treasurer and acts as an accountant and treasurer of the union.

**15 Nomination and election of Auditors**

1 nomination: Alexander Sloans

Votes cast. Deemed elected.

**16 Nomination and Election of Solicitors**

**SZar** We haven't had any need for Solicitors, we just approach our Solicitor as we need on basis.

**17 Nomination and election of Bankers**

1 nomination: Royal Bank of Scotland & Allied Irish Bank

Votes cast. Deemed elected.

**SZar** Our current bank is Royal Bank of Scotland and we will keep that, but we are working on changing that.

**18 Alterations to the Constitution**

**18.1 Constitution Amendment 1: Trustee Board Change.**

**SZar** This was proposed a few years ago, but we have worked to adapt it to be more suitable to the union. The Board of Trustees is to rebalance the responsibility that falls on the Executive Committee. As it stands the Student Execs are the three only trustees of the union, and to have this we can have external and students help us.

**DGri** As a former in lieu trustee—a quick question in terms of finding suitable candidates.

**PASSED**

**18.2 Constitution Amendment 1.1: Board of Management to Student Assembly**

**18 Alterations to the Constitution**

**PASSED**

**19 Any Other Competent Business**

**LFar** Thank you for attending everyone – this is an extremely quick one, hoorah!

**19.1 Vote of Thanks**

**Vote of thanks to the Board of Management**

Proposed: F. Pennington

Seconded: G. Brown

**Vote of thanks to the VPs**

Proposed: R. Campbell

Seconded: M. Welsh