

Minutes

Subject:	Union Council
Date:	Thursday 20 April 18
Paper:	UC
Author:	Elliot Folan
Purpose:	Record of decision making

Key Points

The Vice Chancellor came to Council with members of UEA's top management. They answered questions on a wide range of topics.

Council approved the following new Societies: **Physician Associate, Urology and Renal, Classics, Savoury, Diaspora Diaries** and **MedED**.

Council signed off on the Charity's Annual Report and Accounts and our continued affiliation to external organisations (including the National Union of Students).

Council approved the Union's **strategic budget** for 2018-19.

Council passed the following policies:

- Adopting the **ASK FOR ANGELA** scheme for Union bars and events
- Changed Bye-Laws to introduce a **better Union representation system for HSC students**
- To **lobby for a new UEA system for reporting accessibility issues** which will also aim to educate staff on ableism
- **Preventing SU Officers from endorsing candidates** in Union elections
- Working with NUS on a **responsible alcohol consumption campaign**
- **Raising awareness** of the needs and difficulties faced by students with invisible difficulties
- Changed the Bye-Laws to **split the disabilities officer role in two** and to monitor how well the new structure works; depending how this goes, opening up the possibility of creating a full-time officer role for students with disabilities
- Lobbying for **better financial support for disabled students**
- **Opposing the government's scheme to require voters to show ID** before being allowed to vote

- **Ensuring the Union commemorates Holocaust Memorial Day** and effectively supports its Jewish members
- Changed the core constitution to **increase the number of External Trustees** (outside experts who are non-members) on the Trustee Board from 4 to 6
- **Lobbying UEA to reverse the proposed rise in parking fees** for students and low-paid members of staff
- **Lobbying UEA Sport to play sports more inclusive** and accessible to all students

Decided to hold an extra Council to take place on 10 May.

Policy deadline is Tuesday 1st May.

Union of UEA Students Purpose:

“To enrich the life of every UEA student”

Minutes of Union Council

20 April 2018

Voting Members present:

Sophie Bunce (Concrete), Siobhann Leviton (Mature Students' Assembly), Naomi Littolff (Cheerleading Stunt Club), Lewis Martin (Mature Students Officer), Georgie Pearsall (Archery Club), Mohaned Alhasan (International Students Officer (Non-EU)), Mary Leishman (Undergraduate Education Officer), Matin Mahmoudi (BIO SOC), Raasul Merali (Kazakhstan Society), Hannah Murgatroyd (Disabilities Liberation Society (Physical Illness)), Ellie Reeves (LGBT+ Liberation Society (Women's Place)), Anders Sinclair (Disabilities Liberation Society (LGBT+ Place)), Andrea Manson Sterling (Latin American Society), Hwyl Browne Finden (Windsurf & Paddleboard Club), Amelia Court (Publishing), Kit Elmes (MEN'S HEALTH & WELFARE), Jessica Gossett (Physio Society), Heather Bingham (Conservation and Wildlife Society), Rhys Purtill (Environment Officer), Smith Hickling Ben (BOXING), Jemma Bailey (Non-Portfolio Officer), Tom Cascarini (Glee Showchoir Society), Katherine Edwards (LDC School Convenor), Rob Klim (Ethical Issues Officer), Eleesha Kyriazis (Judo and BJJ Club), Jake Carrington (Games Society), Chloé D'Hondt (Philosophy Society), Liam Deary (LGBT+ Officer (Trans & Non-Binary)), Haqqeem Razak Abdul (Malaysian Society), Amy Atkinson (Women+ Officer), Chris Ball (Non-Portfolio Officer), Jenna Chapman (RAG Society), Miles Folkes (ENV Other YR UG), Oliver Healy (Liberal Democrats Society), Jack Robinson (Campaigns & Democracy Officer), Tim Barker (PG Assembly), Holly Blackburn (TRAMPOLINING), Daniel Box (LDC YR3 UG), Thai Braddick (Momentum Society), Emilia Bugg (Umbrella Liberations Society), Hampton Caitlin (CANCER SUPPORT), Maddie Colledge (Postgraduate Education Officer), Chloe Crowther (Nelson Court), Emily Cutler (Students with Disabilities Officer), Anna Deas (Literature Society), Abbey Doormann (Disabilities Liberation Society (SPLPD / Autism)), India Edwards (Welfare, Community & Diversity Officer), Ruth Flaherty (PG Assembly), Katherine Frost (Headlights Comedy Society), Oli Gray (Surf Club), Camille Koosyal (Activities & Opportunities Officer), Michael Kyriacou (PG Assembly), Charlie Norman (PSY Other YR UG), Bethany Pearson (Assassins Society), Rebecca Stothard (LDC YR2 UG)

Chair: N Stokes

Deputy Chair: S Lam

In Attendance:

E Folan (Campaigns and Democracy Policy Analyst), Jim Dickinson (Chief Executive), J Clare (Head of Campaigns and Policy), Tony Moore (Democracy and Governance Coordinator), S Atherton (Campaigns and Democracy Officer-elect)

Guest Speakers

Vice Chancellor

Professor David Richardson (UEA Vice-Chancellor) addressed Union Council.

The VC began by noting that it was his 4th year at Union Council giving an annual report, although he emphasised that he also spends time meeting with FTOs and students throughout the year. One of his goals, he stated, was to improve the visibility of the Vice Chancellor, as well as the visibility of the Executive Team, some of whom attended Council alongside him:

- Ian Callaghan (Acting Registrar; Chief Resources Officer after May)
- Sarah Barrow (Pro-VC Arts and Humanities)
- Jon Sharp (Director of Student Support Services – not on the executive team)
- Dylan Edwards (Pro-VC Norwich Medical School)

Another of his goals, he said, was to improve the working partnership between students and staff, which he believed had improved during his time as VC – though there was more to do. Whilst he acknowledged students and staff did not agree on everything, he stated his wish for them to work in partnership and is seeking to embed that in the culture.

The VC reflected on the 2013 '2020 Vision' consultation, which took in over two thousand ideas which helped develop the UEA Vision. In his view, some real progress has been made on this vision:

- Improved work on partnership
- £6m invested in Union House
- Reform of Student Support Services
- Increased numbers of academic and professional staff by around 200
- Student numbers have been expanding on some degree programs
- Millions of pounds spent on library and lecture theatre improvements
- Investments in new teaching buildings
- Investments in student enterprise
- 1,200 students enhancing skills through UEA Award
- We've become a University of Sanctuary
- More scholarships for refugees
- Deepened the relationship with the city
- Stronger links across Norwich Research Park
- New research institute (Quadram Institute)

- Highest ever position in national League Tables

Having outlined what he felt had been achieved, the VC went on to say that it was time for a new plan. He then announced that UEA would be developing a new plan for 2020-25, and that he wanted to develop it together with students. Questions for the plan included:

- What's our sense of purpose?
- How are we going to develop a plan within the context of tertiary education?
- What will our strategy look like, locally, nationally and internationally?

He said that we should reflect on the last 5 years and what can be done better.

The VC reflected on the changes of the last 5 years that had been changes for the better. He cited the Changing The Culture working group, which is being used as an example by universities around the world. Following this, he stated his wish to focus on also combating racial discrimination and microaggressions. He stated that he will not tolerate it, and told Council that he has offered to help lead a Universities UK taskforce on combating racial discrimination and harassment in partnership with the National Union of Students (NUS). UUK is currently reflecting on the offer.

The VC then reviewed the changes made to Student Support Services. At present, the new service is "bedding down" and he asked for patience. He then said that waiting times for counselling have dropped from 4 months to 1 week, according to the latest figures.

He concluded by inviting students to contribute their views on how UEA could best provide a global experience.

Questions for the Vice Chancellor

Q. Emily Cutler, Students with Disabilities Officer, asked the Vice Chancellor why £50,000 had been cut from the Access All Areas budget. They also raised concerns about ableism from staff.

A. The VC said in response that the £50k cut was not his decision, and that he was very annoyed by it, saying that Estates had used the money for accessibility improvements but had not discussed it with the Access All Areas group. He has asked for it to be corrected and for the money to be put back in the AAA budget. In response to the second part of the question, he stated that ableism is totally unacceptable and asked for details.

Q. Miles Foulkes (ENV Other Year UG Rep) asked about VC pay. They wanted to know if a student could be given a seat on the Committee that decides VC pay.

A. The VC responded by saying that he doesn't want to be on his own remuneration committee. The committee is chaired by Chair of University Council, but its structure is being reviewed. Ian Callaghan went on to say that the national Committee of University Chairs is currently consulting on a draft remuneration code for higher education institutions. UEA is supportive of that draft code and is expecting to implement that once it is finalised, and student representation will be considered at that time.

Q. Hannah Murgatroyd (Disabilities Liberation Society (Physical Illness Place)), asked why neither UEA nor Student Finance had any grants or funding for students with disabilities.

A. The question was passed to Jon Sharpe of Student Support Services. He began by saying that government funding in the field of Disabled Students' Allowance has been cut almost annually, and so UEA is constantly having to find new ways to support students with disabilities. There isn't a line of government funding for these issues, as a result. Sharpe then cited two funding options:

- 1) The standard hardship fund, which provides emergency funds for students but only on tight financial criteria
- 2) The discretionary fund, funded by the university. This is similar to the hardship fund but applies to a much broader range of students who might not qualify for the hardship fund

Sharpe concluded by emphasising that the government funding issue is not something UEA can solve alone. The VC then stated that UEA will "make representations to government as part of the review of tertiary education".

Q. Lewis Martin (Mature Students' Officer) said that UEA has £22.9 million invested in Barclays bank, which Martin claimed is "the worst bank for climate change funding", claiming that Barclays has "constantly been investing in it". Martin said they were wondering if UEA would be looking to 'divest' (end its investments) in Barclays, following up on UEA's recent divestment decisions.

A. The VC said that the investment portfolio is overseen by Finance Committee, on which Jack Robinson (Campaigns and Democracy) sits. The VC then said that UEA will take these concerns on board. He went on to say that as UEA goes forward,

it is seeking to engage with local renewable organisations and looking at organisations that invest with new technology. Some of these organisations might have involvement in fossil fuels, but it is “a journey”.

Q. Sophie Atherton (Campaigns and Democracy Officer-elect) told Council that 50 years ago this year, after a string of occupations and demos, UEA granted students membership of non-academic disciplinary panels. They asked the Vice Chancellor why UEA was now “planning to remove students from these panels”.

A. In response, the VC said that he “didn’t really recognise the issue” that had been raised, saying that it was “news to me”. Jon Sharpe said that there has been a consultation on non-academic discipline committees, but said that “at no time was it ever suggested to me that there was any intention of taking out student representation”. Sharpe went on to say that if the proposal has gone out, nobody has spoken to him about it, and if it is proposed he will oppose it.

Q. Thai Braddick (UEA Momentum), said that UEA “hasn’t got an Equality Strategy or any data on the domestic BME attainment gap on campus”, and asked why there were “no movements within the executive to encourage diversity within uni staff and our curriculum?”

A. The VC said that UEA does look carefully at attainment gaps, and when there are gaps, UEA tries to identify why and remove them. The VC went on to say that attainment gaps have been falling for some groups such as disabled students, but also for BME students (down from 28.6% to 17.7%). He accepted that UEA is not there yet, but they are working on it. The VC has told UUK he would be interested in leading on a national group to combat the BME attainment gap, working with the NUS.

Sarah Barrow went on to say that there’s work to be done on communication and further consultation, but attainment gaps are on their agenda.

Q. Michael Kyriacou (PostgraduateSU committee), stated that they were an Associate Tutor, with support staff friends who were all worried about the Align project and its effect on jobs and conditions. They asked for assurances about the impact of Align on students who work for the university.

A. Dylan Edwards said that the “bottom line” is that the point of Align is to work out how to reduce costs and streamline processes. It aims to look at “volume” changes (such as student numbers) as well as “method” changes (such as the IT system). When it comes to support staff, Dylan Edwards did not foresee significant loss of staff, but said they will “have to see” what

happens and that some areas may see reduced investment and some may see more.

Ian Callaghan added that the timescale is over 3-4 years so staff reduction would be staggered and they aim to minimise the impact on individual.

VC said that the idea of 'Align' is to align costs with investment.

Ian added that UEA is looking at procurement and getting good value.

Q. Heather Bingham (Conservation and Wildlife Society) asked if, given we have the technology available, will we reinvest in Biomass plant to get it working?

A. The VC said that in many cases, we still need to see further development of technology. On the biomass power station, UEA has no plans to reinvest in the power station. The VC then stated that he would prefer a wind turbine but is interested to hear other views – that was not a commitment though.

Q. Liam Deary (LGBT+ Officer, Trans and Non-Binary place) asked for assurances that any accommodation provided through private providers will cover a variety of costs including cheaper options with shared bathrooms.

A. The VC said that it is UEA's desire to have a good and flexible offer for students. UEA is working closely with the City Council on accommodation; 3,000 units are in various stages of construction. It is his hope that the private provision will help to diversify the offer and keep costs down.

Q. Emilia Bugg (Umbrella Liberations Society), said that as far as they and other disabled students are concerned, most of the focus has been on physical access to buildings rather than on staff, teaching and the accessibility of modules. They asked if the VC would support education for staff on the accessibility of their content.

A. VC agreed with Bugg, and thanked them for raising it. Sarah mentioned a flagship project about accessible education that is being run at UEA. LDC recently received scholarship funding for students from different backgrounds.

Q. Cam K raised concerns about the growth in student numbers and lack of study space eating into students' reserve time on Wednesday. More and more students are having seminars and lectures on Wednesday afternoons. They asked if UEA would consider investing in teaching facilities and activities.

A. VC said it was an important point, but argued that there are some myths around about UEA’s growth. VC argued that UEA has grown at 300 per year, and that has happened in the past few years – it isn’t unusual in his view. UEA, he argued, have maintained a strong commitment to student experience and community. The growth in numbers has been planned and considered. The library has been expanded, and VC wants students to have opportunity to experience activities. His understanding is that no compulsory curriculum lectures are scheduled on Wednesdays, only optional ones, but if that has changed UEA will look again. UEA is building more study space.

Q. Chris Ball (Non-Portfolio Officer) raised concerns that part time students, often disabled, have to stay in Broadview Lodge and can’t stay in other campus accommodation. This shuts out disabled students, Ball argued, for a variety of reasons. Why can’t they live on campus, they asked?

A. Jon Sharpe responded, saying that planning control and legislation prevents part-time students from living in accommodation. He understands the frustration – full-time students with disabilities can get a lot of support. Part time study, however, is not eligible within the planning guidelines. UEA uses Broadview Lodge as a solution, as it isn’t defined as student accommodation but rather as a hotel. They will, however, look at innovative solutions.

2224 Membership

Council noted the new members added to the Register.

2225 Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 8 February

Council was asked whether they approved of the minutes. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	43	95.6%
Against	2	4.4%
Abstentions	4	-

The minutes were approved.

2226 Matters Arising

None noted.

Club, Society and Peer Support Group Constitutions

The Chair noted that two societies had submitted standard constitutions had been approved by Societies Executive. The Chair ruled that Council would go straight to a vote on these two societies:

a) Physician Associate Society whose objects shall be: "To increase the profile of the Physician Associate course and profession as well as to encourage collaborative working and learning amongst students studying health care."

b) Urology and Renal Society whose objects shall be: "To facilitate learning of urology and renal medicine; to encourage students to attend conferences and participate in essay prizes in this field and provide teaching opportunities for medical students."

The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	49	98.0%
Against	1	2.0%
Abstentions	4	-

The societies were approved.

MedEd Society

The Chair noted that MedEd Society has been approved by Societies Executive and moved Council straight to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	42	93.3%
Against	3	6.7%
Abstentions	5	-

The society was approved.

Classics Society, Savoury Society and Diaspora Diaries Society

The Chair noted that these societies were approved after the previous ones by Societies Executive, and had been submitted as a separate bloc. They moved Council to a vote on the following societies:

a) Classics Society whose objects shall be: "To unite those with an interest in classics and to create a society that's accommodating to all, and everyone feels included'

b) Savoury Society whose objects shall be: "To improve people's ability to cook meals, to help people be creative in the kitchen and to ensure that people will be safe when cooking."

c) Diaspora Diaries Society whose objects shall be: "To publish a once-twice termly print magazine, with set themes, about the experiences and views of people of colour (POC) on campus."

The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	48	100.0%
Against	0	-
Abstentions	2	-

The societies were approved.

2228 Election of Student Trustees

The Student Trustee election is being run online.

2229 Appointments

Chair noted that there were still vacancies for a PG member of the Senate Student Discipline Committee, and the PG member of the Senate Student Appeals Committee.

2230 Appointment of Auditors

Council noted the re-appointment by the Trustee Board of Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP as auditors.

2231 Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2017

Chair moved Council to a vote on the annual report and accounts.

The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	36	100.0%
Against	0	-
Abstentions	2	-

The annual report and accounts were approved.

2232

Affiliations

Chair moved Council to a vote on affiliations to the following organisations:

- **Advice UK (£1,000)**
- **The National Union of Students (£19,000)**
- **The Citizens Advice Bureau (£1,000)**
- **Students for Cooperation (£75)**

No councillors requested a separate vote on any of the organisations, and no speeches were made against the organisations.

The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	39	97.5%
Against	1	2.5%
Abstentions	8	-

The affiliations were approved.

2233

Financial Estimates

The Chair asked Council to vote on whether Chief of Staff Jim Dickinson should be allowed to speak. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	34	89.5%
Against	4	10.5%
Abstentions	3	-

Jim Dickinson was therefore allowed to speak to Council and gave a presentation on the financial estimates.

Following this presentation, Council was asked to vote on the financial estimates. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	35	94.6%
Against	2	5.4%
Abstentions	6	-

The financial estimates were therefore approved.

2234 Reports from University Committees

Jordan Read (Men’s Health and Welfare) gave a report on a survey conducted amongst members of a sports club. They argued that the survey shows a disconnect with Council. Amongst other findings, the majority wanted to see more gender mixed teams, and 17% felt they couldn’t express their sexual identity. 50-60% wanted to feel more like they are part of their sports team.

Their conclusion from the report is that many SU campaigns, such as ‘Take a Stand’, had not been helpful and nothing had changed. They urged councillors to come up with new campaigns based on engagement and a culture of genuine relationships. They also warned about a culture in sports clubs that leads to people with mental health problems being isolated, and urged clubs to do more than raise money for charities for a few days a year.

2235 Student Officer Committee Report

Council noted the written report from the Chair of SOC, as well as written reports from Full-Time Officers.

The approved minutes of all meetings of SOC can be viewed at <https://www.uea.su/union/governance/studentofficercommittee/>

2236 Trustee Board Report

Council received a verbal report from India Edwards (Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer), the Chair of the Trustee Board.

2237 NUS National Conference Report

Council noted the written report from UEA SU’s delegates to NUS National Conference.

2238

Reports from Representatives

Council received a verbal report from Nursing Society, which emphasised the different experiences of nursing students and emphasised their high workload as the reason for a lack of engagement with the students' union. Council also noted their written report.

Council received a verbal report from Physio Society. They echoed the report from Nursing Society, and revealed that many HSC students are unwilling to run for sports club committees due to their workload. Council also noted their written report.

Heather Bingham (Conservation and Wildlife) suggested that a way of engaging HSC students would be to adopt position-sharing for committee positions.

The result of the priority ballot, determining the order of the policies being debated, was then announced:

- 1) Tackling Invisible Disabilities
- 2) Ask for Angela
- 3) Support and representation for disabled students
- 4) Accessible Change
- 5) Effective Representation in HSC
- 6) Financial support for disabled students
- 7) Changes to the Trustee Board composition
- 8) Sport for All
- 9) UEASU must recognise Holocaust Memorial Day
- 10) Responsible Alcohol Consumption
- 11) Care AND Car Parks
- 12) Dismantling Endorsement Culture
- 13) Voter ID Pilots

2239

Tackling Invisible Disabilities

Emily Cutler (Students with Disabilities Officer) presented the motion. They outlined their experiences as a student with an invisible disability. They stated that the policy would set up an awareness-raising campaign for invisible disabilities, including pushing for training for UEA and SU staff.

The Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	44	100.0%
Against	0	-
Abstentions	2	-

The motion was passed.

2240 Ask for Angela

Thai Braddick (UEA Momentum Society) presented the motion by explaining the nature of the 'Ask for Angela' scheme. The scheme allows bar customers to ask for "Angela" at the bar if they are feeling uncomfortable or being harassed, and they will be escorted safely out without having to explain themselves to the person harassing them. They related personal experiences to emphasise the importance of the scheme.

The Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	44	100.0%
Against	0	-
Abstentions	2	-

The motion was passed.

2241 Amendment to the Bye-Laws: Support and representation for disabled students

Jack Robinson (Campaigns and Democracy Officer) proposed the motion. Stating that it was a difficult subject, they argued that a single role can be overwhelming and so is difficult for disabled students. The motion would change the role by splitting it into a Physical Disabilities place and Invisible Disabilities place and bring in a new structure.

The Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	46	100.0%
Against	0	-
Abstentions	1	-

The motion achieved the required two-thirds majority and was passed.

2242 Amendment to the Bye-Laws: Effective Representation in HSC

Siobhan Leviton (Mature Students' Assembly) proposed the motion. They stated that they struggle to get reps in HSC, and argued that the system is not appropriate for HSC. Changes on merged schools are not embedded; the motion would give real representation which fits the School and gives them the opportunity to campaign and elect reps.

The Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	44	100.0%
Against	0	-
Abstentions	3	-

The motion achieved the required two-thirds majority and was passed.

2243 Financial support for Disabled Students

Emily Cutler (Students with Disabilities Officer), proposed the motion, arguing that the cost of living for disabled students is higher because of their disabilities. Only the hardship fund, they argued, is available for disabled students now. Students with disabilities, they argued, need money to live on and this motion commits the SU to campaigning for that.

The Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	41	100.0%
Against	0	-
Abstentions	4	-

The motion was passed.

2244 Amendment to the Articles of Association: Changes to the Trustee Board composition

Mary Leishman (Undergraduate Education Officer) proposed the motion, apologising for the “dull” subject of Trustees. They explained that the Trustee Board has 11 students and 4 external Trustees at present, with the external members providing expertise. However, they said that there has been a big turnover in external Trustees and proposed increasing the number of external Trustees from 4 to 6. They emphasised that students would still have a majority on the Board.

The Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	40	97.6%
Against	1	2.4%
Abstentions	3	-

The motion achieved the required two-thirds majority and was passed.

2245 Sport for All

Camille Koosyial (Activities and Opportunities Officer) proposed the motion, saying that many students were unhappy with sports provision at UEA. This motion, in their view, would give a mandate for sport at UEA to be more inclusive lots of students excluded we have a duty sport should be accessible to all.

The Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	42	100.0%
Against	0	-
Abstentions	2	-

The motion was passed.

2246 UEASU must recognise Holocaust Memorial Day

Jack Robinson (Campaigns and Democracy Officer) proposed the motion. They stated that at NUS National Conference there had been many incidents of anti-Semitism which had shocked them. In their view, the issue needs NUS action, but also action across campuses. They outlined their view that there has been a vacuum of leadership on the political left, and that Union engagement with Jewish students is poor. They added that the motion had been endorsed by UEA's Jewish Society.

The Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	38	100.0%
Against	0	-
Abstentions	5	-

The motion was passed.

2247 Responsible Alcohol Consumption

India Edwards (Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer) proposed the motion. They stated that many social events at UEA were focused on alcohol, and the motion would encourage more non-alcoholic social events.

The Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	40	97.6%
Against	1	2.4%
Abstentions	1	-

The motion was passed.

2248 Care AND Car Parks

Lewis Martin (Mature Students' Officer) proposed the motion. They argued that UEA's decision to raise parking fees would mean that lower paid staff would be the hardest hit, essentially causing a pay cut. They argued that we take advantage of this pay cut because we use university cleaners, and so have a responsibility to try and prevent it. They finished by arguing that the issue will affect us all if cleaners leave.

The Chair moved Council to a vote

The vote was follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	40	97.6%
Against	1	2.4%
Abstentions	3	-

The motion was passed.

2249 Dismantling Endorsement Culture

Daniel Box (LDC YR3 UG) proposed the motion, saying that there is mass disillusionment with the Union. They pointed to the recent elections in which, in their view, the Union resorted to "bribing" students to vote. They cited recent elections in which "multiple candidates felt deeply uncomfortable" and in which some students felt that they hadn't had a fair opportunity. The councillor commented that didn't think the motion would solve everything wrong with the election process, but they expressed hope that it would help in a small way and uphold equality of opportunity. Their hope was that it can help make sure that "cliques" don't put people off running, and that people without "pals in the NUS" can still feel able to run.

They outlined the resolves of the motion, saying that it would prevent elected Student Officers from endorsing a specific

candidate.

As there were no speeches against or questions, the Chair moved Council to a vote.

The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	32	76.2%
Against	10	23.8%
Abstentions	2	-

The motion was passed.

Camille Koosyial (Activities and Opportunities Officer) asked who would be setting up the group and who would be in charge of it.

Jack Robinson (Campaigns and Democracy Officer) responded that it was their area as the democracy full-time officer, as well as the Student Officer Committee. SOC would decide how to set up the relevant subcommittee, whilst the Returning Officer would decide how to apply and implement the rule changes.

Thai Braddick (UEA Momentum Society) asked if the rule changes would apply to the by-elections taking place in the following week.

Chair said that they would not.

Voter ID Pilots

2250

Jack Robinson (Campaigns and Democracy Officer) proposed the motion. They argued that there was a significant body of opinion against the government's pilot program of requiring ID before people are allowed to cast a vote. In their view, the policy is attempting to address a problem – electoral fraud – that is incredibly small, while the consequences will be significant and make it harder for people to vote.

Chair moved Council to a vote. The vote was as follows:

Option	Vote	% of votes
For	36	94.7%
Against	2	5.3%
Abstentions	3	-

The motion was passed.

Time and date of next meeting

2251

The Chair brought Council to an end and announced that the next meeting will on 10th May at 7pm.

