

1. Adoption of Agenda

Passed without dissent.

2. Apologies and Absences

The apologies were accepted without dissent.

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Circulated via email.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

None.

5. Open Forum

No business from the gallery.

6. Reports of the Sabbatical Officers

6.1 Report from the DoED

Attended the University internal review of the Earth and Environmental Sciences department, meeting with various students and staff to better understand how the department is run and what improvements can be made. Recommendations will be made and sent to the department in the coming weeks. The next department that is being reviewed is the Philosophy department.

Attended a meeting regarding the learning and teaching space review – 30% of spaces have already been looked at. Teaching staff of the University are passionate, and are thinking about new ways they could teach in different types of environments.

Sat on the panel for the teaching development fund, and gave money to many different types of projects. There are some exciting collaborations between departments on the table, but they are top secret at the moment.

Learning and teaching committee is next week and he will be in attendance.

6.2 Report from the DoWell

The Bullet Journal workshop last week in conjunction with student services went really well.

Next week is Pangea, Interfaith Week and Transfest! There are lots of events to attend and get involved with.

Wellbeing Committee is working in conjunction with Music is Love on an open mic night at the Byre on Wednesday.

Working on another workshop in collaboration with Student Services, a wellbeing workshop on how to support a friend with a wellbeing issue.

6.3 Report from the AU President

The AU Event calendar is currently being distributed and is available on the AU website. All sports clubs can submit their events, which will then be accepted or rejected by the AU Events Officers.

The Scottish Sports forum is coming up.

The AU presidents forum will be in St Andrews next Friday. 15-20 AU presidents will be in attendance.

The AU section of the Alumni Festival Weekend is set, 22 sports clubs are getting involved. The preliminary schedule will be rolled out on St Andrews day.

On Wednesday there are a few inter-iversity matches between sports teams here in St Andrews.

Has been working with the Charities Campaign on a couple of upcoming charity events.

6.4 Report from the Association President

Last week was Green Week, the Environment Subcommittee did really well with a high density of events every day.

The Accommodation Team are touring the halls of residence to give 'How to Rent' talks. 'How to Rent' guides are available in the Union, and are also being distributed in halls. If people cannot attend in halls, there's a talk in Sandy's Bar on Friday that is open to all.

The Rector will be installed in April, and it will coincide with University Court. The Rector and the Principal have communicated via Skype. The Rector's assessor interview dates are pending confirmation. The Rector's campaign team want to form a political forum, and the president is in favour of this. Political society presidents are going to be invited to this forum, lunch will be provided to incentivise their attendance in two weeks' time. The aim of this is to start a discussion rather than to come up with distinctive action points.

There was some discussion over whether this should become a subcommittee under the remit of the Rector's Assessor – this was inconclusive as the notion is very speculative at this point in time.

Attended a University Governance and Nominations committee meeting. The University is keen to add a Senior Governor to court, which will mean there are two chairs. They will hold the role for 4 years, but elected at a different point to the Rector so that there is no clash. The University and the Union are going to advertise the purpose of court and what it aims to do – he is willing to take any suggestions on how this could be achieved.

University hall prices are only going up in line with inflation.

There have been issues with Big Space, a storage company in St Andrews, and students should not be using it. They have been acting inappropriately, and the University will be saying more next week.

The President and DoED are meeting with the Principal in regards to the strategic plan of the University next week.

A reminder to please not engage with posts on St Feuddrews – your online presence still represents the Union, and the University are taking online comments very seriously.

Don't forget to look after yourselves and do your degree!

6.5 Report from the DoES

Halloween went really well last week – there was a high attendance and everyone seemed to have fun!

Has been putting together a 'How to put an Event on in the Union' guide. It started off as a simple checklist, but has expanded into a helpful booklet for anybody to refer to. Is hopeful that this will be printed next semester.

Stay on the lookout for some Christmas/winter fun...

6.6 Report from the DoSDA

Since last SSC meeting, they have hosted the first round of University Challenge tryouts. Over 100 people attended, and the top 20% have been invited to attend the next round at the end of this week.

Held a Creative Society Roundtable, where all creative societies/groups were invited to discuss what sort of careers they would like to see represented at a Creative Careers Event. The event format will be decided once a list of attendees has been created.

We had Jono, the Accommodation Officer, on the Sabb radio show this week. If any councillor would like to be interviewed, please get in touch!

Attended a tourism meeting today, where local businesses came together. They are keen to know when large groups of people will be in town for large events such as visiting days, St Andrews Day and OTR.

Is now hosting office hours for the Volunteer Recognition Scheme portal, these will be at 4pm on Thursdays. These are just to walk you through the portal and answer any queries on how to use it. Please get in contact if these times do not work for you.

7. Questions for Committees

7.1 Community Relations

Committees can help run stalls on St Andrews Day – some activities have already been decided, but Hannah is open to conversations and brainstorming on other ideas.

Thanks to all councillors that helped with the Poppy's at Morrison's today.

Community Council are upset by students not using bike lights on the streets of St Andrews, now that it is getting dark earlier. Asked if the Union can help with campaigning, as well as advertising that wholesale priced bike lights can be bought at the University shop.

St Andrews Day organisation is picking up, with 600 people going on the facebook page and 6000 interested before the Kingdom FM radio campaign has even begun. BID have been wonderful to work with, licencing has been difficult. There will be a lantern procession down to the harbour, and would like to emphasise that lanterns are not to be dropped, but to be kept as mementoes, and will therefore have a very small environmental impact. Fireworks will conclude the celebration.

7.2 Environment

Extends a thank you for coming to Green Week Events!

7.3 LGBT+

There have been some negative comments online about trans people in St Andrews, and would therefore would like to encourage everybody to come to Transfest events next week. On the 20th

there will be a transgender remembrance, with everybody meeting in the quad with real torches. Everybody is welcome to come along.

7.4 Racial Equality

Nothing to add.

7.5 First Years

Nothing to add.

7.6 Age Equality

LGBT+ Officer asks if they would like to help with an Alumni Festival event, where there will be a speaker from the Open University? The response was positive.

7.7 Disabilities

Met with the Netball team. Has also been in contact with Disability Sports Scotland regarding support on upcoming events.

7.8 Widening Access

Nothing to add.

7.9 PG Academic

Meeting with PGR students, it has been noted that it is difficult for them to meet people outside of their own schools. Please make sure that PG's feel included and welcome at all of your events.

7.10 PG Social

Nothing to add.

7.11 Education Committee

Nothing to add.

7.12 Principal Ambassador

Nothing to add.

7.13 Member Without Portfolio

The Christmas Dinner form is up on the Councils facebook group – please confirm your attendance by the 20th of November. There will also be a book secret Santa.