**BL Welfare Zone Committee Minutes**

11th January 2018

Minutes

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1. **Apologies**

Harris

Present: Ahmed (Chair), Moshin, Jack, Lily, Sian, Kate (Secretary)

**2.0 Actions from previous Welfare Zone meetings**

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| **Action** | **Update** |
| Ahmed to write a motion regarding reps missing meetings and how their case will then be referred to the VP Welfare in the first instance | Ahmed explained that as the meeting wasn’t a joint one a decision couldn’t be made today. He will move this to the next joint welfare meeting. |
| Reps to send Kate ideas for improving the Welfare part of the website | Ahmed pitched the idea of reps writing blog posts for the website- this would include what they are currently working on. Reps still need to send other ideas to Kate. |

**3.0** **Discussion: Should the Union live stream its Student Council meetings?**

-Ahmed started the discussion by stating that students might be less likely to discuss issues as it identifies it is them who has made a comment- this was a thought discussed in ME Welfare Zone.

-Moshin agreed that students are less likely to want to be revealed as saying particular things, and that he might also feel uncomfortable in the situation of a live stream- he might hold back on particular thoughts.

-Lily felt that as reps they are accountable to the people who voted for them. A live stream wasn’t too different to minutes of meetings which can be accessed. This also reveals who said what on a subject or brought forward something to be discussed.

-Moshin counted Lily’s point by saying that a live stream doesn’t add anything to the accountability procedure.

-Jack felt that on a live stream there is no interaction with people and things can be taken out of context- a video can be cut and made to look different to what was actually said.

-Lily felt this issue needed to be agreed at a joint welfare zone meeting.

-The decision was made to take this to a joint welfare meeting as the main issues for the group were that information can be taken out of context and reps are already accountable in a number of other ways. A decision on the subject couldn’t be agreed by the group and they remained neutral on the topic.

**4.0 VP Welfare Update on work**

-Ahmed explained not too much has happened since last meeting as we had the Christmas break.

-Asian Heritage Month will take place next month. Rohingya Week will take place in March, and Ahmed will be looking into Mental Health provisions for BME students at the University- he will undertake a research project for this.

-Ahmed updated the group about Ella’s SHAG Week and the Pride Week Bethany is arranging. He also mentioned meeting some people from the Whatsupp App on Tuesday which primarily looks at mental health. He plans to introduce this at Student Council.

**5.0** **Part time Officer updates on work**

Sian:

-Working on a report for International Student Views. Looking at the options of fixing problems. Planning on bringing this to SEAG meeting.

-QM University regulations state they follow government regulations in regard to International students but there aren’t any clear guidelines set by the government. This means the University can continually push fees up. Sian is going to a meeting about this on the 12th January.

Lily:
-Consent Campaign- will be working on this.

-Women’s Week in March- plans are currently underway.

-Going to have two women’s forums this year.

Jack:

-Pride Week- currently thinking about posters, Facebook posts and want to showcase prominent LGBT people. Thinking of putting a health twist on this.

-Might do a fundraiser- going to speak to the LGBT society about this.

-Ahmed said that Jack can request some funds for this as Beth had requested some from ME Welfare Zone.

Moshin:

-Trying to engage more with cultural societies.

-Have some talks planned- one of which will explore Bangladesh as a whole. The next session will be on Pakistan.

**6.0 AOB**

-The Native American statue in the GriffInn was mentioned.

-Ahmed said that this was a discussion which needs to be had with Danial. Unfortunately due to a clerical error he wasn’t invited to the BL Zone meeting to discuss this. Ahmed said this topic needs to be discussed at a joint welfare zone so BL reps can discuss this. Ahmed explained that the issue needs to be discussed at an appropriate forum when reps mentioned a discussion on a Whatsapp group. He explained this needed to be discussed in a meeting. Danial hadn’t tried to bypass BL on the issue- he had just brought up to the ME Welfare Zone that this was something he was looking into.