

**Annual Members’ Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Friday 30th November 2018**

**Students’ Union Venue at 5.30pm**

**Welcome & introduction from the Chair**

Meeting chaired by EHSU President, Joe Bradford (JB). JB welcomed members to the meeting and outlined AMM protocol. With fewer than 100 members in attendance at the time the meeting was scheduled to start, JB declared the meeting inquorate. After 30 minutes, quorum had still not been reached. At this point, the meeting proceeded with the members in the room constituting a revised quorum of 11 (7 students and 4 Sabbatical Officers), in line with Bye-Law 5 of EHSU’s constitution.

1. **2017/2018 AMM Minutes**

Minutes from the 2017/2018 AMM, which took place on 22 January, 2018 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

1. **Receiving the report of the Trustees on the Union’s activities since previous AMM**

EHSU President and Vice Presidents provided an overview of key projects, campaigns, and priorities from their remits (refer to PowerPoint presentation). These were **accepted** by members.

**2017/2018 Financial statement**

EHSU President, Joe Bradford, presented the financial reports for the preceding year, informing members how EHSU generates its income and how it is spent. Total income for 2016/17 was £1,864,054, while expenditure was £1,979,029. As a result, a deficit of £114,975 was recorded.

Ben Attwood asked about the decision to stop serving food in the SU. EHSU VP Activities, Dan B, explained that, due to the rising popularity of subway, serving food in the bar was not financially viable anymore. There will be a reevaluation of this decision in the new year to see if there is enough student demand to offer food in the bar.

The report was **accepted** with 1 abstention.

**Motions:**

1. **Improved parking policy**

Ben Attwood presented this motion, which he submitted via email. It can be read [here](https://www.edgehillsu.org.uk/student-voice/amm-2018).

Dan B proposed an amendment – add to resolve 3 to adhere to the Union’s current sustainability policy, ‘All’s well that ends well,’ and consider lobbying the University to include sustainable travel options.

Chair offered opportunity for students to speak for and against.

The amendment was unanimously **approved**.

The motion, with amendment attached, was unanimously **passed**.

1. **To commemorate Remembrance Day**

Ben Attwood presented this motion, which he submitted via email. It can be read [here](https://www.edgehillsu.org.uk/student-voice/amm-2018).

Commemoration ceremony is organised with the aim to raise awareness for Remembrance Day and to sell poppies. Chair JB offered opportunity for students to speak for and against the motion.

Jack Fields commented that it is enlightening to see that the University are doing something, however, we could be doing more.

MH suggested removal of the part regarding selling poppies in the SU, because of VAT and charity law constraints. However, if students want to sell poppies for the cause, they can.

All students approved the amendment.

The policy **passed** with 1 vote of rejection, three abstention

1. **To create and all gender equality council**

Ben Attwood presented this motion, which he submitted via email. It can be read [here](https://www.edgehillsu.org.uk/student-voice/amm-2018).

Chair offered opportunity for students to speak for and against.

EHSU PTO Trans and non binary Officer, Max Beaton, took the opportunity to speak against the motion; pointing out that if this were to pass, their role would be obsolete. Amendment suggested to remove point 2.

EHSU PTO Women’s Officer took opportunity to speak in favour of Max’s suggested removal of amendment 2. She mentioned that any opportunity to improve women’s representation should be welcomed and men’s representation is not in a deficit. For example, there has been a World mental health day and a day specifically for men’s mental health.

In regards to the amendment being removed, there were 7 votes in favour, 1 vote of rejection and 2 abstentions. Therefore it **passed**.

EHSU VP Dan B took the opportunity to speak against the motion highlighting that creating a position does not address or resolve gender specific issues but would actually take away from the Union putting the issue on their agenda as an organisation.

Jack Fields spoke in favour of the motion saying that current PTO’s have their own remits and there is a gap for men-specific issues to be addressed.

In response to JF’s point, VP Welfare highlighted that she represents all students regarding welfare issues, not just female students.

JF responded by pointing out that for men’s mental health day, there was no men’s officer to stand in solidarity with the VP Welfare.

Ben Attwood suggested an amendment to his own policy – to have a men’s officer.

Chair explains that a new policy would have to be submitted for that.

BA sums up his motion, stating that although this may seem like a controversial policy, in practice it will allow the Union to pull its resources to address gendered issues.

With 1 vote in favour of the motion, 2 abstentions and 8 votes against, the motion **did not pass**.

**Access Break**

1. **Smoking support – Joe Bradford**

EHSU President, Chair JB submitted this motion via email. It can be read [here](https://www.edgehillsu.org.uk/student-voice/amm-2018).

In order to present his policy, he handed over his chairing duties to EHSU VP Luke Myer.

JB presented the motion. Chair LM offered opportunity for students to speak for and against.

DB suggested an amendment to the motion to highlight that it is specifically tobacco specific smoking which is most harmful, not all forms of smoking (for example, herbal smoking is not as harmful).

With 3 votes against, 3 votes for and 3 abstentions, the Chair exercised his right for the deciding vote.

Chair LM voted for the amendment to be included.

The policy **passed**.

1. **Sabbatical officer roles – Luke Myer**

EHSU Vice President LM submitted this motion via email. It can be read [here](https://www.edgehillsu.org.uk/student-voice/amm-2018).

LM presented the motion. Chair offered opportunity for students to speak for and against.

MH suggested amendment to call all four Sabbatical Officers Presidents

BA argued against the amendment, asking what about PTOs?

EHSU Women’s officer KV said that as a PTO, she wouldn’t like to be on the same level as the welfare officer. PTOs do not do the same thing as full-time officers.

The votes to add the amendment were 6 in favour, 3 abstentions and 1 against. The amendment to the motion **passed**.

JF took the opportunity to speak against the motion pointing out that, regardless of changes to title, there is still a hierarchy. For example, the SU President gets automatic right to attend NUS National Conference.

BA spoke against the motion as a whole because of his view that the motion does not eliminate hierarchy but it creates a two-tiered hierarchy rather than a three-tiered. He adds that MH’s amendment further deviates from its original intention of removing hierarchies.

KV spoke in favour of the two-tiered structure.

With 9 votes for the motion with added amendment and 1 abstention, the policy **passed**.

1. **The future of student activities**

EHSU Vice President Activities DB submitted this motion via email. It can be read [here](https://www.edgehillsu.org.uk/student-voice/amm-2018).

DB presented the motion. Chair offered opportunity for students to speak for and against.

DB clarifies that this motion is not just to create an additional role but to address the gap in service that is currently not being met for students. The shape of the Union has changed to the point where the Student Activities have increased. Students want more events.

JF asks question about where funding for this would come from? – will the current salary be split between the two roles? Will there be a pay cut?

EHSU VP LM clarifies the remit of the AMM as financial implications need to be considered. The trustee board will have to approve this motion because of the financial ramifications.

BA offers thanks and commendation to DB for all his hard work.

With 8 votes for, 1 vote against and 1 abstention – the motion **passed**.

1. **Nightline – Molly Houghton**

EHSU Vice President Welfare MH submitted this motion via email. It can be read [here](https://www.edgehillsu.org.uk/student-voice/amm-2018).

MH presented the motion, explaining Nightline’s function, purpose, and making the case for why EHSU should sign up to the service. Chair offered opportunity for students to speak for and against.

JF questioned whether someone would need to be paid for this?

MH explains that Nightline is volunteer led. LM added to the above point – investment is scalable.

BA – how would students volunteer and be supported in the role if they were to volunteer for Nightline?

MH – A lot of what Nightline do is sign-posting. It is not meant to replace existing support structures and mechanisms but to add to them.

With 10 votes in favour, the policy is unanimously **passed**.

1. **Active Policy List**

As a second term Officer, VP Academic Representation LM took over as Chair to discuss Motions for lapse. These can be read [here](https://www.edgehillsu.org.uk/student-voice/policy). He explained that policies which are up for more period of three years will be removed unless a procedural motion is presented at the AMM.

MH suggested procedural motion to renew consent policy. This is unanimously **passed**.

EHSU President JB takes over as Chair as LM proposed procedural motion to renew the following policies: 4, 5, 8

DB suggests amendment – points 4 External speakers’ policy – should be tackled as a Union rather than just for Student Activities.

With 7 votes in favour and 1 abstention, the amendment **passed**.

BA suggested amendment that the No platform policy should ban Far left as well as far right.

LM offered clarification regarding the No platform policy – we cannot add or remove organisations from the list that the NUS has already established.

With regards to BA’s amendment, there were 4 votes against and 4 abstentions, hence it **did not pass**.

In regards to LM’s policy – 9 votes in favour of keeping policies 4, 5, 8 from the list. These policies are **accepted**.

Policies 1, 2, 6, 9, 7 will disappear.

EHSU President JB thanks everyone for attending the meeting.