

**Guild Council**  
**09:00, Thursday 9 September 2021, Zoom**  
**Notes**

*These notes are designed to capture key information on attendance, topics covered, decisions made, and actions assigned. It is not intended to be a detailed account of the discussions.*

**1. Welcome.**

In the absence of a Guild Chair, GP chaired the meeting and welcomed those in attendance.

**2. Attendance and Apologies.**

**Present**

GP	Guild President
VPE	Vice President Education
VPO	Vice President Opportunities
VPLE	Vice President Liberation & Equality
CO-BS	Business School College Officer
CO-Hums	Humanities College Officer
CO-CLES	Life and Environmental Sciences College Officer
CO-CMH	Medicine and Health College Officer
CO-EMPS	Engineering, Mathematics and Physics College Officer
CO-SSIS	Social Sciences and International Studies College Officer
10/11	Quoracy reached.

**Apologies**

-	None
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**In Attendance**

SGC	Student Governance Coordinator
SVM	Student Voice Manager
AICL	Academic Impact Coordinator (St Luke's)

**3. Notifications of any other business.**

None.

**4. FOR INFORMATION: Introduction to Guild Council.**

SGC gave a presentation on Guild Council which outlined the Guild's function as a charity, company, and SU with associated governance. Guild Council focusses on democracy: any student may attend and it's function is officer accountability, discussion, and making student policy. SGC outlined the expectations for members of Guild Council and explained the administration cycle for each meeting.

The Guild must review its governance every 5 years and this has been ongoing. Last year, to facilitate this work, the democratic structure was rationalised to just be Guild Council. This year we are working with [Dem Soc](#) to work towards longer-term solutions.

Contact SGC for any further assistance or advice with Council ([voice@exeterguild.com](mailto:voice@exeterguild.com)) or see the [website](#).

**5. FOR DECISION: Approval of Student Trustees.**

The [paper](#) was taken as read. GP summarised: asking for approval of the appointments committee's recommendation. This is the first time student trustees have been appointed (to help achieve more diversity). Trustees responsibility is the Guild itself so do not have a personal political agenda (in contrast to elected officers). There was a huge range of high-quality applicants and 11 of them were interviewed. These were fantastic candidates and are representative of the student body's diversity (e.g. course, background).

- Scarlett Liberty Hilson-Wheeler
- Alfie Samuel Carlisle
- Thibagaran Baskaran
- Idris Mohammad Bin Mohammad Affrin

SGC clarified that the terms of office for Scarlett, Thibagaran, and Idris would be up to two years (or less if they stop being students) and Alfie is for one year (as has already been a student trustee for a year).

Guild Council voted on the recommended candidates for student trustees: Approve: 10, Disapprove: 0, Abstain: 0.

*The CO-CMH dropped out of the call and they gave their proxy to CO-Business.*

Guild Council therefore voted to **approve** the candidates for student trustees.

**Action:** GP will have the approved candidates informed of their approval.

## **6. FOR DECISION: Approval of Interim Byelaws for the year 2021/22.**

The [paper](#) was taken as read. GP summarised: Being asked to repeal the current byelaws (and associated policy) and replace with these proposed interim byelaws. Within the next year, hope to write a longer-term set of byelaws (being done now due to student feedback: the byelaws are confusing, limiting, and restrictive). The byelaws are too rigid to allow us to try experimental democratic engagement. It was noted that proxy voting will no longer be allowed.

GP is chairing this meeting as no Guild Chair in place. GP proposed an application and interview process to appoint an independent chair for Guild Council (would not have an opinion but facilitate without bias). VPO, VPLE, and VPE supported this approach. Guild Council agreed that an FTO, a CO, a staff member, and a trustee should be involved in the process. GP will chair the meeting if one is not appointed in time for the next meeting.

Guild Council voted on repealing the current byelaws (and associated student policy) and adopting the proposed interim byelaws (as set out in the paper): Approve: 10, Disapprove: 0, Abstain: 0.

*CO-SSIS voted on behalf of CO-CMH as their proxy. CO-CLES confirmed their vote after the meeting as they dropped out of the call before the vote.*

Guild Council therefore voted to **approve** the repealing of the current byelaws (and the student policy) and adopting the proposed interim byelaws. The student policy has therefore been repealed. The byelaw changes will come into effect if the Board of Trustees also votes to approve them.

**Action:** GP and the SGC will send the byelaw changes to the Board of Trustees.

**Action:** GP and the SGC will start the recruitment process for a chair of Guild Council.

## **7. Any other business.**

The SGC asked to be notified if there are clashes with meetings once timetables are released.

*The meeting ended at 10:26. The next meeting is at [13:00, 6 October 2021](#), in DH2 and on Zoom.*