

**COUNCIL MEETING NO. 6**

**1ST MARCH 2011, 6.00 PM.**

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**Chair:** C Bernard

**Present:** J Akinagbe, J Anderson, S Anwar, Z Asghar, M Batty, J Buck, J Dresner, A Goodman, Z Gothelf, D Hardwick, M Harrison, G Hassan, H Hill, T Javed, L Kaplan, O Kasin, E Kerry, A Khan, R McKeown, Luke Newton, H Paterson, A Razaq, M Saqib, A Sheikhi, L Sterie, A Tahboub, A Walters.

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**APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted for absence from O Abdulrazeg, R Arkush, T Brook, F McGough, C McLellan, M Mahfouz, A Milne, L Newton, T Olawoki, H Omara, W Sheikh, S Wakefield, J Woodcock.

In the absence of a quorate General Meeting, this motion had been brought to Council so that the referendum could be prepared for members to vote on it at the same time as the elections. There were also various deadlines to be met, such as presenting the new Constitution to the University's General Assembly in May and registering with the Charities Commission.

**MOTION C – EVOLVING UNION**

Proposer: Emma Kerry

Seconder: Jeremy Buck

**THIS UNION NOTES**

1. That The Union (UMSU) needs to register as an independent charity.
2. That The Union needs to demonstrate achievement of our aims for this to happen.
3. That the constitution can only be changed by a 1000 strong General Meeting or at a 3000 strong Referendum.
4. That changing the decision-making system requires constitutional change.
5. That the Union has undergone wide consultation with its members on how they would like to make decisions about the Union.

**THIS UNION BELIEVES**

1. That The Union should remain a charity.
2. That in order to achieve our charitable aims we need to demonstrate a well functioning and democratic decision making structure.
3. That the most democratic process is the one that engages the most members.
4. That The Union needs to engage a larger number of students at all levels of decision making.

5. That the current system has prevented positive student initiatives from happening.
6. That the Union needs a stronger focus on students making positive changes.

**THIS UNION RESOLVES**

1. To hold a referendum to implement a new decision making system through constitutional change.
2. That this referendum will present a new constitution, written by Executive and seen by Council.
3. That members will be presented with the question:  
"Do you wish to approve of this new constitution?",  
which will be answerable with Yes, No or Abstain.
4. That members will also be able to vote on separate sections of the constitution, giving their view on preferred decision-making structure, including, but not limited to, Exec roles and ways that the student body can achieve action.

**18 : 2 : 7  
Carried**

**MEETING CLOSED : 7.05 P.M.**