## The Falmouth & Exeter Students’ Union

## Annual General Meeting (Draft)

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| Date | 17 February 2020 | Time | 16:00 |
| Location | DM Lecture B, Penryn Campus | | |
| Attendance | Callie Edwards (CE) President Falmouth (Chair)  Joe Rigby (JR) President Exeter  Sarah Davey (SD) Chief Executive – The SU (Speaker)  Karen Pardoe Project Officer (minutes) | | |

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|  | Minute |
| **1** | **Welcome from Chair**  **1.1 Noted:** that this was an adjourned meeting from last week as a quorum was not reached. As a quorum was not reached within half an hour of this meeting, the members present were considered the quorum. There were 43 members present by 4:30pm. |
| **2** | **Ratification of minutes of previous AGM**  **2.1 Approved:** the minutes from the last AGM dated 21 November 2018 were ratified by Callie Edwards and Sarah Redman seconded them. |
| **3** | **Receiving the report of the Trustees on the Union’s activities since the previous AGM and receiving the accounts from the previous financial year**  **3.1 Received:** theReport of the Trustees and Financial Statements (Year ending July 2019) – SD presented this report, noting that it can be found at the Charity Commission for public viewing. SD gave a verbal update from the auditor’s report, citing there were no major concerns or risks highlighted. Further to this report, the below slides were presented to the members and SD talked through the description on each slide. |
| **4** | **List of affiliations 2018/19**  **4.1 Approved:** the affiliations for 2018/19 were the National Union of Students (NUS) £19,764 and British Universities & Colleges Sports (BUCS) £2,333. |
| **5** | **Appointment of the Auditors**  **5.1: Approved:** Lang Bennetts were approved to the auditors to prepare the Financial Statements 2019-2020. |
| **6** | **CIO Constitution**  **6.1 Noted:** JR presented this item, explaining that a new constitution is due and this had been created from model templates from NUS and the Charity Commission. A CIO model would mean The SU would move to incorporation, helping to minimise liabilities to trustees. There were two queries before the vote took place.  **6.2: Noted**: a member asked whether an unincorporated charity did genuinely put students off from applying to be Trustees as all four recent Presidential positions were ran contested by more than 2 people in each post. CE answered that it was a genuine concern and cited the current vacancies in student trustee positions and Lay trustee positions.  **6.3 Noted**: a member asked whether Officer Trustees were eligible to vote as they had a conflict of interest in this item, citing clause 91 in the constitution. This concern was noted however this clause was related to Trustee Meetings, rather than AGM’s. The vote proceeded with the Officers Trustees eligible to vote.  **6.4: Noted:** JR read out the following resolution: *"It is resolved to authorise the Trustees to transfer the assets and liabilities of the Union to a limited liability entity established for exclusively charitable purposes with the same or similar objects, and to dissolve the Union at any time following the transfer if it is considered appropriate to do so, in accordance with clause 6 of the Union's constitution".* The result was: 21 members for, 21 members against and 1 member abstained.  **6.5 Noted:** Further queries after the vote were discussed including the term of office for student trustees where a member queried whether the term should be 2 years and felt that one year was fairer. CE answered that this was standard in Students’ Unions, offering continuity to the Trustees Board, and the term of office would terminate anyway once the student finishes their studies.  **6.6 Noted:** a member queried the numbers required for a vote of no confidence required to remove a Sabbatical Trustee, stating that he felt it was too high for the student body. JR replied that these numbers were higher than what is proposed for a normal referendum however it was felt that higher level of votes was appropriate to offer protection to Officers.  **6.7 Noted:** a member queried the number of ‘administration staff’ in the last financial accounts citing 17 staff members and asked whether a saving could be made by reducing this number. CE explained that this number including a wide range of staff rather than several ‘administrators’. SD explained that there been risks in the past whereby gaps in the Union had meant risks in the elections approach and gaps in governance. SD further explained that the new constitution went some way to bridge that gap, simplifying the Bye-Laws, reducing committees and streamlining processes for the benefit of the members. |
| **7** | **Open questions to the Trustees by the Members.**  **7.1 Noted:** No further questions. |
| **8** | **AGM closes** |