

CD2: Minutes of the British Youth Council Annual Council Meeting 2016 (Unapproved)

6th September 2016, Coventry

Welcome and Introductions

Michael Olatokun, Chair

- Welcome and introductions of key members
- Housekeeping, first aid
- Equal Opportunities statement
- Brief overview of agenda
- Appropriate behaviour

Michael Olatokun, Chair explained the key purpose of ACM 2016:

- Accountability: chance to find out what your organization has been doing got you and on your behalf
- Elections: officers and ordinary trustees
- Policy: debate policy to shape the direction of BYC over the coming year
- Brief overview of agenda
- What's on your table: important documents that will be used throughout the day – election question sheet, procedural motion guide

2015 Minutes – presented for approval by the meeting

Michael Olatokun presented the ACM 2015 minutes for approval by the council and they were approved. Jon Foster (Chair) and Ife Grillo (Board) approved the motion.

Question from the National Union of Students: will there be a report on the Governance review?

The Board confirmed there would be.

BYC Board of Trustee and Finance Report

Michael introduced Jon Foster (BYC Chair) and Luke Thornton (Vice-Chair Finance) the Board of Trustees and Finance report.

Jon delivered Board of Trustees Report covering:

- Equality and diversity statistics
- Activities and achievements over the last year
- International
- Work with members
- Current and future campaigns and plans
- Looking forward and changes: farewell to James and welcoming Jo

There were no questions put to the Chair.

Luke Thornton (Vice-Chair Finance) delivered Finance Report covering:

- Vice-Chair Finance role
- Revenue and expenditure changes
- Balance sheet and reserves
- Changes in recent months
- Looking ahead

Luke Thornton (Vice-Chair Finance) presented an update on the Governance review

- What the Board has done – scoping exercise and consultations
- Explained the significance of James (CEO) stepping down in recent months and that consequently the governance review has been paused.
- The Board proposes to keep the Governance review open to continue with the new CEO.

Questions put to Chair and Vice-Chair Finance were:

1. A delegate from the National Union of Students:

What steps are in place to address low reserves?

Luke responded: the board are looking at diversifying revenue streams, such as sponsorship and consultancy. They are conscious of where BYC can change expenditure, which James and Emily have been leading on. They are avoiding a negative impact on membership offering.

2. A delegate from the National Union of Students:

Asked about the decision to pause the Governance review in light of the CEO change, considering the Governance review shouldn't be done with just one individual in mind.

Luke responded.

3. A delegate from Ambitious about Autism

Question regarding the outcome of the EU referendum: what do they anticipate the main challenges will be with funding streams, for example international work and Erasmus funding.

Jon responded: they are starting conversations and there will be no significant impact in the short term. In the long term there is uncertainty. BYC is in communication with the Cabinet Office.

Luke responded: they are keeping an eye on currency changes, and BYC has a lot of staff expertise in the area.

Elections of BYC Officers: Chair, Vice-Chair – Finance, Vice Chair – Campaigns and Communications, Vice Chair – Participation and Development

Michael introduced Robert Harding (Electoral Reform Services) as the Deputy Returning Officer for these elections and hands the next part of the meeting to him.

Robert Harding introduced the election and how it would run, including the following points:

- Treat candidates with respect
- Each officer candidate will have three minutes to make a speech and will receive a warning when they have thirty seconds remaining.
- There is an opportunity to ask questions directed at all candidates – sheets for putting forward questions are provided on the tables and they should be handed to BYC staff on the floor.
- The questions should be directed at the position rather than any individuals.
- How you vote using the single transferable vote - the 1, 2, 3 system.
- Candidate called RON - this stands for re open nominations and you have the right to vote for this candidate.

The Speeches

Chair of Board

- Anna Barker
- Sam Foulder-Hughes
- RON

Questions collected from the floor and asked as described above.

Vice Chair - Finance

- Areeq Chowdhury
- Luke Thornton
- RON

Questions collected from the floor as described above.

Vice Chair – Campaigns and Communications

- Billy Howells
- Ife Grillo

- RON

Questions collected from the floor as described above.

Vice Chair – Participation and Development

- Jake Pitt
- Sam Johnson
- RON

The Vote Collection

Robert Harding announced that we collect the ballot papers.

Key points:

- Everyone is asked to hold the ballot papers in the air with their green voter wristband visible.
- The ballot box is shown empty to the council floor and then sealed and locked.
- Door stewards seal the doors and do not allow anyone in or out while the ballot papers are being collected.
- Candidates are reminded that they will be able to send an observer to the count.

The ballot box left the room and Michael resumed chair.

International Representatives' report

Michael introduced the international representative who gave an update on their activities.

UK Ambassador spoke.

Michael thanked them for their input and highlighted they will be available over lunch to chat.

BYC Policy Debate

Procedural motion 5 to change the agenda is proposed by the National Union of Students: they request that motion 16 is moved up the order paper to be placed 8th.

National Union of Students gave a speech for the motion.

A delegate gave a speech against the motion.

The vote was collected – the motion was not passed.

Michael informed the council that they are now going to discuss the first of the new policy motions that have been submitted by BYC members for inclusion in the manifesto.

Key points to cover:

- How the Manifesto is used by BYC – our priority campaigns come from here, it enables us to answer press and other enquiries, and overall forms the statement of what the British Youth Council believes.
- How the order of motions was chosen – using online voting platform with 64% turnout.
- We hope to discuss and vote on all of the motions in the time available but if we are unable to, the remainder will be sent to an online vote by members.
- Each motion has a 2 minute proposition speech, followed by the opportunity for a 2 minute speech against the motion. After that, 1 minute speeches will be taken, alternating between for and against the motion.
- There is also the opportunity for a 1 minute summation speech by the proposer if they wish to take it.
- Encourage members to keep their contributions succinct so that we can cover all the motions – the time allowed for speeches is a *limit*, not a *target*.
- If you wish for clarification please ask Jon and Francesca at the front, and to submit a procedural motion please use the guide and form provided and submit it to Jon and Francesca.
- The motions for debate can be found in order in document 11b.

Motion no 9: Improving young people’s wellbeing

Proposer for the motion: Girlguiding gave a two minute speech in favour for the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote is collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 8A1: Amendment: Make High Quality PSHE a Statutory entitlement for all young people (ADD amendment)

Proposer for the motion: Croydon Youth Council proposed the motion but no members were in attendance so the speech in favour of the motion was taken by the Chair, Jon.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 9: Amendment: ~~Make High Quality PSHE a Statutory entitlement for all young people.~~

Make high quality citizenship and sex and relationship (SRE) education a statutory entitlement. (CHANGE amendment)

Proposer for the motion: The National Union of Students gave a two minute speech in favour for the motion.

A speech was given against the motion

Girlguiding gave a one minute speech in favour of the motion

No further speeches against the motion.

Summation speech from the National Union of Students

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 18: Defend, promote and advocate for the rights of the LFBTQ community in the UK and internationally.

Proposer for the motion: The Scout Association gave a two minute speech in favour for the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 2: Cuts to Youth Services

Proposer for the motion: Brent Youth Parliament proposed the motion, but were not in attendance so the Chair (Jon) gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

Girlguiding proposed a CHANGE amendment to this motion – 2 minute speech in favour of amendment.

No speeches against the amendment.

Vote on amendment proposed by Girlguiding.

Amendment carried.

Chair gave a summation of motion 2A as amended.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

LUNCH

Results of Board of Trustee Officers

David Crone, Chair, invited James Cathcart as Returning Officer to announce the officer election results.

- Chair

Anna Barker duly elected with 58 votes.

- Vice Chair Finance

Luke Thornton duly elected with votes.

- Vice Chair Participation and Development

Ife Grillo duly elected with 92 votes.

- Vice Chair – Campaigns and Communications

Jake Pitt duly elected with 62 votes.

Ordinary Trustee Elections

Robert Harding introduced the election and announced that Kamara Bennett has withdrawn from the trustee elections.

Robert reminded everyone that we will follow the same procedure as for the elections of the officer, with the following:

Key points to cover

- Ballot Paper to be amended to take into account the result of the officer elections. This needs to be done by clearly scoring through the name of the candidate.
- Highlight how many spaces are available.
- Each candidate will have 2 minutes to make a speech.
- After all the candidates for that position have given their hustings speech delegates can ask 2 round of questions with up to 1 min per answer.
- These are to be written down and handed to one of the BYC Staff who will be present on the floor to collect them.
- The questions should be directed at the position rather than any individuals. First questions to be asked in alphabetical order, second random order.
- Same voting system you used before
- Candidate called RON – this stands for re open nominations and you have the right to vote for this candidate.

The Speeches (2 minutes each)

- Areeq Chowdhury
- Hannah Sharp
- Lawrence Thompson
- Lewis Addlington-Lee
- Mariam Inayat
- Michael Hatcher
- Poppie Simmonds
- Sarah Staples
- Shayne Tshabalala

Questions collected from the floor.

The vote collection

Robert Harding announced that we now collect the ballot papers.

Key points:

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- The ballot box is shown empty to the council floor and then sealed and locked.
- Door stewards close the doors and do not allow anyone in while the ballot papers are being collected.

Robert Harding handed back to the chair, David Crone.

Honorary President elections

David introduced the vote to approve the BYC's Honorary Presidents for 2016/17.

Key points to cover:

- BYC has three Honorary Presidents, one from each of the 3 largest political parties in the House of Commons.
- They are BYC ambassadors within the Parliament and within their own parties, helping us to keep the issues that our members identify for young people on the political agenda.
- Every BYC member organisation including the Board of Trustees had the opportunity to nominate MPs for the HP roles.
- As last year, there will be two options to vote: the candidate or RON.
- Voting is done by raising your cards either for the candidate or for RON.
- Note that if the proposed candidates are RONed the decision reverts to the Trustee Board.

For each nomination:

- Nomination 1: 2 minute for by proposer
- Nomination 2: 2 minute for by proposer
- RON: delegates who would like to make a case for re-open nominations to come forward.
- If no one proposes RON, straight to a vote

David called for speech to propose Jess Phillips as Labour candidate.

Girlguiding gave a two-minute gave speech for.

David called for speech to propose Wes Streeting as Labour candidate.

BYC Board gave a two-minute speech for.

The vote was collected and Wes Streeting was elected as Honorary President.

David called for speech to propose Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh as SNP candidate.

Girlguiding gave a two minute speech for.

David called for a speech to propose Angela Crawley as SNP candidate.

BYC Board gave a two minute speech for.

The vote was collected and Tasmina Ahmed-Sheikh was elected as Honorary President.

David called for a speech to propose Sarah Wollaston as Conservative candidate.

Jon Foster from the BYC Board gave a two minute speech.

Abdiwali Duale from The National Union of Students gave a two minute speech in favour of RON.

The vote was collected and Sarah Wollaston is elected as Honorary President.

Policy debate

David took back the chair and informed council that we are now going to resume discussion of the campaign policies in the order chosen by members.

Key points to cover:

- Remind delegates that there is a 16.15 cut-off for policy debates, after which motions referred to an online vote by members
- Following this, another online vote will be carried out to prioritise your campaigns for 2017, based on all the issues in the manifesto, including any new or amended motions.

Motion no 10: Tackling sexual harassment in schools

Proposer for the motion: Girlguiding gave a two-minute speech in favour for the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 21: Make learning first aid a compulsory part of obtaining a UK driving license.

Proposer for the motion: St John Ambulance gave a two-minute speech in favour for the motion.

The Boys Brigade gave a two-minute speech against the motion.

An Islington Youth Council delegate gave a one minute speech in favour of the motion.

Worcestershire Youth Cabinet gave a one minute speech against the motion.

St John Ambulance gave a summation speech.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 7: EU Referendum

Proposer for the motion: BYC Board gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 7: Stop and search rights

Proposer for the motion: Bristol City Youth Council gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 20: Legal recognition by UK Government of Non Binary Gender Identities

Proposer for the motion: Scout Association gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No speeches against.

The Scout Association gave a one minute summation.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 15: The lack of transport in rural areas and its impact on young people

Proposer for the motion: The National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 6: Refugees in Europe

Proposer for the motion: BYC Board gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 22: Mandatory LGBTQ Education in Schools

Proposer for the motion: Wigan and Leigh Youth Council gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 17: Rights for Young Europeans

Proposer for the motion: Salford Youth Council proposed the motion but were absent, so Jon (Chair) gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 11: Reclaiming the Internet – Tackling online abuse

Proposer for the motion: Girlguiding gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 3: Involvement in local level politics

Proposer for the motion: Bristol City Youth Council gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 23: Gender Equality in Schools and Youth Services

Proposer for the motion: Wigan and Leigh Youth Cabinet gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

A delegate gave a two minute speech against the motion.

Stockport Council gave a one minute speech in favour.

A delegate gave a one minute speech against.

Wigan and Leigh gave a one minute summation.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 16: Amendment: Fossil Free Energy (CHANGE amendment)

Proposer for the motion: The National Union of Students gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

No further speeches.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

Motion no 1: Employ Autism

Proposer for the motion: Ambitious About Autism gave a two minute speech in favour of the motion.

A delegate gave a two minute speech against the motion.

Ambitious About Autism gave a one minute summation.

The vote was collected in favour of the motion. Passed.

5 remaining motions remaining that will go to an online vote.

David invited James Cathcart as Returning Officer to announce the officer election results.

The following were elected as BYC Trustees:

- Hannah Sharp
- Lawrence Thompson
- Lewis Addlington-Lee
- Mariam Inayat
- Sarah Staples (1 year)

Closing

David invited outgoing chair, Jon Foster to give a speech and thanks.

David invited Anna Barker, incoming chair, to give closing speech.

ACM 2016 ends.