

## Discussion of EGM - Warwick Labour Executive Meeting 12/05/2017

**Present:** Julia Pearson, Tilly Smith, James Curley, Jack Hogg, Alex Delameilleure, Nathan Lavenstein, Adam Taylor, Carys Hill.

**Apologies:** Rob Blagov, Emma Worrall, Tom Honeywell, Laura Addison, Faiza Akhtar.

**Absent:** None.

**Observers:** None.

On request of membership. Written by Chair (Julia) and Secretary (Nathan). Further comments from Chair in footnotes.

Discussion of EGM (10/05/2017) - discussion on failure to floor proposed constitutional amendments.

- Nathan summarised the minutes from the EGM held on 10th May
- Julia accepted responsibility as Chair for failure to follow correct procedure for amendments.
- The following reasons for the failure were identified, and steps to prevent a similar incident in the future were agreed:
  - **Problem:** No clear procedure or experience for calling an EGM inherited from previous exec
    - **Action:** The creation of a guide detailing EGM procedures in consultation with SU by-laws, the Society constitution, and former and current exec members. To write this guide after the exam season, when time demands on committee members are lessened and previous exec members are still present.
  - **Problem:** A need to hold the EGM by the week ending 12/05/17 to comply with Labour Students deadlines for delegates, leading to insufficient time for proper preparation
    - **Action:** make Labour Students Conference delegates aware of issues in tight time constraints and poor organisation from the body we would like improved.
  - **Problem:** Failure of the SU Societies Officer to respond to Nathan's notification of EGM and request for returning officer which may have resulted in an earlier awareness of the problems.
  - **Problem:** There were further issues in the proposed wording of the amendments themselves, as a result of the short time period available to create and discuss them. A failure to consult with the wider society before sending the proposed amendments to the EGM<sup>1</sup>, which may have led to the above issues being identified
    - **Action:** To re-write the proposed amendments for inclusion in the next General Meeting. Greater consultation with the wider Society before sending these proposed amendments to a General Meeting.<sup>2</sup>
  - **Problem:** Proposed constitutional amendments unable to be seen at EGM; they should be voted on by the society membership before any exec elections,

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<sup>1</sup> Chiefly due to the rushed timescale

<sup>2</sup> A consultation session with members near the end of term 3 was suggested, to involve members who would later graduate this year.

which they may alter the nature of (otherwise the unseen amendments, if passed, would have not altered the nature of how the society runs).

- **Action:** To call an EGM in one of the following times: Week 8-10 Term 3; early-mid Term 1; December Term 1 (to coincide with Labour Students delegate elections). The present exec saw early-mid Term 1 as optimal as did not wish to delay proceedings, though felt due to exams Week 8-9 term 3 would be too early and not allow time for previous actions to be undertaken (notably creation of EGM guidelines and re-writing and consultation on constitutional amendments) without the potential for rushing and/or future failure. As other exec members who had proposed differing times were not present the decision of when best to hold this EGM will be later decided. The suggestion of those present is early-mid Term 1.
- **Problem:** Members requested for results of this discussion to be made available, whilst full minutes are not currently published due to secrecy of general election campaigning.
  - **Action:** Creation of this document detailing this information only to be uploaded on the Warwick Labour website, and advertised through appropriate awareness-raising means such as the weekly email.
- As not all exec members were present, Carys suggested the above be further discussed at the next meeting, which was agreed by the Chair.