

26th March 2009

17:00

CSC Meeting
Room

Conservative Society Meeting

Meeting called by:	Kieran Weisberg	Type of meeting:	Informal post elect
Start time:	17:10	Minute taker:	Kieran Weisberg
Finish time:	18:30		
In attendance:	Kieran Weisberg, Asa Bennett, Emily Cheah, Iain Martin and Brian Middleton		

Minutes

Agenda item: Review of positions, roles and expectations **Presenter:** KW

Discussion: Discussion held by all in attendance.

Committee members should attend ALL events, but it is acknowledged that studies must take priority. Apologies should be directed to the President ahead of the event. All committee members should speak with members at events and encourage members to take part in questioning our speaker, debating, campaigning and other political activities. All committee members will be expected to assist with carrying wine glasses/literature/posters from the President's home and purchasing wine. Furthermore, whilst it is the President's duty to ensure all committee members are performing their duties, committee members should consult with the President if they feel a committee member is no longer committed to their duties.

President's duties – Arrange speakers, book rooms, liaise with committee, liaise with union, delegate duties to committee members and maintain relations with sponsors. In addition the President will introduce the speaker and act as Chair to any debates or questioning. The President will be accountable to the Union, committee and members and may call EGM's and Committee Meetings as necessary.

Treasurer's duties – Oversee society finances, liaise with President when organising events, complete BACs forms to reimburse costs and to submit event budgets. This year the Treasurer will also act as a link between the HSPCA and encourage campaigning.

Vice President's duties – Give vote of thanks after speaker events, assist with serving wine and preparing the venue. In the event of the President absence at events, the Vice President will perform the Presidents duties – the Website and Publicity Office will in turn perform the Vice-Presidents duties.

General Secretary's duties – Maintain mailing list, write and forward weekly society email to members on behalf of the President, take meeting minutes at future meetings, forward meeting agendas and minutes ahead of future meetings.

Social Secretary's duties – Speak with members about event ideas and provide feedback to the President, liaise with the President and assist with organising events, phone bars ahead of pub crawls, ensure members know where we will be socialising

Website and Publicity Officer's duties – Maintain and update the society website, provide website statistics to the President, post event details on the website as soon as confirmed, produce event advertising posters. Take photos at each event and post online the following morning or as soon as possible.

Caerulean Editor's duties – To edit the Society paper, obtain articles from members, liaise with the General Secretary and the President on advertising the society paper, to liaise with the Treasurer on printing the paper for increased circulation.

Society Whip and UCLU Societies Liaison Officer – to liaise with other relevant UCLU Societies such as 'Labour', 'Lib Dem' & 'Stop the war' to increase awareness of society events and to avoid event clashes, to report other relevant events at our society events, also to liaise with the President and the General Secretary to ensure any events of relevance to our members are included in our weekly email.

External Conservative Societies Liaison Officer – to liaise with other CF branches and Conservative Associations to increase awareness of the society events and to avoid major event clashes. also to liaise with the President and the General Secretary to ensure any events of relevance to our members are included in our weekly email.

Agenda item: Event Changes/Additions **Presenter:** KW

Discussion: Discussion held by all in attendance.

The society should host a weekly event on Tuesday nights and should include:-

- A 'Welcome Drinks Reception' - an informal welcome reception, no guest speaker, dress code to be advertised as casual, advertised as 'Welcome Drinks Reception' with a subheading to include 'G&T' - must be first event, a free raffle will take place with a choice of Champagne, Wine,
- A 'Tuesday Night Wine Reception with...' with a key political speaker, dress code to be advertised as smart casual - should be held during 'try fortnight'
- Two 'Westminster Pub Crawls' - one to be held each term
- Two 'Port and Policy' - one to be held each term
- One 'Question Time' - to occur in second term and to consist of a range of journalists, PPC's, MP's or Bloggers
- One 'PPC Reception' - prefer to be held in second term ahead of election – to invite George Lee, Joanne Cash, Margot James, Chris Phillips and Zac Goldsmith
- One 'Pub Quiz'
- A 'Summer Barbeque and Pimms Reception' – to be our final event
- Were possible, the event preference should be a 'Tuesday Night Wine Reception' but it is acknowledged that where this cannot occur we should host one of the above 'alternative' events.

Agenda item: Speakers **Presenter:** KW

Discussion: Discussion held by all in attendance.

Action: Speakers: - The President should try to secure the following speakers: (Vaguely in order of preference!). It is noted that the list is not exhaustive and many on the list will not be able to attend.

David Cameron MP (Leader of the Conservative Party)

Kenneth Clark MP (Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform)

Eric Pickles MP (Chairman of the Conservative Party)

George Osborne MP (Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer and General Election Campaign Coordinator)

Phillip Hammond MP (Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury)
Baron Patten of Barnes (Patron TRG and Former Governor to Hong Kong)
Oliver Letwin (Chairman of the Policy Review and of the Conservative Research Department)
Nicholas Soames MP (Society Patron and MP for Mid-Sussex)
Anne Widdecombe MP
David Willetts MP (Shadow Secretary of State for Innovation, Universities and Skills)
Greg Clark MP (Shadow Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change)
Mark Francois MP (Shadow Minister for Europe)
Chris Grayling MP (Shadow Home Secretary),
Dominic Grieve MP (Shadow Secretary of state for Justice and Shadow Attorney General),
Owen Paterson MP (Shadow Secretary of State for Northern Ireland),
Baroness Anelay (Opposition Chief Whip in the Lords)
Sayeeda Warsi (Shadow Minister for Community Cohesion and Social Action)
Daniel Hannan MEP
Syed Kamall MEP
Douglas Murray
Fraser Nelson (Political editor of The Spectator)
Matthew d'Ancona (Political editor of The Spectator)
Iain Dale (Conservative Blogger)

Agenda item: Post Reception Venue **Presenter:** KW

Discussion: Discussion held by all in attendance.

The President proposed the Student Union as the society's local haunt after events. The Treasurer noted that any of the people who go to Potion do not attend the event and it is more sociable and has better cocktails.

Action: The Social Secretary should try and negotiate a 'discount card' with Potion and next term we will re-evaluate our after reception venue.

Agenda item: Advertising **Presenter:** KW

Discussion: Discussion held by all in attendance.

Society Email – A 'Wednesday Weekly Em@il' should be sent to our members by the General Secretary on behalf of the President. It should include a 'President's summary' of the previous night's event, a preview of the following Tuesday's event and an updated event timetable, it should also include links to the society website and photo site. It was noted that members do not like being 'bombarded' with emails, so this will be the only email sent. If the Society Whip and UCLU Societies Liaison Officer or the External Conservative Societies Liaison Officer have any events to advertise, they should give the information to the General Secretary in good time to make the email.

Union Email – The President should ensure the Union Communications Officer advertises the society events in the weekly union email and on the union website.

Posters – The Website and Publicity Officer should produce an event poster ahead of each event, they should liaise with the Treasurer to have the poster printed and should

ensure it is displayed around campus one week before the event. Flyers should also be produced and distributed in the union and the given to UCLU Societies Liaison Officer and the External Conservative Societies Liaison Officer who in turn will distribute them around other events.

Word of mouth – the UCLU Societies Liaison Officer and the External Conservative Societies Liaison Officer should ensure or events are announced at other societies/CF events.

Rare FM – the Publicity Officer should speak with the broadcaster of Rare FM to advertise our event on the Monday and Tuesday of the event.

Union Plasma Screens - the Publicity Officer should speak with the Union Communications Officer and try to advertise our event on the Monday and Tuesday of the event.

Agenda item: Fresher's Fayre **Presenter:** KW

Discussion: Discussion held by all in attendance.

Where possible committee members should be expected to assist and rotate at the Fresher's Fayre. We will not distribute CCHQ propaganda leaflets, but will distribute gifts such as playing cards, pens, memory sticks ect. We should also distribute a stylish A5 flyer with a proposed event schedule on one side and a 'Welcome Reception' invitation on the other.

A further meeting will be held closer to the time to discuss the exact expectations and logistics.

Action: The President should ask the Union to situate us next to the "L's" such as Liberal Democrats and Labour.

Agenda item: Any other business **Presenter:** ALL

Discussion: The External Conservative Societies Liaison Officer suggested he should have a business card to hand out at events.

Action: The President will look into producing a limited number of business cards for any Committee member who feels they may benefit from such an investment.

Discussion: The Treasurer suggested we focus our campaigning efforts in Holborn and St Pancras (George Lee) and in winnable seats in London. The President suggested we extend our courtesy to Hornsey and Wood Green (Richard Merrin) as Richard has continued to be a key supporter of our society. The President also suggested the society try and make links with Richmond Park (Zac Goldsmith) as the society should work towards securing more support.

Discussion: The President suggested we increase our number of patrons to reflect the nature of our supporters. All agreed that George Lee (PPC for HSPCA), Paul Barton (Chairman of

HSCPA), Richard Merrin (PPC for Hornsey and Wood Green) and Tim Barnes (Deputy Chairman of HSPCA & Executive Director of UCL Advances) should be made Patrons of our society.

Agenda item: Next meeting

Presenter: KW

The next Committee Meeting will take place towards the end of May, depending on Exam Timetables. A subsequent meeting will take place in September ahead of the new academic year.

Respectfully submitted,

Kieran Weisberg 30th March 2009

Treasurer and President-Elect