

University of Leeds Speleological Association

Committee meeting held in Cardigan Arms, Kirkstall on 12th March 2025

Attendees in Person:

Alice Shackley

Adam Pearce

Aidan Keegan – Student President

Ben Chaddock

Joseph Bennett – Student Social Secretary

Carla Tonks – Student Secretary

Arthur Watkinson

Mike Butcher – President

Tara Delaney

Megan Gransden

Eleanor Ritchie

Thomas Brock

Chris Williams –

Janey Gregory

Adam EJ

Attendees Online:

Lyndon

Emily Williams – Student Welfare Officer

Rachel Turnbull

Shezzi

Tim Williams

Adam Baldock

Faris Alkhemesi

Kristian Brooke

Nathanial

Matty Shawcross

Dinny Davis

Meeting started at 19:00

Apologies: John Holloway, Ane Appelt

No proxy

AGM circulated on 4th march

Rachel proposing minutes, Ben Chaddock Seconding

No objections

Matters from previous AGM:

None raised

Presidents report: Good year, 60th year of ULSA. Big dinnermeet this year. Lindy circulated details before. Will be on the 13th and 15th June. Would be good to get as many people as possible. Student club healthy, going out regularly on Tuesday. Training well attended. Kristian attending frequently. Cavingwise, good trips, no rescues. ULSA Trip to south wales last summer. Would be good to do more meets. Students done more trips, bradford, wales.

Secretary report: Absent, possibly stepping down for childcare

Treasurer: Accounts from 2024. Main income from membership. BCA insurance main expense. Other bits and pieces. ULSA had just under 5000 at the end of the year. Remaining Watty fund is 568. Watty was the ULSA president, died 10 years ago. Members committed money as a result.

Training coordinator: Things going well, particularly due to active trainers who enjoy turning up for shenanigans. No shortage of trainers, overrun, good for practicing strange rigging. All good on that front.

Social organizer: Main ulsa trip was south wales, well attended. Would be good to get another scheduled at a different time of year to encourage more students. Nadia likely not restanding. Janey happy to take place

Librarian: Emily coopted. Library located in Edward Boyle basement. Descent collection is complete. BCRA journals to go into the library from Chris Williams

Distribution and sales Officer: No sales aside from Adam baldock buying one survey. Small stock of surveys destroyed in flood. Discussion of moving surveys online (watermarked and freely available).

Photographer: Unavailable

Editor: Didn't do anything, nothing to report. Potential newsletter in the making, will happen when it will happen. Potential contributions to insane ramblings suggested (EJ suggested adding caving rants). More rants suggested by Mike as few have been written recently.

Webmaster: Unavailable, potentially not wanting to restand. Mike: Role described. Potential malware issues. Minutes not appearing on some devices

Conservation Officer: (Microphone not working) Reply to be added later

Ordinary committee members:

Mike Fern – Email list assistance, not seen much. Still a member, donated goodies for dinnermeet raffle prizes

Rachel Turnbull – Helping with memberships. 108 ULSA members this year. 53 non-luucas . Overall decrease in membership from 142 in both ULSA and LUUCAS. Many non-students did not renew membership. Mike looking for list of non-renewers. Potentially inviting non-renewers to dinnermeet to encourage renewal.

Lydon – Sorts out dinnermeets. Update: Missed last committee meeting. Plan is to have things going on on both Friday and Saturday. Got in touch with Yorkshire dales guides, got quotes on potential bands. ULSA band reformation discussed. Friday night plan barbeque. Contacts in craven pothole club. Have people arrive with their own food, arriving at whatever time. Saturday will be straightforward meal with ULSA lilt. Soup and fruit crumble. Barrels of beer, maybe 2 per pint. Trips to be done, potential permit for penyghent pot. CNCC has information board about what they do. Usual amounts of prizes from local businesses (potential pottery. Other merchandise considered). Hoping to get in touch with somebody who met their husband at during the formation of ULSA.

Committee Elections:

Need proposers and seconders for new members.

Core Roles:

President – Mike Restanding. All voted for except Shezzi

Treasurer – Chris Williams restanding. All in favour

Secretary – John stepping down. Matt Dolton stepping up. Proposed by John, seconded by Mike. All in favour

Other Committee:

Training coordinator – Adam EJ restanding. Mike propose, Rachel second All in favour

Meet secretary – Janey standing. Alice propose, EJ seconding 2 Abstain, rest in favour

Librarian – Emily Williams standing. Aidan proposing, Ben Seconding. 4 Abstaining, rest in favour

Distributions and Sales – Shezzi restanding. 5 Abstaining, rest in favour

Photographer – Ane Appelt stepping down. Ben Chaddock standing, Carla proposing, Aidan seconding. 3 Abstaining, rest in favour

Editor – Kristian Brooke restanding. Tara Delaney standing. Mike proposing as pair, Arthur seconding. 4 Abstaining, rest in favour.

Webmaster – Malcomb Briggam stepping down. Alice standing. Dinny proposing, Rachel seconding. 5 Abstaining, rest in favour.

Conservation Officer – Libby assumed to be stepping down. Aidan stepping up. Alice Proposing, Mike seconding. 6 Abstaining, 1 against, rest in favour.

Ordinary committee. Lindy, Rachel, Mike Fern restanding. 4 Abstaining, rest in favour

Constitutional amendments:

Rachel proposal - Aidan proposing (needs to be added) 1 Abstaining, 1 against, rest in favour

Aidan: to work on club merch.

Tim: RGS 28th April MULU event

Mike: Vote of thanks for those stepping down. John Holloway for all contributions. Michael Briggam, Ane Appelt, Libby Dodsworth.

Next meeting:

All happy with current format around same time of year. Week commencing 9th March 2026, 7PM. Preferably not on a Tuesday to avoid overlap with student training. Strong vote for Thursday.

Actions:

Follow up on membership non-renewal

Repay domain name fees

Meeting ending at 20:20