



November 24, 2025, 18:00-20:00

ABERYSTWYTH STUDENT'S UNION

November 2025 SENEDD





Agenda

Welcome

1. Welcome and Apologies for any Absences.
2. Approval of Last meetings minutes.
3. Any Matters arising from the minutes.
4. Officers Report
5. Lapsing Policy (For Information)

Ideas

Idea one: Should Undeb Aber change the name of the Independent Officer to AberCares Officer

Idea two: Approval Process for UMCA President Election

Policy Discussion

6. [Petition for Free Laundry Services for Full-Time Residence.](#) (Please familiarise yourself with the original policy idea)

End of meeting comments

7. Any other Business.
8. Date of next meeting.
9. End of meeting.



Minutes

Senedd

27/10/2025

Francesco Lanzi (Chair)

Millicent Hackett (FTO)

Nanw Hampson (FTO)

Ffion Johns (FTO)

Esperanza Bizama (FTO)

Tanaka Chikomo (FTO)

Natasha Goodwin (VO)

Billy Smith (VO)

Harley Harrison (VO)

Kathleen Hinton Pritchard (VO)

Livvy Hagget (SOC)

Spencer Tinklin (FO)

Mesh Tamilchelven (VO)

Mason Gee (VO)

Priyanka Singh (VO)

Laura Young (VO)

Melissa Eyre (VP)

Gwenno Roberts (UMCA)

Tomos Parry (UMCA)

Florence Rawlinson (AR)

Ula Archer (AR)

James Shepard (SPORT)

Matthias Pavlides (SPORT)

Janos Vranek (SPORT)

Max Roycroft (SPORT)

Saul Ashton (SPORT)

James Ashfort (SOC)

Kate Crowthur (SOC)

Alex Marsh (SOC)

Members in attendance:



Also in attendance: (Student Observers)

Ash Perfitt

Francesca Betz

Varsha Raj (FO) Apologies Not Sent

Blue Bell (VO) Apologies Not Sent

Elliw Mair (VO) Apologies Sent

Duraab Arshad (VO) Apologies Sent

Fresno Rhys Thomas (VO) Apologies Not Sent

Absent:

Agenda	Item	Notes	Voting Breakdown		
			Yes	No	Abstain
Welcome and Opening Remarks	The Union Chairperson welcomed everyone present at the meeting	Union Chairperson welcomes everyone to the meeting. Meeting started: 6:10 Chair said update of sharing attendance and how members have voted. You can see the breakdown of this on the Undeb Aber website.			
	Apologies for Absence	Elliw and Duraab sent their apologies for the meeting.			
	Last Minutes Meeting and matters arising	No minutes or matters arising to approve			
	Introductions	Everyone in the room introduced themselves.			
Election of deputy chair	Asking who would like to stand and voting.	Chair asked who would like to stand. Kait (SOC) – fair and everyone should have a voice Florence (AP) – hear people’s opinions and will always be here Tasah (VO) – listens and won’t judge Harley (VO) – friendly and forthcoming and a constitutional nerd so happy to help work on this in standing orders and making sure the rules are in place. Kait - 2 Florence – 2 Tasha – 5 Harley – 10 Harley has been elected deputy chair			
Lapsing Policy	Updates	No Lapsing Policy to note.			
Learn Welsh	UMCA Reps taught members of the Senedd key Welsh Words	Nanw did the Welsh lesson.			



Officers' Report	Officers to say what they have been working on and their priorities for the year.	Officers gave an update on what they have been working on. See report here. (Coming soon) Questions: Millie – none Tanaka – Harley (VO) asked about what the access able thing was. Tanaka explained that it was with Student Support and they were in conversations. Ffion – Spencer (FO) asked what RAG was. Ffion explained it was raising and giving. Melissa (VP) – asked who New Pathways are? Ffion explained they are a sexual violence support charity. Espe – James (SOC) asked if we would replace the statue? Espe explained that this was a very expensive thing to do. Nanw – none Senedd took a 10 min break - Gweno had to leave at this point			
Union Priority	Chair Explained the new process	Full time officers chose their priorities in the summer, but this does not allow time for officers to speak with students. Going forward officers will choose some of their priorities in the summer. The collective priority will be chosen in the AGM.			
	Discussion group feedback (General Priority idea)	Group A: Training for committee members – sexual assault allegations committee members are not sure what to do with them. Group B: Cost of living and making sacrifices around what you can afford – period products – eat or buying other products. Problems with period products not being restocked. Group C: Cost of living – aber is cheap but still not liveable. Also,			



		accommodation, bad housing conditions. Group D: cost of living. Bad housing and job market. Degrees being less valued. Tuition fees are raised. Students choosing between different types of essentials. Name and shame policy for bad jobs in town. Transport with limited availability and cancellations. Group E: Support for finding jobs at university and exploitation in work environments. They also spoke about housing in student accommodation and private. Pressure with landlords trying to make them pay for extras. Heating not working in accommodation. Asbestos in Cwrt Mawr and Panty as well – is it still there? The discussions were broken up into four groups with representatives to speak on them. • Student group training • Cost of living (transport, buying essentials, housing, employment) • Jobs and exploitation. • Housing and accommodation Ula (AR) Cost of living: loan doesn't even cover accommodation. They are having to work alongside uni. Kathleen (VO) Jobs: forum with legal advice to see if they have done something illegal. Maybe shouldn't be the union priority but something to work on. Forum to rate employers. Alex (SOC): Housing: university should do more about accommodation as infestations are grim. It should be clean. For town			
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		make a list of agencies the union endorse.			
	Discussion Group feedback (how it affects their groups)	• Transportation costs – sports – cost to go to events has made it really hard. • Students not being able to do social events. • Not being able to access essential stuff like period products. • Membership and bucks' costs going up. • Courses you need to buy a lot of things for and can affect students differently. • 3rd cheapest town to live in – students still focusing on joining a group or eating, needing more jobs. It should not be a worry. • Pg students a lot of academic textbooks that are not funded for as much. PGs also don't have maintenance loan.			
	Union Priority	Vote: Cost of living: 22 Housing: 4 Jobs: 0			
Any Other Business	Any other business: Chair said to log volunteer hours. Please come for photos if you don't already have them to go on the website. Next Senedd: 02/12/2024 Meeting Finished: 19:57				

FTO=Full Time Officer

VO=Volunteer Officer

FO = Faculty Officer

Sport=Sports Rep

Soc=Societies Rep

UMCA = UMCA Rep

VP = Volunteer Project Rep

AR = Academic Rep

Member = Member of SU but not a Senedd Member



Should Undeb Aber change the name of the Independent Officer to AberCares Officer

Submitted by: Kathleen Pritchard

Summary

The name independent student officer is too vague so should be changed to AberCares officer.

Details:

The independent student officer is too vague of a name to the point students do not know what it means including those that fall under the independent student category. AberCares specifically refers to the AberCares subsection listed on the university's webpage. If students are unsure what AberCares they can directly look it up and find what it covers and what support the university and su can offer.



Approval Process for UMCA President Election

Submitted by: Nanw Maelor Hampson

Summary

Establish an approval process for UMCA President candidates in order to protect the voice of UMCA members.

Details:

One of my priorities as an officer is to establish a constitution for the Aberystwyth Cymraeg Students' Union (UMCA), as well as drawing up a by-law for the Aber Union on UMCA and its actions within the Union.

The whole purpose of UMCA is to be a voice for Welsh students, but in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, not only Welsh speaking students can vote for their President. Although we fully recognize that law, there is a complex tension in the fact that it is not only UMCA members who elect the role of their President and that in a constituency where Welsh speaking students are a minority.

We therefore propose that a process be established that protects the voices of UMCA members when electing their President. The process will offer candidates the opportunity to meet with the Core Committee (President, Vice-President, Chairman, Secretary) in an approval process.

The purpose of this process will not be to exclude anyone from standing for the role and if in the rare case that a candidate is rejected, the Core Committee will be called upon to provide a logical justification for that decision. Rather, the intention is to set a framework that ensures that UMCA's values and needs are represented by candidates.

