University of Melbourne Student Union

Meeting of the Clubs & Societies Committee

Unconfirmed Minutes 9

10 am Tuesday May 19, 2026

Meeting 9/26

Location:
Room 201, Building 168 and Zoom (details available on request)

Meeting opened at 10:10am

1. Procedural Matters

1.1. Election of Chair

Motion 1: To elect Alex Gwynn as chair.	
Mover: Alex Gwynn	Seconder: Seamus Donnellan
CWD	

1.2. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Owners

Alex acknowledged.

Emily Zhang and Sara Liang arrived at 10:11am

1.3. Attendance

Staff: Melanie Gunton, Sara Pheasant

OBs: Alex Gwynn, Seamus Donnellan

Committee: Yunyi Chan, Joshua Solomon, Meiqi Liu, Tarish Kadam, Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick, Roger Cao, Lucia Flynn

BusinessOne: Skanda Ramanan, Chern Yue Khor, Ray He

Chinese Students and Scholars Association: Emily Zhang, Jingqi Sun, Sara Liang

1.4. Grant speaking rights to Coordinator (Standing Order 21.2)

Procedural Motion 1: To grant speaking rights to Melanie Gunton (Standing Order 21.2).
Mover: Alex Gwynn
CWD

1.5. Apologies

None

1.6. Proxies

None

1.7. Membership

No changes

1.8. Adoption of Agenda

Procedural Motion 2: To adopt the agenda as presented. Mover: Alex Gwynn **CWD**

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

2.1. March 31

Motion 2: To confirm the minutes as a true and accurate record of the March 31 meeting with amended date. Mover: Alex Gwynn Seconder: Joshua Solomon **CWD**

2.2. May 5

Josh notes it does not say the break resumed without him. Josh asks about the highlighted petition. Committee confirms it is 12 months. Alex points out formatting issues. Alex asks Seamus to neaten it. Josh notes Singapore motion is incorrect. Melanie also notes a lot of petitions need to be deferred as minutes were not ready on time.

Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick and Ray He arrived at 10:14am

Roger Cao arrived at 10:15am

Motion 3: To confirm the minutes as true and accurate of the May 5 meeting with amendments. Mover: Alex Gwynn Seconder: Yunyi Chan **CWD**

3. Conflicts of interest

Name	Conflicts of Interest declared
Tarish Kadam	Language Exchange Club
Joshua Solomon	Society for Transportation Enthusiasts at Melbourne, (Furry Society if affiliated)
Maximilian Mckenzie Fitzpatrick	Film Society, Pirates
Lucia Flynn	Arts Students Society
Meiqi Liu	Drawing and Painting Club
Yifan (Roger) Cao	Student Institution of Mihoyo Players
Yunyi Chan	Hispanic Culture and Language Society, Language Exchange, Habitat for Humanity, Chocolate Lovers Society
Alex Gwynn	Swifties Society
Seamus Donnellan	Beer and Cider Society

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

Procedural Motion 3: To move to item 6.1 BusinessOne Consulting University of Melbourne. Mover: Alex Gwynn **CWD**

This is about how the committee was elected/selected. A complaint was received a few weeks ago. Correspondence was received from the club and they said this is an inherited issue and they are aware it is wrong. Exec says this is something that has been done in the past. They aren't here to deny anything and they want to be compliant asap and want to continue to work with C&S.

Josh considers probation. Tarish asks if the current exec were elected or selected. They confirm they were selected. Nominated but announced ahead of time. Tarish thinks another general meeting may be appropriate. Club is happy to do an SGM and have an UMSU RO if needed.

Lucia arrived at 10:23am.

Exec asks if they can propose a new structure. They submitted a constitution amendment. Committee may consider granting an extension. The club does want to do the SGM by the end of this Semester.

Petition to put BusinessOne Consulting University of Melbourne on probation for 12 months for not following their constitution (R6.3.e).

Petitioned by Tarish Kadam, Lucia Flynn

Motion 4: To direct BusinessOne Consulting University of Melbourne to hold an SGM to re-elect executive roles before the end of Week 4 of Semester 2 2026 with a Clubs and Societies Office Bearer or Committee member as the Returning Officer.

Mover: Tarish Kadam Seconder: Joshua Solomon

CWD

Skanda Ramanan, Chern Yue Khor and Ray He left at 10:31am

Max left at 10:32am

Procedural Motion 4: To move to item 4.1.4. Chinese Students and Scholars Association.

Mover: Alex Gwynn

CWD

There are a couple of concerns regarding CSSA. Petitions from the previous meeting and other matters arising from their SGM. The discussion has already been regarding the petitions which was had prior to the motion of the disaffiliation on March 31 as this is the penalty as the disaffiliation appeal was upheld.

Petition made last meeting: Petition to suspend grants of the CSSA for 12 months on grounds of financial mismanagement and improperly transacting outside of the club bank account (R6.3.a (5.5.ii) & 6.3.c.)

Petitioned by Joshua Solomon, Tarish Kadam

Petition made last meeting: Petition to put the CSSA on probation on grounds of financial mismanagement and improperly transacting outside of the club bank account (R6.3.a (5.5.ii) & 6.3.c.)

Petitioned by Joshua Solomon, Tarish Kadam

Motion 5: To uphold both petitions en bloc.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Seconder: Lucia Flynn

CWD

Max arrived at 10:35am

CSSA executives raise the petition for probation not having a specified time period. The Committee reconsider the petition as there is no time listed.

Motion 6: To amend the petition to put the Chinese Students and Scholars Association on probation to add the time period of 12 months for the probation.

Mover: Yunyi Chan Seconder: Lucia Flynn

CWD

The new executives from CSSA ask how the disciplines work. It is explained that there won't be access from the club to apply for grants due to the suspension, and the probation means that if the club engages in another breach, it would be grounds to further discipline the club.

CSSA asks how to further avoid breaches. Alex recommends to read the Clubs and Societies regulations. Alex notes there are other matters in the papers regarding the club that will be addressed today as well as these petitions. Yunyi explains in Chinese for the CSSA executives. Roger and Meiqi also understand. Alex clarifies the regulations and that there will be other things that will be discussed today to make decisions on.

Procedural Motion 5: To go in camera inclusive of Melanie.

Mover: Alex Gwynn

CWD

Emily Zhang, Jingqi Sun, Sara Liang left at 10:44am

Alex left at 11:00am and temporarily cedes the chair to Seamus.

Alex returned at 11:01am.

Seamus cedes chair back to Alex.

Procedural Motion 6: To admit Strangers and give Sara Pheasant speaking rights.

Mover: Alex Gwynn

CWD

Sara Pheasant arrived at 11:04

Max left at 10:11am.

Sara Pheasant left at 11:20am.

Procedural Motion 7: To admit Strangers.

Mover: Joshua Solomon

CWD

Emily Zhang, Jingqi Sun, Sara Liang returned at 11:40am.

Alex gives a brief summary of what was talked about in camera. Alex and two committee members, Roger and Yunyi, attended the SGM and witnessed the events of the SGM and provided reports to the Committee regarding the conduct of the SGM, the conduct of the members, and concerns. CSSA has initiated another SGM for bank signatories next week as this was missed in the previous SGM. The CSSA executives state that they would like to comply with the regulations.

Based on the information provided, the committee has discussed whether the SGM was compliant with the Clubs and Societies regulations.

Motion 7: To move to reject the Chinese Students and Scholars Association special general meeting held on 14th of May.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Seconder: Lucia Flynn

CWD

The reasons are there were no seconders or votes on the majority of the motions. Another issue was that the election conduct was impacted by someone who was coercing votes in the room. The C&S Committee members were shown screenshots and heard the individual influencing votes in the room. There were members in the room who were not provided the voting link during the elections. The student code of conduct was breached by behaviour of members. Nominations were not opened to the room in the meeting. There was swearing and yelling throughout the meeting, which was not addressed. Changhao Li's conduct at the meeting was inappropriate. This was done when someone raised a constitutional point of order to assist the club during the elections. The events that happened in the meeting invalidate the general meeting based on the regulations. There are significant concerns about the club as a whole and liability issues given these issues.

CSSA says they want to redo the elections. Alex says in the scenarios which occurred in the SGM, it is best to remove the individuals causing issues from the meeting, particularly inappropriate behaviour.

The Committee previously requested a membership audit and CSSA requested an extension due to the SGM and executives having resigned. The Committee discusses this and determines it to be reasonable.

Motion 8: To defer the membership audit for the Chinese Students and Scholars Association to the next Clubs and Societies Committee meeting.

Mover: Roger Cao Seconder: Yunyi Chan

CWD

Tarish explains that the committee have reviewed the issues within the club and believes there is sufficient reason to raise a petition to disaffiliate the club under the C&S regulations.

Petition to disaffiliate the Chinese Student and Scholars Association for non compliance at their Special General Meeting under regulations R6.3.y, 6.3 (a), 6.3 (i), 5.2 (c), 6.3 (e), 6.3 (p), 6.1 (b).

Petitioned by Yunyi Chan, Joshua Solomon, Meiqi Lui, Tarish Kadam, Roger Cao, Lucia Flynn

The petition is due to the following reasons:

R6.3.y - acts in bad faith toward the Department or Committee

R6.3 (a) - deliberately contravenes or fails to fulfil its obligations under these Regulations

R6.3 (i) - fails to conduct its General Meetings in accordance with R5.2

R5.2 (c) - The Club Executive is responsible for providing a current membership list for the purpose of establishing quorum to the Returning Officer prior to a General Meeting.

R6.3 (e) - acts contrary to its own aims or deliberately breaches its own constitution; - (CSSA Constitution) 6.1 (Voting should be Democratic), 6.6 (6 weeks membership)

R6.3 (p) - is the subject of a complaint that the club's actions breach rules, policies or procedures for the use of Union House, North Court or other rooms and venues at the University

R6.1 (b) - The standard of conduct required of ordinary club members is the standard of conduct described in the University's Student Conduct Policy (MPF1324).

Alex wants to make a few things clear, the bottom line is it is not the fault of the execs as individuals, but the way in which the club has been operating which makes the club a liability. Alex says that the committee talked about the systemic issue with the leadership. Disaffiliation would remove the club as an affiliated club from UMSU for 12 months. This would provide the club time to address the issues and they would be able to reapply for affiliation in 12 months time. They can continue to operate an unaffiliated group in that time if they wish to.

Club notes there are specific individuals who interrupted the meeting. Tarish clarifies that the decisions refers to the club as a whole. It is clarified that any student can observe a general meeting. The Committee have made the decision based on the club as a whole.

CSSA executives raise the issue of the ongoing executive vacancy with the SGM having been invalidated.

Motion 9: To grant the Chinese Student and Scholars Association an extension of the fill the executive until Week 4 of semester 2.

Mover: Lucia Flynn Seconder: Yunyi Chan

For: 5 Abstain: 1

Carried

Action: staff to send CSSA canvas exec training.

Emily Zhang, Jingqi Sun, Sara Liang left at 12:12pm

Procedural Motion 8: To grant a 15 minute break.

Mover: Joshua Solomon

CWD

Break at 12:13pm

Meeting reopened at 12:34pm without Yunyi Chan

4.1. Discipline

4.1.1. Singapore Students Society

The club had issues with their camp documents and were disciplined last meeting, however the club requested a zoom link and zoom was not opened. Club has sent correspondence. Josh thinks the club has done a serious breach and is considering reducing the grants suspension.

Motion 10: To amend the grants suspension for Singapore Students Society to 3 months.

Mover: Lucia Flynn Seconder: Tarish Kadam

CWD

4.1.2. Arts Students Society Camp

MASS has not provided physical copies by the due date. Lucia said there was trouble printing all the documents.

Motion 11: To grant Arts Students Society an extension until end of semester to provide their camp documents.

Mover: Joshua Solomon Seconder: Roger Cao

For: 5 Abst: 1

Carried

4.1.3. Adventist Students on Campus Sport Insurance

Defer as the petition was not sent to club.

4.1.4. Chinese Students and Scholars Association

Already discussed.

4.1.5. Design Students Society SGM

Melanie reached out to the club but not about the official petition. Club wants to hold an SGM.

Defer.

4.1.6. Sri Lankan Students Association SGM

Defer.

4.1.7. Asset Grants Suspension

4.1.7.1. Arts Students Arts Students Society, CAINZ, Cambodian Students Society, Greens Club, Indian Graduate Researchers Society, Korean Students Society, Labor Club, Physiotherapy Students' Society

Defer.

4.2. Directed SGMs

4.2.1. Bangladeshi Student Society

They have an extension until week nine.

Defer.

4.2.2. Enactus

They have an extension until week twelve.

Defer.

4.2.3. Beer and Cider Society

They have not been notified of direction.

Defer.

Yunyi Chan returned at 12:48pm.

4.3. New Club Progress:

4.3.1. IGMs

The complete clubs are Furry Society, Beyblade Institute, Chemistry and Biology Society.

Motion 12: To approve the Inaugural General Meetings and affiliate Furry Society, Beyblade Institute, Chemistry and Biology Society.

Mover: Lucia Flynn Seconder: Meiqi Liu

For: 5 Abst: 2

Carried

Fanworks and Media Analysis Society did not have nominations for their General Committee.

Motion 13: To approve the Inaugural General Meetings and affiliate Fanworks and Media Analysis Society.

Mover: Tarish Kadam	Seconder: Lucia Flynn
CWD	

FAMAS should fill the rest of their committee through an SGM.

Artificial Intelligence Prototyping Studio

Defer until the club has completed the IGM.

Max advised that at the Fashion Society Inaugural General meeting, someone wanted to nominate and the club applicant shouted NO. The person was then deterred from nominating.

ACTION: Staff to send an inquiry to the club about the incident at the Fashion Society IGM.

4.4. Policy & Regulation

4.4.1. Activities

4.4.1.1. Post GM

Defer.

4.4.1.2. Joint event

Defer.

4.4.2. GM Standing Orders

Josh's proposal document was circulated. Josh has been working with Fiona and just wanted to share and gather opinions. The purpose is to provide a guide for how General Meetings should be run but it is not binding like regulations. Committee think it looks good. Final issues and changes should be considered with Fiona.

Defer until later in the meeting.

4.5. Working Groups / Subcommittees

4.5.1. Tiers Working Group

Seamus advises the first working group meeting is tomorrow Wednesday . Josh has sent in a submission and may form a basis for the discussion. There are lots of ideas. Moved away from tiered funding to tiered clubs is more accurate. Seamus notes there were issues when sending. Some received agenda and some received Josh's submission. Alex raises a few things, there are a few issues. There was not 5 academic days notice, there's no requirement but as a courtesy. This is something we can't do without full care and effort. The department was not consulted properly. Alex's concern is this needs to be done with the most consideration possible. Melanie asks what is on the agenda and if Seamus has created a document/model for this from the department. Alex notes the issues with communication. Alex is unable to attend the meeting. The meeting should have been held shortly after the EOIs, Seamus thinks it is on track. Max notes we are working with a tight timeline. Alex says she is willing to take this on but she is overloaded with work already. Alex notes Seamus' responsibilities are limited and he should have had time to do this within his capacity as OB. Seamus notes he will get this done. Josh doesn't want to go into the meeting with a preconceived idea of what the outcome will be.

Maximilian Mckenzie Fitzpatrick left at 1:24pm

5. Officer Reports

Both Office Bearers have submitted reports for this meeting. Josh has a question about Seamus' report and is concerned about the language as it feels political. Seamus respects Josh's opinion.

Lucia notes she had an issue with a constitutional amendment and timeliness. Seamus apologises and notes that Fiona and Seamus do them in bulk and sometimes they get lost.

Maximilian Mckenzie Fitzpatrick arrived at 1:27pm.

Alex wants to point out some things. Fiona processed the amendments on 5 May and Alex sent Seamus a message to prompt him to action them on 18 May when she became aware of the delay. Fiona pointed out on Monday 18 May that she processes them and sends them to Seamus, so he had two weeks to review them. Alex believes Seamus has not been checking his emails regularly. Seamus was absent last week and subsequently edited the Committee meeting 8 minutes late so staff were not able to action them in time for this meeting. Alex suggests that a leave of absence would have been more appropriate, as well as communicating to the department that he would be absent. Alex also raises that there are issues with deadlines. Melanie received the minutes 15 minutes before her shift ended and was therefore unable to action them. There is a perceived failure of office which is now impacting staff and clubs. Seamus slightly disagrees with the amendments issue.

Alex acknowledged that these 7 individuals on the Committee act as an accountability board and there is a concern for how the department is being run. Seamus noted he is experiencing personal struggles which impact his ability.

Seamus Donnellan left at 1:31pm.

The statement in his OB report was initially what Seamus intended to submit to Farrago. Alex told him it was inappropriate and he is not managing the departmental responsibilities.

Tarish and Josh are concerned about the language in the report and considering whether to accept it. The Committee discuss that they may need to take action on this.

Alex was not aware of Seamus personal issues prior to the issues she's raised in this meeting. Alex wants to note that they never had a conversation about the Ida Bar Mondays before Seamus submitted his report and Alex has been facilitating entirely herself this semester. He clarified that he didn't want to take it over and wanted to collaborate but did not consult with Alex. Alex has had to take leave from her other work due to these stresses and increased load in the department.

Motion 14: To accept Alex's Office Bearer report.	
Mover: Joshua Solomon	Seconder: Lucia Flynn
CWD	

Seamus' report has not been accepted by the committee.

Returning to item 4.2.2. GM Standing Orders

Josh has highlighted specific things. Standing Order 2.2. is to mandate students to hold General Meetings on campus. The debate is whether to add specifically which campus they should hold the meeting.

Standing Order 2.3 is regarding meetings held on academic days within a specific timeframe. Roger thinks it should be until 5pm. The accessibility issues are discussed for clubs where they may not be able to reach quorum during class times.

Meiqi Liu and Lucia Flynn left at 1:52pm

Room changes issues are also discussed. Melanie notes the changes are very sudden from the University.

Policy is discussed around losing quorum to introduce a 30 mins rule if quorum is lost, it must be regained within 30 mins similarly to Students' Council.

Joshu notes that this proposal is not complete and he will prepare specifically what issues are still outstanding.

Defer.

6. Correspondence

6.1. BusinessOne Consulting Complaint

Already discussed.

7. Grants

7.1. Standard Grants

Motion 15: To accept all standard grants en bloc.
Mover: Tarish Kadam Seconder: Roger Cao
CWD

7.2. For Discussion

CSF27654 – Club advised no booking for a park. The park doesn't require bookings.

Motion 16: To approve CSF27654.
Mover: Joshua Solomon Seconder: Roger Cao
CWD

CSF27722 – OB recommendation says change to purchases other and approve.

Lucia Flynn returned at 1:58pm

Motion 17: To partially approve CSF27722 excluding gifts as they do not fit in function grant category.
Mover: Joshua Solomon Seconder: Lucia Flynn
CWD

CSF27699 – Club purchased pizza but advised non-perishables were being purchased.

Motion 18: To approve non-perishables for CSF27699 and reject everything else.
Mover: Joshua Solomon Seconder: Roger Cao
CWD

CSF27525 – Has a non-compliant affiliated club logo. Accept the OB recommendation.

CSF27715 – Club went on excursion manually handling low functioning patients.

Motion 19: To conditionally approve CSF27715 on submission of signed forms.
Mover: Lucia Flynn Seconder: Tarish Kadam
CWD

Action: Clarify with the club if event the was approved.

CSF27603 – The club requested prizes under a function grant.

Motion 20: To partially CSF27603 approve without the prizes.

Mover: Roger Cao   Seconder: Joshua Solomon

CWD

Tarish Kadam left at 2:06pm

CSF27613 – Partially approve excluding voucher on condition of venue booking submission

Motion 21: To partially approve CSF27613 excluding the voucher on the condition of a venue booking submission (provisional or confirmed).

Mover: Roger Cao   Seconder: Joshua Solomon

CWD

CSF27496 – no OB recommendation was provided as it was marked for discussion.

Motion 22: To approve CSF27496.

Mover: Joshua Solomon   Seconder: Roger Cao

CWD

Tarish Kadam returned at 2:09pm

Motion 23: To adopt OB recommendations for CSF27614 and CSF27676.

Mover: Roger Cao   Seconder: Joshua Solomon

For: 5   Abst: 1

Carried

Motion 24: To adopt OB recommendations for CSF27466.

Mover: Yunyi Chan   Seconder: Lucia Flynn

For: 4   Abst: 2

Carried

Motion 25: To adopt all other OB recommendations for grants.

Mover: Joshua Solomon   Seconder: Roger Cao

CWD

7.3. Appeals

7.3.1. CSF27435

The club appealed. No appetite to change.

7.3.2. CSF27474 & CSF27357

The club appealed. No appetite to change.

7.3.3. CSF27611

Motion 26: To rescind rejection and approve CSF27611

Mover: Max McKenzie Fitzpatrick   Seconder: Roger Cao

CWD

7.3.4. CSF27156

Motion 27: To approve CSF27156.

Mover: Yunyi Chan   Seconder: Tarish Kadam

CWD

7.4. Grants Procedure

Defer.

8. General Meetings

8.1. Complete

Yunyi raised that Youth Charity Society did not properly resign from the positions and provide notice before the general meeting. Defer Youth Charity Society.

Motion 28: To accept all complete general meetings.

Mover: Joshua Solomon   Seconder: Yunyi Chan

CWD

8.2. Referred

Maximilian Mckenzie Fitzpatrick left at 2:20pm

Melanie explains a few general meetings were not formally accepted in 2025,

Motion 29: To accept the Hanfu Association and Pacific Islands Students Association general meetings.

Mover: Roger Cao   Seconder: Tarish Kadam

CWD

Tamil Sangam did not have committee members resign before meeting and now some positions are vacant.

Motion 30: To direct Tamil Sangam to hold an SGM by semester 2 week 4 to fill vacancies.

Mover: Roger Cao   Seconder: Lucia Flynn

CWD

Motion 31: To accept the Tamil Sangam SGM.

Mover: Tarish Kadam   Seconder: Roger Cao

CWD

Classics and Archaeology Society SGM notice did not include the date of the SGM (but was included on linked event page) or the constitution.

Motion 32: To accept the Classics and Archaeology Society SGM.

Mover: Lucia Flynn   Seconder: Yunyi Cao

CWD

Petition to put Classics and Archaeology Society for probation for giving improper SGM notice 6.3.i. (5.2.b.ii).

Petitioned by Lucia Flynn, Roger Cao.

9. **Other Business**

9.1. Clubs Council

Alex thanks those who attended. Alex will edit the minutes and add the unconfirmed version to the website. Alex ran it by herself and it was pretty successful.

9.2. Promotions

9.2.1. STEM

No appetite.

9.2.2. Ethnolink

No appetite. Alex may refer to better avenues such as UMSU Communications and POC.

9.2.3. CISAustralia

No appetite .

9.2.4. Relay for Life

To refer to comms and other department and add to the bulletin if they wish.

10. **Next Meeting during SWOTVAC.**

11. **Close**

Meeting closed at 2:30pm