

# Woodcraft Folk DFs

## Althing 2023 Minutes

19th & 20th August 2024, Lockerbrook



“I never even got given the chair” - Oz, Chair Carer

Present: Alex T; Carmen; Delilah; Emily; Erik; Esme; Joe W; Nuala D, Oz; Paul; Ray; Sadie; Sam/Sasha D; Sam M; Téó; Tyler; Wilf.  
Kinsfolk Observers: Chris Bowler, Joe Bowler

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## 0 Introductions

Delilah took the chair and welcomed everyone to Althing.

The meeting began by going around the circle allowing everyone to introduce themselves. Everyone was asked to say their name, pronouns and role if they had one.

Everyone was free to come and go from the meeting as needed, this was especially applicable to those on cooking clans & those with other responsibilities within the camp. Where people have left and joined the meeting, this has not been recorded in the minutes.

## 1 Annual Reports

*Note:* Role-holders only made reports of their work over the last quarter, ie. since Summer Thing in early June 2023.

### 2.1 Reports from Committee Members

#### 2.1.1 Activism Representative (Paul Nolan-Paley)

Created an activism channel in DF discord (it's not active yet).

#### 2.1.2 Chair of DF Committee (Delilah Wallbank)

Didn't do much, assisted by Tyler, in communication on general council about the election.

#### 2.1.3 Communications Representative (Tyler Eckersall)

Advertising events, replying to DMs and emails, mailing list moving forward talks with central, promoting on the radio at Vcamp, helped organise Althing, building towards a new October camp.

#### 2.1.4 Events Representatives (Ray Maynard Vesely & Erik Rüder)

Booked the DF Camp site, came up with a robust back up plan for Althing. Made the booking form for Althing. New events that will be coming. Winter Wonderland booking.

### 2.1.5 Odd Laymember (Oz Costello)

Helped with most things on DF camp, decorated and helped set up spaces, helped run programme.

### 2.1.6 MEST-UP Coordinator (Sam/Sasha Doughty)

Trained a load of new MEST-UP people, made a MEST-UP workshop but wasn't able to run it, helped MEST-UP at Vcamp happen and helped introduce young DFs at Vcamp.

### 2.1.7 Outreach Representative (Carmen Mallinson-Pocock)

Haven't done loads, speaking to other countries' groups, getting people to Woodcraft's centres.

### 2.1.8 Training Representative (Carmen Mallinson-Pocock)

First aid training at DF Camp, running a Young Leaders' Training event.

### 2.1.9 Secretary of the Movement (Sam Moon)

Doing the minutes now, and transferring files to Google Docs.

### 2.1.10 Treasurer (Joe Walker)

Paid for camp, waiting to get paid by Glastonbury for Workers' Beer, tidied up everything on DF Camp, Fairer Fare related stuff, we aren't broke yet.

## 2.2 Reports from Non-Committee Role-Holders

### 2.2.1 Zine Editor (Oz Costello)

Collected and took photos but no zine.

### 2.2.2 Chair Carer (Oz Costello)

I never got given the chair!

### 2.2.3 Venturer Committee Liaison (Carmen Mallinson-Pocock)

I reestablished Vcommittee!

## 3 Treasury Reports

### 3.1 Annual Financial Report

Joe Walker delivered the annual financial report.

The organisation is owed 15 people's DF Camp money. We are waiting for £200 from the workshop that Paul delivered at Spring Awakening and for £1700 from Glastonbury Worker's Beer. We are £700 above the £10000 minimum reserve required for charities. However, it is getting harder to make a profit due to inflation and current events. It was said that the organisation was owed a 'nice amount of money'.

**|** *Action #1: Joe W to follow up Workers' Beer money*

### 3.2 Treasurer Performance Report

As required by the Constitution, Committee submitted a report on the success of the Treasurer in order to inform elections for this important role. Delilah delivered the report.

Joe has been following the rules of expensing and other good practice in accounting, enabling us to apply for funding in the future. He has also managed to negotiate cheaper camps. Generally been good at dealing with payments and Fairer Fare. Hopefully if we have 2 more years of clean books we can apply for grants.

## 4 Hustings

Nominations for 2023-2024 Committee and Non-committee roles were closed. The list of roles remaining to be filled can be co-opted after Old/New.

The list of roles was read out and one-by-one each person standing gave their short hustings speech. All candidates had submitted hustings speeches in advance. Absent candidates had their speeches read out on their behalf.

### 4.1 Committee Roles

#### 4.1.1 MEST-UP Coordinator

**Amelia Wallbank** and **Tabitha Lythgoe**

I am running for MEST-UP coordinator as I want to be able to create a safe and comfortable place for all DF's and make camps as inclusive as possible, as

MEST-UP coordinator I would create said safe space when camps become overwhelming or when someone may need a quiet space or escape from busy camp life, as well as provide training and appropriate sexual education when appropriate. I further believe it is vital to ensure that even those on shift are comfortable and not overwhelmed. Having been trained in MEST UP and also delivering training to others at V Camp I feel I am capable of providing the resources MEST UP needs in order to continue on and provide those on df camps a helping hand. - Amelia

### **Joseph Hammond**

Woodcraft provides a perfect platform to educate young people about mental health issues, and help guide them through confusing and difficult times. As cliché as it may sound: woodcraft is like a big family, and we as DFs take on the role of older siblings for the younger groups. we have a responsibility to look after the younger woodcrafters, each other, and to learn how to look after ourselves aswell. As MEST-UP coordinator I will use this familial feeling within the organisation to make woodcraft a space where young people (including DFs) feel comfortable and safe enough to ask eachother for support and guidance. And a space where those same young people are equipped with the knowledge and skills to provide support and guidance when others ask it of them. Throughout my life woodcraft has helped me immeasurably, whether it be the guidance of my leaders, the examples set by DFs, or the compassion of my peers. I hope to be able to continue to make woodcraft such a welcoming place for young people as MEST-UP coordinator.

## 4.1.2 Shadow MEST-UP Coordinator

### **Bella Moore**

Willing to try it as best i can and would love the opportunity to be involved and help other dfs

### **Joseph Hammond**

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able to continue to make woodcraft such a welcoming place for young people as MEST-UP coordinator.

### 4.1.3 Events Representative

#### **Nuala Doak**

I have been shadowing the two events reps for a year now so I understand the process events reps go through in organising events and how and what they delegate to others, as well as the timeline of actions like the booking form and site. I would like to put what I've learnt this past year into practise, as well as teach others how to plan and execute events.

### 4.1.4 Shadow Events Representative

#### **Callista Smithson Swain**

I think I would be a good shadow events representative as I am quite an organised person when it comes to planning, but I would also bring in lots of new ideas on how to make camps more fun for everyone. I've been to (and loved!) a lot of woodcraft events over the years, so I'd enjoy the opportunity to get more involved in the planning process and give something back. I am fully aware that planning an event takes a massive amount of work and I am prepared to help out in any way possible with the inevitable problems and challenges faced along the way. I love the spontaneity and slight chaos of woodcraft events so hopefully if you vote for me I would help the events run more smoothly, whilst keeping the slightly chaotic energy that makes DF events so great.

### 4.1.5 Shadow Treasurer

#### **Maya Liley**

I think I would be a good fit for shadow treasurer as I am passionate about DFs and would work hard to ensure we used funds effectively to give you guys the best events possible! I've been a part of woodcraft for many years (and have helped out a lot) and therefore have a good understanding of how events are run and am prepared for all the effort needed to organise the financial side of the movement. I'm also confident in my maths ability which is pretty fundamental to being a treasurer (money is just important numbers at the end of the day). I hope you consider voting for me for shadow treasurer!

### 4.1.6 Safeguarding Representative

#### **Sadie Lamont**

I am running for this role because safeguarding is one of the most integral responsibilities of the DF movement. Currently it is difficult to stay on top of

systems and processes to ensure that we have the evidence that we are keeping people safe. I want to make the process of keeping memberships and DBSs up to date more organised and less stressful on individual members. Safeguarding is of even higher priority for us right now with our hopeful influx of new and younger members and growth as a movement. I am committed to creating robust systems that cover difficult situations that will come up and ensuring our systems are not misused. I wish to work closely with central and give them the confidence that we can appropriately implement safeguarding policies whilst representing our unique needs and interests. I am running for this role out of a simple desire to keep DF events safe and preserve them as a unique space for young people. I hope I can be elected to represent us as part of the committee

### **Carmen M-P**

For 2 years I've been on committee doing most of the same roles I am re-running for and am looking to step up in my responsibilities with that experience. Having older siblings and Volunteered at national events I know many ex-DFs that can support new committee in figuring out how the movement needs to grow. And, now working with Woodcraft I can be a valuable source of information, experience and direct communication with central Woodcraft particularly in the centres team. (I am the trainee centre assistant at Lockerbrook). Very Happy to co-lead in many a position. I think the more sharing of tasks and knowledge the better for DFs survival and growth in the next few vital years. Carmen :)

### 4.1.7 Activism Representative:

#### **Paul Nolan-Paley and Emily McKenzie**

During my past year as Activism rep I have gained experience in running workshops on issues such as climate change and collaborated with the co-operative movement as a representative of DFs. If reelected I will continue to strive for the vision of DFs as a movement of national significance that empowers young people to make a stand on the issues that matter to them. I will run workshops at DF events on environmental and social issues as well as activism training so that members can learn more about critical issues and be equipped to take action both within DFs and in their own lives. Where there is positive interest in a particular issue or movement from a number of members I aim to facilitate them to take action on this as DFs. I will also continue to maintain our connections with the wider youth movement to ensure we have a strong network for empowered action.- **Paul**

If elected I would run alongside Paul to promote greater knowledge of nationwide and worldwide problems that not only affect current generations but generations to come. We would work with each other to create not only an educational environment but a place where young people are excited to learn

about the world. We would promote young people to get involved in DF's and to take their new knowledge and apply it to their lives outside woodcraft. I would like to make a change in young people feeling more confident in themselves and more aware of the change they can bring. - **Emily**

### **Flo Moore**

I would love to be activism representative as I believe woodcraft DFs have a lot of potential to actively make change in this political society, creating a place which is full of equality. I hope to start fighting for a fairer society with posters, zines and other such things: aiming to improve DF numbers, bringing the youth together and creating an equal and fair society.

## 4.1.8 Fundraising Representative

### **Parker Murray and Noah Williams**

Being in DFs is truly unforgettable and after a few years with them we both feel ready to take up a role and do our bit further for the DF movement. We want to be involved in a way that matters and believe we would fit well within the fundraising role as a pair. DFs may not be all that wealthy or coordinated but we'd like to do our part in getting our shit together as well as being able to provide exciting opportunities for future DFs. Some of our ideas include the potential of DF merch and volunteering opportunities

### **Carmen M-P**

For 2 years I've been on committee doing most of the same roles I am re-running for and am looking to step up in my responsibilities with that experience. Having older siblings and Volunteered at national events I know many ex-DFs that can support new committee in figuring out how the movement needs to grow. And, now working with Woodcraft I can be a valuable source of information, experience and direct communication with central Woodcraft particularly in the centres team. (I am the trainee centre assistant at Lockerbrook). Very Happy to co-lead in many a position. I think the more sharing of tasks and knowledge the better for DFs survival and growth in the next few vital years. Carmen :)

## 4.1.9 Odd Laymember

### **Samuel (Sammy) Frederick Willis**

I just want to help keep everything afloat If there is another more qualified person nominated please vote for them

### **Simeon Ainsworth**

I like to help out where I can and want to be more involved in DFs so this seems



like a good place to start :)

### **Carmen M-P**

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## 4.1.10 Outreach Representative

### **Maya Hall-Balfourth**

As a woman of colour, I would love to see more diversity in Woodcraft, and I want to be a part of making it so. I've been a member since I was 7, and have always loved being part of Woodcraft, so I would like it to become more well known. I am a good team player, and I think I could bring a lot to the table as I have some experience with outreach working for the SU at my uni.

### **Carmen M-P**

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## 4.1.11 Training Representative

### **Carmen M-P**

For 2 years I've been on committee doing most of the same roles I am re-running for and am looking to step up in my responsibilities with that experience. Having older siblings and Volunteered at national events I know many ex-DFs that can support new committee in figuring out how the movement needs to grow. And, now working with Woodcraft I can be a valuable source of information, experience and direct communication with central Woodcraft particularly in the

centres team. (I am the trainee centre assistant at Lockerbrook). Very Happy to co-role in many a position. I think the more sharing of tasks and knowledge the better for DFs survival and growth in the next few vital years. Carmen :)

#### 4.1.12 Treasurer

##### **Morgan B-V**

#### 4.1.13 Secretary of the Movement

##### **Lara Sayers**

I have been part of woodcraft since I was a woodchip and it has been a massive part of my life since I was really little. I have met many of my closest friends here and have really grown as a person. I have always wanted to help woodcraft and the DFs to give other kids and teens the experience I have had. I have nominated myself for the role of secretary as I have experience in this role and have skills that I feel would be vital to it. I previously have taken organisational roles in my local district and I would love to learn from the skills this role would give me

##### **Wilfred Lamont**

Hello DFs, I'm Wilf!

DF Committee is probably Woodcraft's best example of youth leadership, but we need to stay organised to really keep things moving and prevent stagnation, especially when we have so many people leaving us each year.

As secretary I would be active in using the organisational tools created by previous generations of DFs so that our current committee can function at its best. It would also be important for me to keep these processes up to date and to develop them further.

I think my experience as a member of Standing Orders Committee will help with being a good Secretary because that committee has a similar role within Central Woodcraft. We oversee our national democratic processes and work with the Constitution and other important documents (the standing orders).

##### **Eddie Baker-Thompson**

I would love to be the secretary of the DF movement. I'm organised and methodical and just overall passionate about woodcraft folk. I enjoy administrative jobs and having an excuse to be orderly. I think it's so great that we have our own constitution and procedures and would love to honour and uphold them. I hope I can work with the rest of the DF 2023-24 committee to make DFs run as easily and smoothly as possible.

## 4.1.14 Chair of Committee

### **Tyler Eckersall**

I've been on DF Committee for the past year as Communications Representative, and I've seen our shortcomings as a team first hand. Often, with the time it takes for us to move as a committee, we lose our momentum on new ideas and projects. Given that I will be remaining as communications rep for the 23/24 year, and that I am on a year out of education, I believe I have the time and ability to streamline committee's workload by becoming chair.

I recognise that the role of chair is not to lead the DF movement, but to organise DF Committee by making sure they are working in the interests of every DF without damaging their own wellbeing. My existing role consists of communications for the movement at large, but with me also managing the internal communications of committee, I believe we would be able to move forward at an unprecedented pace.

DF's is all about being youth led, that's why DF Committee exists. I want to make sure that anyone with an idea or suggestion can be heard by committee, straight from the comms inboxes up to our meetings at Things. If elected, I would return to having the Committee give quarterly reports and focus on committee having more transparency to the influx of new DF's me and others helped to recruit at V Camp 2023. We want to inspire non committee DF's to take action, to organise events and to feel like they're part of something big. With me as chair of DF committee, i believe we could have a team that creates and leads the charge towards the next generation of DF's

TLDR: We are stronger if we have good communication, and I literally do not shut up :)

### **Carmen M-P**

For 2 years I've been on committee doing most of the same roles I am re-running for and am looking to step up in my responsibilities with that experience. Having older siblings and Volunteered at national events I know many ex-DFs that can support new committee in figuring out how the movement needs to grow. And, now working with Woodcraft I can be a valuable source of information, experience and direct communication with central Woodcraft particularly in the centres team. (I am the trainee centre assistant at Lockerbrook). Carmen :)

## 4.2 Non Committee Roles

### 4.2.1 Sustainability Representative

#### **Bella Moore**

I care about the planet and believe we need to all try our best at saving it and I would ensure that the woodcraft dfs would be the most sustainable as possible , also I would love to gather a wider focus onto climate change and the environment for the future of woodcraft

### **Paul Nolan-Paley**

As a movement which values creating a safe and equitable world for everyone, I believe it is our duty to make our events as sustainable as possible, and I'm certain that the vast majority of members share that sentiment. On Woodcraft camps and residentials I often find myself questioning how components from food to electricity, programme to washing facilities could be more environmentally friendly. As Sustainability rep I would not hesitate to be pushy where I know our activities could be made more sustainable.

## 4.2.2 Zine

### **Sven Reeves**

I believe it would be useful for us to have a zine made prior to camp 100 so that we can advertise dfs more effectively at larger in person camps. I also think zines are just fun in general and that we could make something really cool that can express us as a group to people who have never heard of dfs or even woodcraft and increase the number of dfs coming to camps. I have multiple graphic design qualifications, all of which I have been graded highly on, and have experience in both making zines and producing graphics for woodcraft. If you elect me i'll make sure to work closely with other dfs to ensure it fits the df vibe and begin work on the zine before winter wonderland where I could provide updates to anyone interested. Thank you for your consideration :D

### **Flo Moore**

Zines are so powerful, making them fun yet informative would engage other people to expand the DF movement while keeping ventures and current DFs on board. I love art and would love to create a Zine to make the DF movement more communicated to bring wider social change.

## 4.2.3 Venturer Liaison

### **Carmen M-P**

I made the new V Committee. But I don't want to do it alone!!

## 4.2.4 General Council Representative

### **Tyler Eckersall**

General Council are busy, DF's are busy and lately we seem to be stepping on each others toes a bit. As existing communications representative, having a seat on General Council would be very helpful in allowing me to relay their messages onto the wider movement. I just want us to retain our self-run status as much as we can, and I think we need to communicate what we are doing to GC more to allow that to continue

### **Morgan B-V**

I have been on General Council for the past year as an Old/New rep. In this year, I have learned about the national workings of Woodcraft Folk and how this affects different districts and age groups, including retention of young people and common ages where people are lost. In the past year I have been one of three Equality Diversity and Inclusion leads and joined the EDI working group and would like to continue my work on this as this is something that is important for Woodcraft and also something I am passionate about. I have gained insight in how to interact on a national level between GC and DFs, and would like to continue to strengthen links. I would also be able to communicate between DFs and Central Woodcraft to be able to support, particularly in the establishment of new DF groups and to improve the connections between DF committee, DFs, and raise awareness of DFs. As current Shadow Treasurer bring on GC has been helpful as I have been able to learn a greater context to Woodcraft finances and been able to share an area of DFs that is not always known. As the only person running for a DF GC representative who has been on GC before, I would also be able to support the new DF GC representatives in their new role and provide additional guidance if needed.

### **Paul Nolan-Paley**

My attendance of multiple AGM's has given me the experience and insight into the workings of General Council and how Woodcraft is run on a national level. I would be an active representative of DFs within General Council, ensuring that the DF movement is integrated within Woodcraft while retaining our ability to be self run.

## 4.2.5 Podcast Coordinator

### **Tyler Eckersall**

Talking is what I do. I've been in charge of organising the programme for this summer's venturer camp radio and I will be doing the same at camp 100. I'm

looking to take my skills to the podcast frontier to give us some extra publicity. As existing comms rep, this also means I am my own manager. Confusingly, this does not make me freelance. If I did the podcast, I could get us listeners. And that's a promise.

#### 4.2.6 Scotland Liaison

##### **Aisling Stuart**

Hi! I'm Aisling, and I'm from Edinburgh. I've been a part of WCFS for more than a decade, and during this time, I've really seen how the split between Scottish and English WCF groups has affected the entire movement, especially within DFs. Currently, Scottish DFs face several barriers when attempting to attend events, or join the committee. Poor communication between England and Scotland, long journeys and expensive travel costs to events, have resulted in a lack of Scottish representation with DFs, furthering the divide between the two nations.

As the Scottish Liaison, I intend to increase event accessibility for Scottish DFs, especially for younger DFs. I will reach out to the current Scottish DFs to provide information on upcoming events, increasing Scottish representation at national events. As well as this I will work on building relationships across Scotland and England, strengthening current networks between the two nations, and improving the movement, leading us towards a better, more diverse future within DFs.

#### 4.2.7 Manchester Liaison

##### **Sven Reeves**

It would be an absolute honour to take over this cherished role from Tyler as a citizen of Manchester and as a humble member of the Manchester df group. If you elect me I'll do my best to represent Manchester and communicate with our mancunian friends about anything and everything dfs. Thank you.

##### **Carmen M-P**

Manchester; Sheffield is just better.

#### 4.2.8 Big Camps Representative

##### **Seren Waite**

As camp 100 coordinator, I'd love to create a direct link between the DF movement and the coordination team, to make it as amazing as possible for everyone - the centenary camp should be a celebration of the future of Woodcraft and it's young people. We need DFs excited about the camp, and involved throughout the process of organising the event.

## 4.2.9 International Opportunities Representative

### **Mickey William Lowe**

I have been on 6 international events within woodcraft, IFM and the KLH, I have great connections through these events which have provided me with more international opportunities. I would like to use my connections and experience to provide others with the amazing opportunities that I've had this year as it has been one of the best experiences in my life. I believe every DF should have opportunities to do international work as it is vital for our organisation to branch out and build these connections with other organisations. Through my connections I know that I can provide these opportunities for our DFs as there are many international projects and opportunities that aren't being talked about. If I get this role I will spread awareness and set up more opportunities for our DFs through the connections and close friendships I have made on my international projects.

### **Eddie Baker-Thompson**

As someone who has been fortunate enough to really benefit from the international opportunities that woodcraft folk offers and enables, I would love the chance to help others have the same experiences I have had. I think internationalism is a strong part of the woodcraft ethos and so it's important that international opportunities are shared within the movement.

## 4.2.10 First Aid Fairy

### **Esmerelda Thompson**

I am running for first aid fairy because I believe ensuring we have appropriate first aid equipment for every event is important for the safety of those involved. I have been involved with woodcraft since I was very small and have been involved with DF's since covid and would love to take up this very minor opportunity to help out. I have a fair amount of experience in first aid in general and have been inventorying my district first aid kit for the past three years so I am familiar with keeping equipment up to date and the cheapest ways to order supplies.

## 4.2.11 Wales Liaison

### **Lara Sayers**

I have been part of woodcraft since I was a woodchip and it has been a massive part of my life since I was really little. I have met many of my closest friends here and have really grown as a person. I have always wanted to help woodcraft and the DFs to give other kids and teens the experience I have had.

## 5 Autumn Nocturne Presentation

In the coming year, there will be a new event in the calendar of DF social events, which will be called 'Autumn Nocturne'. The coordination team for the event, Tyler, Paul and Wilf, gave a presentation on the event over lunchtime.

## 6 Motions

*Note: Motions are numbered in line with numbering on the agenda, however they were discussed in the order below.*

### 6.1 Motion 23-03 (Change the Althing Election Processes)

**Proposed By** Paul Nolan-Paley

**Seconded By** Tyler Eckersall

**BODY** This Althing will amend the democratic processes to instruct that, once initial nominations for the Althing election close, a list of nominees should be formally released. A period of 48 hours should follow where nominees who have previously held a given role are able to negotiate co-running with someone who has never held the given role.

**RATIONALE** It is encouraged for more experienced, often older members to run with less experienced, often younger members, however such co-runnings are rarely arranged in initial nominations. Younger members may be less likely to be voted in simply because they are known by fewer people. This new window would facilitate contact between older/younger members running for the same role to discuss co-running. Importantly, members who have previously held a role cannot co-run with others in their position in this period to prevent everyone running together, which would remove choice.

Paul opened the discussion.

It was suggested that we open up nominations at the start of DF camp, allowing us to promote it on DF camp, and for people to see if they want to work on a role together. Nominees could indicate willingness to co-run when they make their nomination.

The creation of a timeline for elections and nominations ahead of Althing was proposed to increase transparency, but not one that would restrict engagement due to unnecessary bureaucracy.



In order to avoid older people running together or otherwise dominating elections, an age-based priority system should be devised. This would mean the clause specifying who can co-run with whom is unnecessary.

*Amendment: Remove specific reference to requirement of co-running to be between a nominee new to the role and one that has already filled it*

The amendment passes.

*Amendment: Change the text of the motion to say 'a period of at least 48 hours should follow'*

The amendment passes.

*Amendment: Append to the end of the motion 'or withdraw their nomination for a role.'*

The amendment passes.

Althing discussed whether the motion would actually reduce the number of younger DFs on Committee by giving them the option to drop out.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the amended motion:

This Althing will amend the Democratic Processes to instruct that, once initial nominations for the Althing election close, a list of nominees should be formally released. A period of at least 48 hours should follow where nominees may either negotiate co-running or withdraw their nomination for a role.

For: 14; Against: 0; Abstain: 3  
Motion passes

## 6.2 Motion 23-02 (Errors from the Treasurer)

**Proposed By** Tyler Eckersall

**Seconded By**

**BODY** This Althing will amend the DF constitution, adding a clause that claims that, should the Treasurer make an overpayment when expensing travel or fairer fare, the DF it was sent to is not responsible or liable to refund the overpayment.

**RATIONALE** I was given around £25 in fairer fare for Spring Awakening, and there turned out to be an overpayment. I based my travel for the next event on this incorrect fairer fare payment, and had already spent the extra money when it was requested back off me a few weeks later. I gave it back as a gesture of goodwill for the movement, but I would like some kind of protection so that the movement can't demand money back from people in the future

Tyler opened discussion.

*Amendment: Change the text of the motion to say 'This Althing will amend the DF Expenses Policy, adding a clause...'*

The amendment passes.

A person who has had money transferred to them under no legal obligation to make a refund if the payment was made in error. Therefore this motion is redundant.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the amended motion:

This Althing will amend the DF Expenses Policy, adding a clause that claims that, should a Treasurer make an overpayment when expensing travel or Fairer Fare, the DF it was sent to is not responsible or liable to refund the overpayment.

For: 2; Against: 9; Abstain: 5  
Motion falls

## 6.3 Motion 23-01 (Changing the Booking Forms)

**Proposed By** Ray Maynard-Vesely

**Seconded By**

**BODY** This Althing sees the approval of some changes made to the booking forms for upcoming events

**RATIONALE** These changes are to make the booking process easier on the events team and people booking

Ray opened discussion by presenting changes that they recommended for the booking system and the rationale for each. The discussion became quite involved and became more like a musing. Those who wished to contribute remained in the space to work collaboratively on the solution.

*Action #1: Ray and Nuala to update the booking form template according to notes taken at Althing.*

## 6.4 Motion 23-05 (Committee votes for shared roles)

**Proposed By** Tyler Eckersall

**Seconded By**

**BODY** This Althing would amend the article B.1.5.7 of the constitution, which claims that when two people fill one role on committee they may “*only hold one vote between them on committee matters*”. This would be amended to grant two people filling one role a vote each.

**RATIONALE** As someone filling a one person role with two people (*communications representative*), I believe it is unfair that between us we only get one vote on big decisions. It is exceptionally rare for more than two people to fill a role, and having two people express their opinion is hardly going to change the ballot if the rest of the committee are against them. I believe it would be more democratic for each person filling a role on committee to have a vote, especially since two people filling a role usually implies they have a higher workload to tackle than someone filling a one year role.

Tyler opened discussion. There was general consensus in the room that this motion was more democratic than the current system.

The meeting moved to take a vote on the motion.

For: 12; Against: 0; Abstain: 1  
Motion passes

## 6.5 Motion 23-06 (Running at 21)

**Proposed By** Tyler Eckersall

**Seconded By**

**BODY** This Althing sees steps taken to remove the additional grey area added at Althing 2022 in motion 22-11 which allowed DF's aged 21 to run for an additional year on committee. This amendment would remove this in time for Althing 2024, but not affect this year's ballot.

**RATIONALE** DF's is a youth movement, and more than 65% of this year's nominations for DF Committee are 18 or below. This additional grey area was needed last year to help us bridge the gap left behind by the pandemic, but as DF's begins to pick up momentum again following a successful push at V Camp 2023, we should no longer require this grey area by the end of the next business year (September 2024). If we want to focus on Youth empowerment, we should try to shift the age balance on committee so it is more evenly spread, which would require the removal of this clause.

Tyler opened discussion. It is a good time to implement this motion because it gives people warning, but doesn't drag adjustments for the pandemic too far into the future. DFs is a 16-20 organisation, but more and more the precedent is set that one generally stays until 21.

We need strong young DFs and it's hard for younger DFs to be role models to venturers and other DFs. Committee should help people who are younger by encouraging co-runnings when an older DF (21) is also running for a role. If we create a priority system more young people will be pushed into roles and fewer 21-year-olds will be on committee. A greater spread of ages on Committee is a good thing, especially if it allows people who have finished university to take on roles.

COVID is still affecting people and the fact they missed years of camps and it allows people to experience what they missed. There are still DFs who missed a year of events due to COVID for whom this change would mean no opportunity to make up that year.

The motion would have to prevent people at 20 running for a 2 year role. We don't want to promote people to stay until they are 22.

This issue should instead be discussed at Althing 2024, when we will have a better understanding of how the committee is functioning instead of setting it in stone now.

*Amendment: Change the motion to instead act as a resolution for an equivalent motion to be brought to Althing 2024*

Amendment falls

*Amendment: Add a resolution to update the Constitution to explicitly bar 21-year-olds from running for Committee.*

Amendment falls

*Amendment: Add the resolution to update the Constitution to allow 21-year-olds to run for Committee 'only in emergencies'.*

Amendment falls

*Amendment: The changes will come into force for Althing 2024, however they are not binding until that Althing decides it would not like to re-open discussion on the issue.*

Amendment passes

The meeting moved to take a vote on the amended motion:

This Althing sees steps taken to remove the additional grey area added at Althing 2022 in motion 22-11 which allowed DF's aged 21 to run for an additional year on committee. The effects of this constitutional change will come into force for the elections at Althing 2024, however they are not binding until that Althing decides it would not like to re-open discussion on this issue. This motion will not affect this year's ballot.

For: 14; Against: 2; Abstain: 1

Motion passes

*Action #1: incoming Secretary to include an appropriate item in the agenda for Althing 2024*

## 7 Musings

Open space discussions were held on the musings in the agenda.

### 7.1 Current Safeguarding Concern

Nuala took the chair. Althing held a discussion on a current safeguarding concern. The outcome was the creation of a safeguarding working group to resolve this issue.

### 7.2 Other Musings

At the same time, Delilah facilitated open space discussions on the other musings:

- How can we encourage more people to get trained in MEST-UP or First Aid for events
- How can we update the rules on quorum to reflect the new structure of DF Committee?
- Considering it is a summer without a big camp, how do we make DF Camp 2024 special?

End of business for the 19th

Business resumes on the 20th at 1pm.

## 8 Election Results

Nominations and registration to submit an absentee ballot were opened in advance of Althing. Absentee ballots were submitted online in a period between nominations closing and the beginning of Althing. Attendees of Althing also submitted their ballots via an online form.

*Note: All candidates for Chair and MEST-UP Coordinator placing above RON take part in a second round of election to their positions. The voters in the secondary elections were the newly elected Committee and MEST-UP Trained DFs, respectively. Results will be announced after voting closes.*

### 8.1 Committee Roles

Activism Representative - Paul Nolan-Paley and Emily McKenzie

Events Representative - Nuala Doak

Shadow Events Representative - Callista Smithson Swain

Shadow MEST-UP Coordinator - Joseph Hammond

Fundraising Representative - Parker Murray and Noah Williams

Odd Laymember - Carmen M-P

Outreach Representative - Maya Hall-Balfourth

Safeguarding Representative - Sadie Lamont

Secretary of the Movement - Wilfred Lamont

Training Representative - Carmen M-P

Treasurer - Morgan Britto-Voss

Shadow Treasurer - Maya Liley

Not up for election: Even Laymember, Communications Representative

### 8.2 Non-Committee Roles

Sustainability Representative: Paul Nolan-Paley

Zine: Sven Reeves

Venturer Liaison: Carmen M-P and Morgan B-V

Odd General Council Representative: Tyler Eckersall

Even General Council Representative: Paul Nolan-Paley

Podcast Coordinator: Tyler Eckersall

Scotland Liaison: Aisling Stuart

Manchester Liaison: Sven Reeves



Big Camps Representative: Seren Waite

International Opportunities Representative; Mickey William Lowe

First Aid Fairy: Esmerelda Thompson

Wales Liaison: Lara Sayers

Vacant: London Liaison

## 8.3 Supervisory Roles

Vacant: Accessibility Representative

# 9 Any Other Business

## 9.1 First Aid Kit Updates

Esme delivered a series of recommendations for updating and expanding the first aid kit. Althing accepted the proposals.

*Action #1: Esme to purchase supplies for the first aid kit.*