

14th June Minutes

Chair: Ian (Head of Catering)

Minutes: Naemi (Junior Steward)

Present: Sarah (Catering), Pooneh & Reece (BA), Amelia, Cameron & Kiran (TCSU)

Minutes from previous meeting

- Green formal went well
- Breakfast in bar: will be open from 8am in October
- Drinks: TCSU to publicise for Michaelmas, discussion about (non-)alcoholic drinks later in this meeting
- Individual fruits for a ‘make your own’ fruit salad: too expensive
- Lighting in hall: this has been handed over to the building committee
- Survey: this will happen in Michaelmas as new menus were introduced this term.

TCSU: 15 guests for formals

- TCSU to have an account, Danielle can help set up; Sarah notes college permission may be required
- Current requirements limit guests from other colleges
- Danielle to send information to TCSU/Cameron; this will put TCSU in line with the BA Society

Inclusive formals: paying for wine

- Wine/no wine tickets cost the same – Kiran points out that there are ways to tackle this issue: dietary requirement slips?
- Ian notes that there have been wine/no wine tickets and other colleges’ methods have been looked at, but when tried there was a problem with honesty/costs not adding up
- Difference in costs for wine/soft drinks is minimal
- Naemi to look over minutes from last catering committee on this issue
- Idea of non-alcoholic formals raised – could this be cheaper? TCSU to discuss this option and then talk to Catering; drinks for this could be more than just water/juice – smoothies a possibility
- Themed formals: TCSU can request these, e.g. Green formal, Halloween formal, but adequate notice must be given (menus already being prepared for Michaelmas)

Alcohol in food

- Certain foods like gravy are often made with alcohol; Ian to confirm with chefs that no student meals are made with alcohol
- Communication with servers on this issue
- There is no alcohol in recipes or method database for undergraduate food, Ian to prepare statement
- Ian notes that alcohol is often replaced with another allergen (e.g. starch used to thicken gravy instead of alcohol problematic for gluten allergies), so the process is complex

Drinks before formals

- Drinks receptions have received very good reviews
- Best not to normalise, but will be used for special/themed formals

Food at formals

- TCSU can sit with chef and come up with some ideas
- Internal discussions on meal ideas will be held in the next couple of weeks

Vegan options in the bar

- Gluten free sandwiches are often not bought
- Vegan options were purchased but much was thrown away too; they are not popular

Food Committee Meeting

- Vegan and other dietary requirements to be included in the survey in Michaelmas

Comments box in hall

- This needs to be publicised as most people seem unaware of it
- Most repeat comments have been sorted out e.g. size of tarts
- Ian suggests going electronic – external catering website to be launched in summer (little traffic on internal one)
- St John's have a catering app which can be used for comments, this idea to be looked in to

BA dinner prices

- Pooneh inquires whether these will stay the same for next year
- Ian has not done calculation yet, but there was a 2-3% increase last year
- Needs to be approved by Council

BA formal tickets

- Ticket prices: guest ticket price recently increased, any change would need to go through Council
- One/two guest tickets – if individual guest tickets do not sell out, it makes sense to open them up to everyone: after 48 hours could be opened to 2 guests?
- Sarah notes that this is manual, Pooneh suggests that she can email to remind
- Ian to speak to Danielle about this; recommends opening sales for two guests for the summer, then in October make a decision about guest numbers
- BA to liaise with Catering about this over summer

BA invoices

- Reece asks about invoices for each function and a statement after each month/billing period
- Drinks reception/grad nights go through bar till; Ian and Reece to discuss invoices
- BA treasurer to be able to view BA Society's UPayChilli account
- A report (including product, volume) can be set up and automatically emailed at a chosen interval

Children at BA events

- Licensing issue
- College rule: over 16s only in hall
- Children need to be looked after and proof of age policy implemented; this is less problematic with students as all are 18 or older
- Dean and Ian to discuss
- Formals are adult events, but garden parties (e.g. BA or Fellows' Garden Party) may differ