

Liaison Committee Minutes

Wednesday 24th November 2pm, M4 New Court

Attendance:

Professor Windle, Dean, (acting chairman)
Dr Pullen, Junior Bursar
Professor Hilton, Steward
Beci Dobbin
BA Society President
BA Society Secretary
TCSU Secretary

Apologies:

Professor Worster, Senior Tutor
Mr Landman, Senior Bursar
Revd Alice Goodman, Chaplain
Stuart Haigh, TCSU Senior Treasurer
Dr Fitzgerald
BA Society Liaison Officer
TCSU President
TCSU Vice-President

1. Matters arising from last meeting's minutes

4.2 Bar Committee

The Bar Committee will be continuing to meet to discuss the problem faced by students' request to keep the second Buttery in the Bar.

6.5 Bidwells

Both Bidwells and the BA society feel that the new graduate Residents Associations are working well.

6.7 BA Rooms

The BA society should refer to the information in the White Book for the rules about who is allowed to book the BA rooms for meetings.

2. Matters arising from College Council

2.1. Amalgamated Clubs

College Council has accepted the Amalgamated Clubs budget.

3. Dean's Business

3.1. Behaviour at Formal Hall

The Committee would like to extend their thanks to the catering staff for their efforts to provide enjoyable Formal Halls while also dealing with the behavioural problems which have occurred this term.

Staff are concerned with the behaviour at undergraduate formals, and are concerned that removing the dress code for Halloween hall may have been a factor.

There are also problems with policing the non-Buttery alcohol which is brought into Formals. The Porters have reported a significantly higher rate of serious alcohol-related incidents.

Sanctions are not deemed as the best approach, and the Dean would like a meeting with TCSU, the BA society, the Steward and the Catering Manager to discuss the problem.

Suggestions so far include: an official ending time for formals; the option to reserve tables for large groups, to reduce the advance queuing before formal; TCSU to have a member present at each formal to check students as they enter; wine to be sold directly outside Hall rather than in the Buttery; wine to be provided by college (and included in the ticket price) as it is for BA formal.

Action: TCSU Secretary to organise a meeting before the end of term

4. Junior Bursar's Business

4.1. Safety and Security

Grange Road incidents suggest that one individual is responsible. The BA society and TCSU confirm that students do not feel that College needs to take any further action. The end of term usually sees a rise in incidents of theft and intrusion, with two possible incidents already reported. Students are reminded to lock their doors, especially when packing up at the end of term.

Action: The Junior Bursar, TCSU, and the BA society to email students

4.2. Launderettes

College is in talks with two suppliers over quotes. To minimise disruption, no action will be taken until the Long Vacation.

Action: Junior Bursar to update the committee at the next meeting

4.3. Accommodation for graduate PhD over-runners

There are two problems with the suggestion of allowing PhD students to choose which three years they live in college accommodation. Firstly, College having lost rental income for their year out will only receive rent from over-runners for the period they remain in their final year, and will be left with vacant rooms for the balance of the year. Secondly, College would be unable to guarantee fourth year PhD students a room, because if the other years all choose to live in college, there will not be enough rooms free.

Action: The BA society and the Junior Bursar to discuss possible options

4.4. Internet connections in graduate hostels

Graduates in hostels are currently able to claim up to £70 of internet costs. If college buys broadband for the graduate hostels, it will be charged as a commercial buyer rather than a private one. The Junior Bursar suggests putting a wifi hub into each hostel (subject to tests of technical feasibility), and spreading the cost over the student rents, in the manner of other appliances such as fridges for gyp rooms. The BA society and TCSU support the generation of a more detailed proposal.

Action: Junior Bursar to investigate further

4.5. BBC

The Junior Bursar has received an advert from the BBC for students to take part in a competition. It will be circulated in the BA and TCSU weekly bulletins

Action: TCSU and BA society to email it to College

4.6. Prints of College

College has received a bulk delivery of adverts addressed to students. The addresses were not given out by college, and college cannot offer any warrant concerning the prints including whether the sender's claim that 10% of each sale will go to Trinity in Camberwell is real.

Action: College will distribute the adverts, but the Junior Bursar will email students explaining that they are not warranted by Trinity

4.7. TV aerials

By March all aerials must be replaced by digital ones. College is only going to upgrade the ones in college flats, not in hostels or in college itself.

4.8. Portugal Street Locks

The locks in the Portugal Street houses are obsolete and cannot have new keys made. All exterior doors will be fitted with Salto locks.

4.9. Electricity Costs

Bidwells has informed College that electricity prices are likely to be large this winter.

Action: The BA society to email graduates letting them know that they should save energy where they can to avoid large bills.

5. Steward's Business

5.1. Meeting of Junior Catering Committee

The meeting of the Junior Catering Committee went well. TCSU and the caterers are in agreement over how to address the complaints highlighted in the survey about college food, particularly the vegetarian meals. As of next term, Formal Halls will be reduced to three nights a week at £8.50. There will also be a carvery on Sunday nights.

6. Matters arising from TCSU

6.1. Catering proposals: looking forward to January

TCSU has met with the Catering Committee and look forward to the improvements which will take place from January, pending College Council approval.

6.2. Fellows' Garden gates

Some students have had trouble when they enter the Fellows' Garden as somebody else opens the gate, then ended up stuck if they do not have their university card, as every exit to the garden is operated using the cards rather than an exit button. They wonder if there is any possible solution to this problem.

Action: Junior Bursar to investigate

6.3. Mallard

TCSU wonders if it would be possible for the infamous college mallard to be displayed in the Bar's trophy cabinet, or in the Porters' Lodge, as many students have asked about its whereabouts.

7. Matters arising from the BA society

7.1. Angel Court Gate

The BA society asked why the gate was not functioning and it was confirmed that it is broken and will be fixed.

8. AOB

Victoria Spence, 25th November, 2010