



STIRLING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of a SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING held on Thursday 6th November 2008 at 3pm in the Meeting Room.

Chair: Mark Cullen - Vice President (Services & Treasurer)

1. Attendance

1.1 Members Present

Mark Cullen - Vice President (Services & Treasurer)
Tom Spencer - President
Dale McEwan - Brig Editor
Emily Chapman - Council Rep
Nikki Holder - Council Rep

1.2 In Attendance

Ross Millar - Senior Bars & Catering Manager
Wendy Forbes - Membership Services Secretary

1.3 Observers

Fred Smith

1.4 Apologies

Ally McCrae - Air3 Station Manager
Kim Delaney - AirTV Station Manager

1.5 Absent without Apologies

Robbie Mackenzie - Ents. Officer
Mudiwa Mutasa - Council Rep
Jacqueline Ashcroft - Council Rep

Meeting is Inquorate

2. Matters arising from Previous Minutes

3. Adoption of Minutes from Previous Meetings

3.1 Services Minutes: 1st October 2008 (previously circulated) - APPROVED

4. Notice of adoption of any other Competent Business

5. Challenges to the Order of The Paper

5.1 Noted: 9.6 to be removed.

6. Resignations & Elections

7. Dates to Note

8. Reports

9. Discussion & Decision Topics

9.1 Plans for Profit Boost

- 9.1.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that over mid-semester he worked on a list of areas where we could increase income, for the Shop and the Robbins. Presented "Plan for Mid-term Profit Boost" and asked everyone to read over and then discuss. He will be trying to focus on the £5/£4 meal deals, and encouraging University staff to purchase them. Also have to cash in more on the Costa Coffee, which is a brilliant brand.
- 9.1.2 Noted: Discussion on Thursday Nights and trying to get it right and also the possibility of a Friday Film Night.
- 9.1.3 President: Is the market there for a film night, would people go?
- 9.1.4 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Thinks a free film night would draw people in.
- 9.1.5 Senior Bars & Catering Manager: Reported that this had been looked into last year. A licence can be obtained for approx. £75 per year, and that includes the films.
- 9.1.6 President: Would like to find out what films would be available.
- 9.1.7 Fred Smith: Suggests a film night link to societies, i.e. Rock Society could show Spinal Tap, etc.
- 9.1.8 Noted: Discussion on Friday Night Film Night.
- 9.1.9 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): When you all go out, would you prefer a posh night or a studenty night?
- 9.1.10 Emily Chapman: Reports that she drinks in the William Wallace, it has loud music but is also relaxed. It also has a pool table, is not expensive and she feels comfortable there.
- 9.1.11 Nikki Holder: When she goes out she likes to be able to chill out, hear each other speak but still hear the music.
- 9.1.12 Noted: Discussion on loud or background music.
- 9.1.13 Fred Smith: At the Air3 night on Friday's the music is too loud and it kills the night, there needs to be a limit on the volume.
- 9.1.14 President: Likes to be able to chill out in a relaxed atmosphere. Would strongly suggest getting a pool table for Studio.
- 9.1.15 Emily Chapman: Agrees, a pool table would be a great idea.
- 9.1.16 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that there used to be pool tables in Long Bar, but had to get rid of them as they were hardly used and were expensive to maintain.
- 9.1.17 Brig Editor: Suggests that if they are properly supervised they should be ok.
- 9.1.18 Noted: Discussion on pool table placement and how it would affect capacity.
- 9.1.19 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Is going to try to push the Off-Sales provision. Also going to try to get Clubs & Societies to use the Long Bar after their meetings, and offer the Club Presidents incentives to do so, i.e. ½ price vouchers for pitchers (including soft drinks) etc.
- 9.1.20 President: Could we pilot a delivery service for off sales? If we offer this for a week and it works then great, if not we just drop the service.

- 9.1.21 Senior Bars & Catering Manager: Thinks there are a few problems with offering this service. For instance, if delivering by car the individual would have to change the insurance for their vehicle.
- 9.1.22 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Thinks it might not make much money, but it is something that can be discussed.
- 9.1.23 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that the deadest time is between 3pm-8pm. Next year the bottom level of the library is closing, therefore he would like the Robbins to be wireless. Information Services have told us that it will not happen, however, he does not believe it.
- 9.1.24 Emily Chapman: Thinks this might help bring people in, as you could work and be comfortable.
- 9.1.25 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Have to find a way to manage noise. Could use the Long Bar as a study space, which would mean we won't have to staff the bar. Another problem is regarding plug sockets, as we can't have cables lying about. Asks committee if they would bring their laptops and work in Long Bar if it was quiet?
- 9.1.26 Brig Editor: The lighting would have to be improved.
- 9.1.27 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that Haldanes is a financial disaster and doesn't make much money. There is an exodus from Haldanes, Studio needs to capitalise on this.
- 9.1.28 Fred Smith: Enjoyed the theme nights in Studio, i.e. Chinese & Indian.
- 9.1.29 Senior Bars & Catering Manager: Explained that people got bored with the theme nights.
- 9.1.30 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that he is looking at ways to improve the look of the Robbins Entrance - it is looking old and needs to be changed.
- 9.1.31 Senior Bars & Catering Manager: Explains that all the water pipes run along the ceiling so it is difficult to make changes there.
- 9.1.32 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): We can either leave it dark and moody, or make major change.
- 9.1.33 President: Suggests a sign that says "Welcome to the Student Union".
- 9.1.34 Fred Smith: Suggests changing the posters, freshen things up a bit.
- 9.1.35 Nikki Holder: Thinks the lighting should be improved as a couple of her friends have fallen down the stairs as it is too dark - please make the stairs brighter.
- 9.1.36 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports he is thinking of offering online ticket sales, and we can do this now due to the new website. This would be good as it means we can sell out nights well in advance.
- 9.1.37 Emily Chapman: On the down side, there are quite a few people that do not trust on-line purchases.
- 9.1.38 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Another downside is that it may cost more, as there would be a booking charge.
- 9.1.39 President: Suggests including the charge in the ticket price, and not publicise that we are charging for the service.
- 9.1.40 Fred Smith: Doesn't think it would be a good idea for Fresher's Week, as the 1st years then might not come.

- 9.1.41 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that it would be a good idea if the Shop were to stock costumes, as it is absurd the amount that Let's Party charge. As space is limited, may have to have a catalogue and order as required.
- 9.1.42 Nikki Holder: This could work, as it saves people having to go into town.

9.2 New Studio Line Up

- 9.2.1 Noted: This was covered in 9.1

9.3 Studio/Long Bar Catering

- 9.3.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that during the summer he went through the Menu with Senior Bars & Catering Manager & staff, and would like to know what would bring you into Studio.
- 9.3.2 Nikki Holder: Has never eaten in Studio, she cooks for herself. She misses home cooked meals like her mum makes.
- 9.3.3 Senior Bars & Catering Manager: Explains that everything is made fresh every day, have dishes including Steak Pie, Macaroni, Lasagne, etc.
- 9.3.4 Emily Chapman: Suggests a Sunday Roast.
- 9.3.5 Fred Smith: Asks how things are concerning weekends.
- 9.3.6 Senior Bars & Catering Manager: Reports that we are keeping our heads above water. It really depends on what football matches are on, if it is a big game we get big crowds, but smaller games mean smaller crowds.
- 9.3.7 Nikki Holder: What about organising something for Thanksgiving?
- 9.3.8 Brig Editor: Christmas Dinners, with appropriate Vegetarian options.
- 9.3.9 Senior Bars & Catering Manager: Reports that for all theme nights, there was always a Vegetarian Option available.

9.4 Re:Fresher's Week

- 9.4.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Asks committee for ideas to make Valentine's Night a bit different.
- 9.4.2 Fred Smith: Lonely Hearts Night.
- 9.4.3 President: Singles Night.
- 9.4.4 Brig Editor: Blind Date Night.
- 9.4.5 Fred Smith: Speak to companies and see if they will provide sponsorship in the form of cinema tickets or meal for 2 vouchers. Also, what about Swan pedaloos on the loch?
- 9.4.6 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that the Women's Officer is interested in putting on a night in aid of Breast Cancer, which would be aimed at ladies sports teams, etc.
- 9.4.7 Nikki Holder: Would definitely go.
- 9.4.8 Emily Chapman: Would go, as long as it was not just sports teams.
- 9.4.9 President: What about a silent disco for Fresher's Week?
- 9.4.10 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Explains the concept of silent disco, and will look into pricing, etc.
- 9.4.11 Emily Chapman: Would like another foam party.

9.5 Carnage @ the Castle

9.5.1 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that Carnage @ the Castle is a secondary event during Final Fling, and will be run by the Rock Society. The Final Fling is aimed primarily at sports teams, Carnage would be aimed at Rock fans.

9.5.2 Fred Smith: Would like to make it a mini festival, have guest DJ's, live bands, etc. This would cover all genres of music, including rock, ska, punk. Would be looking for other Universities to get involved, possibly have a battle of the bands between Universities. The live music scene in Stirling is non-existent, this may be a chance to rectify this.

9.5.3 Vice President (Services & Treasurer): Reports that Fred is working hard on this, and thinks it is a fantastic idea.

10. Date of Next Meeting

t.b.c.

*Mark Cullen
Vice President (Services & Treasurer)*

7th November 2008