

Minutes

Subject:	Management Committee Minutes: 21 January 2020
Produced by:	Tony Moore
To:	Management Committee
Action:	To approve
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Paper:	MC 19.20.18

Present: Martin Marko (MM), Ali Perez (ALP), (TCU), Amelia Trew (AT), Toby Cunningham (TCU) *(For latter part of meeting, Callum Perry (CP),*

Chair: Sophie Atherton (SA)

In attendance: Caroline Wilson (CW), Tony Moore (TM)

Apologies: Wendy Storey (WS), Tim Cave (TCA)

Executive Summary

- Agreed to Bars price increase on two VK deal
- Agreed to take part in UEA on Tour
- Agreed in principle to work in partnership with Sanctuary University on Refugee Week pending an assessment of staff workload

Action Points from meeting

Required	Assigned
The possibility of changing the Bars limit from three drinks to four to be investigated	TCU
Refuse bins marked 'VKs only' be made available	TCU
Paper requested on new cider source	TCU
Drinks prices to be set at Easter – to be added to Cycle of Business	TCU/TM
Communications packaged on drinks price to be drafted and circulated to FTOs for approval	SA
FTOs to consult their diaries as to availability for UEA on Tour and get back to ALP	All FTOs
Communications departmental plan be brought to a future meeting	TCU
Incoming Head of Communications be invited to meet the FTOs on 14 February	CW

MC 361 Minutes, Apologies, Matters Arising

Minutes of the meetings held on 16 December and 7 January were approved.

On immediate action points:

ALP noted that the meeting with the licensing authority as to alcohol at PMB would take place later in the day and the risk assessment was being worked on; CP noted that the final draft had gone to the Deputy Chair of Trustees who had made some minor changes and the letter would be sent to ET in time for its meeting;

ALP noted that suggested changes had been made to Ian Callaghan's report on SU funding and these had been sent to Ian.

MC 362 Bars Prices Report and Proposal

SA noted the paper which included a proposal to raise the price of VKs and cut the price of 'snakebite'.

TCU argued that the reasoning in the paper was flawed: if a customer did not like the taste of 'snake bite', they were unlikely to drink it in response to a 20p price cut. TCU advised that the proposed rise in the price for two VKs would represent a significant change to pricing policy.

ALP believed that it was important to keep the two VK deal in place, even if there were to be price rises. ALP noted they would be happy with a deal price of £4.50 for two VKs. ALP noted concerns that the two VK deal offer was compromised by the current three-drink limit and this should be looked at.

The Committee discussed the three-drink limit and promotion of responsible drinking. TCU advised that a single VK represented only one unit of alcohol and this should be borne in mind in comparison to others items on sale.

The Committee asked TCU to investigate the possibility of changing the limit from three drinks to four. **AP**

The Committee discussed the declining popularity of 'snakebites'.

CW wondered as to how good a supplier the NUS was.

TCU noted that staff had looked at alternative suppliers but had found that they could not match the NUS offer. TCU noted, however, that there might be the possibility of obtaining a more palatable cider for the 'snakebite' mixture but that this would be more costly.

The Committee discussed the environmental aspect of VK consumption and asked that refuse bins marked 'VKs only' be made available to customers. **AP**

*The Committee agreed that the price of single VKs would stay at £2.60 whilst the deal price for two would rise from £4 to £4.60. **AP***

*The Committee agreed that the price of 'snakebites' would remain the same, pending receipt of a paper as to the possibility of obtaining a new source for the cider ingredient. **AP***

TCU advised that the current debate had shown the changing attitudes to price setting by FTOs once they had been in office for some time and understood the commercial reality the Union was operating in. TCU advised it would make sense for the bar prices to be set in the spring by the out-going officer team. SA agreed but noted, in the past year, there had been slippage with deadlines not being met: SA asked that, in future, there should be strict deadlines as to pricing proposals coming to the Committee.

The Committee agreed that drinks prices would be set at Easter: this item to be added to the Committee's Cycle of Business. AP

The Committee discussed how to communicate the price rise to the membership.

SA thought the communications should be as high profile as possible, on Instagram and Facebook.

ALP believed that it was important to be clear about the need for the rise stemming from the growing budget deficit.

CP thought it important to emphasise that the price rise had been kept as low as possible and that price of VKs had not risen for three or four years.

SA noted they would put a communications package on the price rise together and circulate to FTOs for approval. AP

MC 363 Staffing (Closed business)

MC 364 AOB

UEA on Tour

ALP noted they had received the invitation from ARM for FTOs to take part in what were, in effect, open days held away from campus. ALP noted the events would be in the evenings and held at York and at Leicester.

The Committee agreed in principle that FTOs should attend: FTOs to consult their diaries as to availability and get back to ALP. AP

Look at diaries get back to ALP

Sanctuary University and Refugee Week

ALP noted that the Sanctuary University campaign would be working on support for Refugee Week which would take place in the week of 24 February. ALP noted that the week coincided with Go Global. ALP noted that the campaign had asked if the Union would like to work in partnership on promoting Refugee Week. ALP thought that promotion of the Week would fit in easily with the promotion of Go Global.

CP welcomed the proposal but noted concerns as to the impact on the communications staff workload: CP thought it would be helpful to see the communications departmental plan before making any commitment.

The Committee agreed to the partnership proposal in principle dependent on the communications department workload.

SA asked that the communications departmental plan be brought to a future meeting and that the incoming Head of Communications be invited to meet the FTOs on the Head's pre-employment visit to the Union on 14 February. **AP**

MC 360 Time, Date and Place of next meeting

9 am, Wednesday 5 February, venue TBC