



**MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ONLINE AT 11AM ON 1st JULY 2020**

Committee in attendance:

Camilla Deane, Norseland (Supplier) – Chair
Samantha Brett, Waitrose (Retail)
Steve Postle, Subway (Sandwich Bar Chain)
Ben Newby, Freshfayre (Supplier)
Peter Mayley, La Baguetterie (Independent)
Martin Beaver, RAP (Supplier)

Jim Winship, BSA Director
Sandra Bennett, Membership Manager

Apologies

David Winter, Street Eats (Producer)
Robert Potts, Greencore (Producer)

Minutes of Last Meeting

These were approved. It was noted that Martin Beaver had been omitted from the attendees.

Coronavirus

The meeting discussed some of the actions the Association has undertaken in connection with Coronavirus, in particular:

Squeezed Middle: A report has been submitted to the UK Government and to the devolved nations pressing the case for more recognition and support for suppliers and manufacturers who depend on sectors of the food industry that have been closed. The report, which was issued by the Food & Drink Federation, was drafted by a small working group which included the BSA.

Rent Arrears: Although the Government has extended controls over landlords demanding rent arrears from sandwich bars etc. and has issued a voluntary code of practice for landlord/tenant relationships, there remain concerns that at some point arrears will be demanded. The Association is continuing to press for a long term solution to give tenants a chance to get their businesses back on track.

Toilets: In the absence of guidance from Public Health England about the management of toilets on sandwich bars etc., the Association has researched advice given in Government guidance and produced its own guidance which has been circulated to member sandwich bars and cafes.

Health

With the Prime Minister now starting to demand action on obesity, and talking about a possible obesity tax, the Association is in the process of drafting proposals to present to Government calling for a more educational based approach to tackling the problems. A copy of the draft will be circulated to the Committee once it is completed.

Allergens

With the Food Standards Agency starting to press forward again with allergen labelling in the foodservice sector, the Association has urged it to consider extending the deadline for implementation to allow businesses time to recover after the COVID-19 situation.

Listeria

The Association is continuing to liaise with the NHS and their agencies regarding concerns over listeria risks from mishandling of chilled foods. The Report from the Hospital Food Review panel is still awaiting publication due to the COVID-19, although the Association has remained in contact with Phillip Shelley, it's chair, throughout.

Industry Dinner

The meeting discussed the dinner on 4th November and agreed that there should be a speaker, comedian and disco as well as casino tables in the bar area.

AGM and Pre Dinner Presentations

The Association is planning to hold its AGM in the afternoon before the dinner and will also invite a couple of speakers to make presentations. These will take place at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, starting at 2.30pm.

Monthly Member Briefings

The Association has launched a programme of monthly briefings for members online. The first of these will take place at 3pm on Wednesday, 8th July. Market analyst Simon Stenning will be presenting to the meeting.

Award Review

Jim Winship suggested that the Association should review its award categories for 2021 given that many businesses in the sector will have been closed for a large part of the award year. Jim to put together a proposal for discussion at the next meeting.

Delivery Insurance

The Association is concerned that some businesses that have moved into delivery may not have appropriate insurance for food delivery. It plans to issue a reminder to members shortly encouraging them to check with their insurers that they have adequate cover.

BSA Audits

Although the Association is unable to undertake on-site audits currently, it is maintaining its accreditation programme using an audit questionnaire etc. in the same way that BRC audits are being maintained.

Out of Home Eating Campaign

With fewer people going out to work, the meeting discussed whether the Association should co-ordinate a campaign to press the case for consumers to buy FTG products. Jim Winship to draft a discussion paper for the next meeting.

Next Meeting

The next online Management Committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, 5th August at 11am. This meeting will particularly focus on the 2021 award categories and development of an eating out of home campaign.