

Minutes of Management Committee Meeting held at Just Eat, Fleet Place, London at 11am on Tuesday 20th November 2019.

Committee in attendance:

Geoff Parsons, Basilico (Chairman)
Keith Griffiths, Pizza Hut (Vice Chairman)
Richard Harrow, Freiberger
Alan Ribakovs, Whitworths
Wayne MacDonald, Just Eat
James Faulkner, Leathams

Secretariat:

Jim Winship Gavin Rothwell

Apologies:

Maurice Abboudi, Consultant Richard Thorpe, Ornua, Jon Watkin, Dawn Farms Lynne Utting, Glanbia

Minutes of the last meeting

These were approved.

New Committee Members

Jon Watkin is joining the Committee to replace Julie Sloan, who has now left Dawn Farm Foods.

Gavin Rothwell has joined the Association team. He was formerly with the Institute of Grocery Distribution.

Constitution

The meeting agreed that the Constitution should be altered to allow for a further consultant to be on the Committee. Richard Harrow to be reappointed in this position.

Jim Winship suggested that at least one Italian company should be represented on the Committee and agreed to pursue this.

Employment/Immigration

The meeting discussed the current concerns about shortages of people to work in the industry and agreed that the Association should be prepared to lobby the Government after the election if there are moves to restrict access to the UK market.

Jim Winship reported that he was working with other Associations with regard to the Minimum and Living wages. There was agreement that the Living Wage is likely to rise to £10-£10.50 in the relatively near future.

Health

Jim Winship reported that Public Health England is expected to release new targets for both calories and salt once the election is out of the way. The meeting felt that there was a high risk of an obesity tax being introduced following the successful introduction of the sugar tax.

The meeting agreed that the Association should continue to push for on-pack calorie labelling.

Allergens

Jim Winship briefed the meeting on discussions with The Food Standards Agency and Defra on allergen labelling, which has become more complicated following a ruling by FSA lawyers that the law does not recognize the term 'self-service' and, as a consequence, all packaged foods should be labelling with ingredients and allergens. Following strong representations from the industry in September, the FSA delayed issuing guidance on this until 31st December but then went silent on the matter. Election purdah means that no further consultation can take place until after the new Government is in place.

Because of election purdah a meeting planned between Jim Winship and Heather Hancock, chair of the FSA Board, has also been delayed.

Jim Winship also reported that, although delivered foods are currently outside the scope of the proposals as they come under a separate section of food law, there are noises about these being drawn into the same requirements.

Since the meeting the FSA has responded to Jim Winship stating that they plan to issue revised draft guidance after the election and will extend the deadline to allow for consultation in the New Year.

Listeria

Jim Winship reported that, following extensive work by a group of food technologists, new guidance on managing listeria has been drawn up. This was presented to the Food Standards Agency and Public Health England in October, both of which welcomed it.

The intention is now to establish compliance with this as a condition for supplying chilled foods to the healthcare sector, particularly in areas dealing with vulnerable groups. Discussions have already taken place with the NHS

Supply Chain over building this requirement in to their supply framework but the Chain only supplies a small proportion of hospitals.

The Association is now in discussions with the Hospital Food Review panel with the aim of getting their support behind this work.

The meeting also discussed concerns over the handling of some frozen ingredients, such as sweetcorn and other vegetables, which can carry listeria and should not be consumed without first being heated.

Waste and the Environment

The meeting spent some time discussing issues around packaging and the need to find better solutions so that packs, such as pizza boxes, can be recycled. The Association is planning to organize a meeting in the New Year to discuss issues around waste and recycling.

PAPA Awards

It was agreed that the awards dinner had been a success. The only comments made were that consideration should be given to having the first course before presenting the first awards as it was felt that there was a long gap before anyone had anything to eat. The band was also considered to be rather loud and it was suggested that consideration should be replaced by a disco and that this could be set up in a corner of the room.

Jim Winship suggested that the award categories should be reviewed by the Committee at the next meeting, along with the judging.

European Pizza & Pasta Show

Jim Winship reported that the Show had been extremely successful, with strong attendances throughout the three days. It was felt that the event was dominated by exhibitors from overseas and by equipment suppliers.

Due to refurbishment of Olympia exhibition halls, the show is likely to move to Excel in 2020 but will still coincide with the PAPA Awards. Excel has offered to put on bus services to the Awards dinner but the meeting suggested that people might prefer to use DLR and the Underground.

Industry Report

It was suggested that putting out the Report on chairs at the Awards dinner did not work as people forgot to pick them up when they left the event. Instead, it would be better to mail them or send everyone an on-line link.

The Association has also mailed reports to all members. It has also sent emails to everyone on its database advising them that the Report can be accessed online.

Membership Drive

Jim Winship reported that Gavin Rothwell will be reviewing membership benefits and working to build membership over the coming months. As part of

this the Association is launching a series of Breakfast Briefings in 2020 – the first one takes place in London on 5^{th} February.

Delivery

The meeting briefly discussed continuing concerns over the insurance of delivery drivers and the difficulties for businesses in obtaining cover. There is particular concern that some businesses are relying on drivers having their own insurance but that this may be inadequate as some may be relying on 'business use' rather than having specific food delivery insurance.

Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting will be in London on $23^{\rm rd}$ January, 2020 at 11am at Just Eat, Fleet Place, London