

BA Society Annual General Meeting 2017

BA Rooms

2017-30-04

Chair: Filip T. Szczypiński (BA President)

Minutes: Mark Burrell (BA Liaison and Welfare Officer)

Present: James Manton (BA Computing Officer), Rory Little (BA Ents Officer), Olivia Tidswell (BA Women's Officer), Marvin Teichmann, Reece Oosterbeek, Talia Pettigrew (BA Ents Officer), Stephen Bayley, Adam Halski

Meeting opened at 20:04 by Filip

AGM follows the agenda prescribed in the Standing Orders of the BA Society

1. *Previous Open Meeting Minutes* – None presented
2. *Matters arising from previous minutes* – None
3. *Committee Report* -

Presidential Report (Filip T. Szczypiński)

It has been a successful year for the BA Society, beginning with the Garden Party in the previous June. Over the summer we organised several smaller (and some large events) as well as working with the Junior Bursar's Office on establishing the needs in the Round Church graduate accommodation development. In October, Freshers' Week was a big success, as reflected in a recent survey. Planning for the next freshers' week is already well underway under the Dean's new planning committee. There have been several changes to BA Dinners, from after the introduction of the new ticketing system we have successfully argued that BA members should be able to purchase two guest tickets, however there is a College Council subcommittee formed to investigate pricing. Working with Catering department we have improved the standard of dinner layout and service during Formals, as well as improved menus. We have experimented with group seating to try and find the optimal arrangement for everyone. We have increased the variety of both alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks at BA Dinner pre-drinks. Over the year, we have organised a great deal of ents, both drinking and non-drinking, eating and non-eating and tried to cater to the widest range of tastes (from carnivore to vegan). The full list can be seen on the BA Survey (Mark: fill it out!). We have had swaps with other colleges and coming up with another university. The welfare provisions of the BA Society have greatly increased, now having regular welfare evenings and three mental health workshops thanks to Mark's efforts. We have also become more involved with the college's welfare provisions, helping form the new harassment policy. We have a new website, that aims to be less out of date and more informative. We have also a range of new sporting events, from zorb football over summer to the now regular parkrun, as well as new sporting equipment (that will be seen over summer), such as a new croquet set and the coconut shy. There have also been improvements to the BA Rooms (e.g. new electrical sockets along the bench), if a bit slow (delayed by the backlog the New Court redevelopment created), with more improvements to come.

We have also reviewed the constitution, done largely by James (Computing Officer), and well overdue. The main changes are (1) significantly shorter whilst retaining the same spirit, with less restrictions. Our restrictions also now obey the laws of physics (e.g. the distribution of draft minutes, time for corrections and final distribution being consistent); (2) Division of the Liaison and Welfare role, there has been an increasing amount of work on both sides of this job, which have not made sense together in the past: for the new Liaison officer, the work includes the Liaison meeting (with senior college officials), but also newer committees involving student representation (e.g. Health and Safety, Website, Contingency). On the Welfare side, there has been a great deal

more welfare events, meetings and the mental health workshops that we wish to continue. Splitting the role will give a better chance of these being done well in the future; (3) Enfranchisement of the Women's Rep and LGBT rep to full committee members, previously these have been floating responsibilities often leaving these roles poorly served. Making these full members of the committee, with voting rights, is necessary to ensure these communities are served by their representative. Please vote in Monday's referendum to approve these changes.

Treasurer's Report (Ravi Solanki, not present)

Report attached. Filip notes with the media budget that has been unspent that this is usual practise, the media budget is reserved for repairs until the end of the year when it is used to purchase new games etc.

Question to the Committee

Stephen Bayley: Regarding the BA TV, is it licensed and can we watch terrestrial TV? Filip: Yes, it is licensed (we think under the college's public room license). James: There is no antenna but you will be able to watch using iPlayer. The delay has been getting the TV networked (with a separate internet quota), which we have been working on for >6 months. We are hoping to have solved this by the end of term.

Stephen: Are there any Summer activities? Filip: yes, we have a number of activities but usually lower budget. Mark: We have included budget for Summer Shakespeare attendance, trips to the proms in London, BA Dinners, and Book Club will continue. Filip: But it is up to the next committee to decide. Rory: Getting attendance is harder in Summer, people are away. But we do have sea kayaking event being planned.

Stephen: With the next freshers' week, is it possible to shrink the family size? Mark: It is a limitation on how many parents we can sign up. We tried to get as many families as possible, but it is a commitment in time for college parents that not everyone can make. I aimed to be as flexible as possible when signing up parents (and we did get more than the previous year) but ultimately it is not something we can control. Stephen: Are non-committee members allowed to be parents? Mark: Yes. (NB: Of the 25 or so college parents in 2016, about half were committee members). Stephen: What about single parent families? Mark: I have my reservations about this, as two parent families gives at least some backup if one parent fails to show up to event. Plus, cooking for college children can be quite a task which is better shared. It will be up to the next welfare officer and committee to decide how to run it though.

Marvin Teichmann: Can we get HBO? It would be great to have a Game of Thrones viewing party. Mark: Yes, we plan on getting NOW TV once the TV is networked. This gives us access to Sky Atlantic to watch Game of Thrones. We have held Game of Thrones viewings in the past and (if the new committee decides to) will hold them in the future.

Motions Submitted: None

Any Other Business:

Mark quantifies that it has been a busy year for the committee, with 17,629 messages in the committee group chat, the equivalent of more than 150,000 words. Filip (and his holiday photos) are responsible for some 30% of these.

Filip Closes the Meeting at 20.42

Interim Financial Summary

BA Society
Trinity College Cambridge
30 April 2017

The following financial summary outlines the status of the BA Society. The use of this summary is limited to the Annual General Meeting of the Society, scheduled for 30 April 2017.

The BA Society has the following available liquid assets:

9,760.57 GBP

These funds are intended for use by the BA Society until the end of its financial year on 30 September, 2017. Much of this has already been allocated, including, but limited, for:

1. BA Dinners throughout Easter and Summer terms
2. BA Garden Party
3. Oxford Trip
4. Whisky Tasting

The figure, as well, does not include charges to BA members yet to be disbursed to our account as well as recent Catering Department expenses.

The entirety of the BA Budget is composed of restricted funds. While most categories of expenditure are on track to meet the budget allocation, certain categories have greater risk of breaching limits. These include:

1. BA Dinners – *expenditure is oftentimes not predictable and it is not possible to track spending accurately in advance.*
2. Sporting Events – *Park Run poses a noticeable financial burden to the Society. However, recent successes by the Committee to acquire separate funding for the activity will alleviate this concern.*

Alternatively, certain expense categories have more funds available for use should the Society see it fit. These include:

1. BA Rooms – *this includes items for the BA Rooms itself, including consumables as well as equipment for the rooms itself.*
2. Media – *this includes items such as games for the BA TV Room.*

The BA Society additionally has the following funds in reserve:

7,100.58 GBP

*Ravi Solanki
BA Society Treasurer
30 April 2017*