



Noah's ARC Committee meeting at the Imperial Hotel Blackpool

07 November 2015

Committee members in attendance

- Paul Baker - Chairman
- Peter Farrell - Vice Chairman
- Darren Walker - Shop and Website
- Wayne Hurst - Entertainments
- Julie Schofield - Raffle and Menu

Non-Committee members attending: Rachel Walker

Committee members unable to attend

- Paul Wigmore - Band and Medicina
- Dave Higson - Band
- Andrea Baker - Accounts

Hotel Members in attendance

- Imperial Hotel Manager - Vivian Morrison

The committee attended the meeting at the Imperial to introduce themselves as the newly formed committee to the Imperial Hotel management and staff and to discuss the Annual Reunion to be held at the Imperial Hotel on May 5th, 6th and 7th May 2016.

Chairman (Paul Baker) Points and Questions

Accommodation

- ❖ The committee asked to know the numbers already booked into the Hotel and how many rooms are left. The committee need to start selling tickets to the event but are unable to do so without knowing where we currently stand.
- The Imperial hotel is currently sold out of rooms that are allocated to Noah's ARC for the reunion in May 2016. Rooms are still available but these would be at the normal rate!
 - A list of those booked in to the Imperial Hotel was provided to the committee.

- ❖ Would the Imperial Hotel therefore be able to increase the numbers of rooms allocated to Noah's ARC at the discounted rate.
 - Vivian is not able to make that decision. She will however approach the Revenue Manager to see what can be done and inform the committee as soon as possible.
- ❖ The committee needs to know the total number of people the Hotel will allow to attend the reunion?
 - The number that can be seated for the meal is 330 the total number permitted in the building due to fire regulations will be clarified and the committee will be notified as soon as possible.
- ❖ If people do not wish to A: attend the meal or B. eat the buffet are they still expected to pay to come in?
 - No, but the committee would need to know those numbers as it would affect the numbers of those that are paying.

The Buffet

- ❖ Why is it so expensive?
 - The £20-00 covers the cost of the buffet and sandwiches that are made available later in the proceedings.
- ❖ Can the price be lowered for the 2016 reunion?
 - No for reasons explained in the previous question.

Price of the alcohol during the Noah's ARC reunion

- ❖ The quantity of alcohol consumed during these reunions must be large? The committee thanks for the Imperial Hotel for lowering the price of the alcohol by 10% but was wondering if there was room for further movement for the price to be reduced by a further 10% on the house products? (certain, beer, wines and some spirits)
 - 10% was agreed with the previous committee so everyone attending would benefit not those that drank the house beer and spirits.
- ❖ Would it be possible to discount the house drinks further still by the 10% so house drinks are reduced by 20%? This would reduce the total expenditure felt by those attending the Noah's ARC reunion.
 - This would be discussed with the bar and the revenue managers. Once known the committee would be informed.

Table settings

- ❖ Would the Hotel be able to set the tables in Blue and Yellow tablecloths with Napkins also in blue and yellow on alternate tables. Candles in red to set the

dining area up in Regimental colours?

- Table cloths can only be done in white as that is all the Imperial Hotel own, if Noah's ARC would like that done it would be permitted for Noah's ARC to supply their own or something that can be put over the white table cloths.
 - This option is being looked into by Rachel and Darren Walker.
- ❖ Is there any possibility of Flags being suspended from the Walls or Ceiling?
 - Yes, hooks etc. are already in place.
- ❖ The Noah's ARC Committee would like to hang a picture/poster of our former President Lt. Col Brian (DRAC) Draper on a wall in remembrance to him, is that OK?
 - Yes
- ❖ Would the Hotel be able to provide a raffle prize where someone can return for a weekends break?
 - The hotel would be please to help with the raffle.

Points Raised by Peter Farrell

- ❖ Breakfast on the Sunday morning was somewhat manic and at one point the manager was seen to raise his hands in disbelief. It was felt that this was due to a shortage of staff on the Sunday morning. Tables were not being cleared fast enough for people to sit down can this please be addressed.
 - The issue was down to too many coming down at the same time. To try and elevate this issue an overflow room will be used on the Sunday.
- ❖ During the service of the Gala meal the staff were barging their way through Noah's ARC members to place the plate on the table. This event is important part of the year to members of Noah's ARC could this please be addressed and a more polite and calmer method of service be used.
 - The Imperial Hotel was not made aware of this at the time and apologised. This will of course be addressed.
- ❖ The Gala meal was not to the standard expected by the members of Noah's ARC. Could the hotel please improve what is served.
 - The Imperial Hotel was not made aware of this at the time and apologised. This will of course be addressed.

Questions from Julie Schofield

- ❖ Does the Imperial Hotel have a Raffle drum?
 - Yes.

❖ Menu options available?

- Let the Imperial Hotel have your choice and we will go from there.
- A tasting day will be arranged so members of the committee can discuss the menu and decoration for the meals during the Gala meal on the Saturday evening.

❖ On the Friday night if the Oompah Band are to entertain us on the Friday night we would like to have a German themed buffet where Bratwurst, Currywurst and other German delicacies are available to eat.

- This is possible and it can be discussed further once the entertained is arranged. We can then approach the executive chef about meal options.

The Noah's Committee thanked Vivian for hosting the meeting and the meeting was brought to a close.