



FALCON FORUM – 28th July 2021

Present – Peter McAllister, Mary Kemp, Donnie MacLennan, Mhairi Burt, Kerry Jackson, Wendy Rodgers

Apologies – Ranald Wallace

Business Update

Our order intake is 20% down on pre covid sales. Over the last 18 months we have seen demand disappear and then surge back. We are on the road to recovery and are winning new customers, but it is challenging as we are experiencing shortages in parts and the cost of steel has increased by 39% but as yet we haven't increased our prices to the customer. We are in a really good position, but it remains challenging due to the impact of Brexit and Covid.

Ali have acquired Welbilt, making Ali by far the biggest, the global leader in the foodservice equipment and solutions industry.

Canteen

Survey will be issued to everyone from the Forum with the options for the canteen:

Option A – Catering company

Option B – Vending machine company with refrigerated food and have a Scan Heat appliance available to heat it up.

Option C – Catering apprentices from Fourth Valley College for a 3-month period with support from Shaune.

Option D - Catering van could come on site.

Once we know what the preferred option is, we will get costings and decide on viability, we will discuss again with the Forum before going ahead.

Facilities

Garden furniture – New furniture ordered, awaiting delivery.

Dishwasher – New one ordered delivery 11th August

Windows in R&D Kitchen/Lab – Wendy to talk to the window cleaner and find out when they are next in.

Roof / Vents cleaned - Plans to clean the roof and protect the vents so that the birds can't nest on them.

Burn at the bottom of the road is blocked will be a problem in the winter – Speak to the gardeners to find out if this is something they can do for us.

Electric Charging Points in the car park – There is an Energy & Environment Meeting on the 12th August and this will be discussed.

Financial Advisor

Raymond Bond is a financial advisor; he is available to come in and speak to anyone who is looking for advise re pensions etc. If anyone is interested in seeing him, can they contact their Forum representative.

Flag Poles

Look into the possibility of having flag poles outside we could have three countries flags e.g., Scottish, British, and Italian and if we have a bereavement in the business, we could fly one at half-mast.

April Holidays

Having flexibility in the April holidays this year meant that we lost 5% efficiency and it didn't work. We will look to discuss this with the union to see how we approach this next year, potentially going back to a shutdown.

Friday holidays

Whether you take a Friday or a Monday off as a holiday you still get paid 37 hours for the week.

Banked hours

The purpose / idea behind banked hours is and remains in place for appointments e.g., dentist etc. Employees are reminded that you can bank up to 20 hours, however for full days this can only be used once all holiday entitlement has been used.

Forum Vacancy

We have a vacancy on the Forum due to the loss of Gordon Mann, Wendy to advertise the vacancy on the notice boards.