

West of England Bridge Club

Minutes of a Committee meeting held Wednesday 1st May 2019

Present: Alan Williams (Chair), Alan Evans, Chris Frew, Jen Challoner, Bernice Horseman, Jan Duncan.

Apologies: Bill Ashford

1 Minutes of 6th March meeting

The date of the meeting was corrected from 4th March to 6th March. The minutes were then approved, and signed by the Chairman.

2 Actions arising. Most actions arising from the 6th March Committee meeting are included in New/Major Business items below. Other actions:

- 2.1 (from AGM) Jane Chapman wants a secure bike rack. Chris had taken over this action from Alan Williams, but has been no more successful in persuading GHS. We will report to the next AGM that we have tried, but failed.
- 2.2 (3.1.1) Alan E will show Jen how the key safe works. **Action carried forward.**
- 2.3 (3.6.3) Alan E wrote to GHS re housekeeping issues: the wobbly paving slabs are now fixed, so the position of the doorlight is no longer such an issue. **Action completed.**

3 New/Major Business items

3.1 GHS clubhouse:

- 3.1.1 Alan Williams reported on the meeting that he, Alan E, Bill and Bernice had with three GHS Trustees (Mark Steer, Keith Milsom and Pat ?) on 11th April. GHS articulated their new strategy; that the clubhouse income should cover all its costs, so PITP profits can go to other major improvements. In consequence they want WoEBC to pay more, which would require a new contract. They will make a proposal later this May.
- 3.1.2 A complaint from GHS about a member's behaviour was discussed. We absolutely share their concern and have given the member a warning regarding future behaviour and the disciplinary consequences we are prepared to take.

3.2 Venue options: news and views.

We remain on friendly terms with Henleaze Bowling Club and are playing a challenge bridge match there tonight. **Action: Jen** to make a report.

A potential RPZ around HBC would complicate matters.

Chris is waiting for two other options to respond to his approaches.

3.3 Review of AGM preparations (15th May)

Chris reported that the appropriate Calling Notice is on the noticeboard and we have eight candidates for Committee so far; without more candidates these eight will be elected uncontested. Sadly, the retirements from Committee are Alan Williams, after his second spell as Chairman, and Bernice, the Vice Chairman, who has been a Committee member since January 1987. They will be thanked formally for their service at the AGM, but the Committee expressed its appreciation now. There was particular awe at Bernice's achievement of 32 years on Committee.

The AGM will start at 6:15. Alan Williams will chair the meeting through to its conclusion. Although Alan E has written to GHS asking for agreement to our provision of prosecco and nibbles at the meeting's conclusion, it was agreed that we would not provide these in order to ensure that we start the Mixed Pairs Championship on time.

Chris asked for a written summary of what each speaker planned to say, so that he could enjoy the meeting as well as minute it.

3.4 Review calendar dates of upcoming competitions

Only the Mixed Pairs Championship, on 15th May, is in the near future. There was disappointment that, despite Jan's efforts, we could raise no NICKO or Garden Cities teams this year.

3.5 Any Other Business, including Members' reports

3.5.1 Lilian Skinner funeral. This was (belatedly) held earlier today, several Committee and other members attending. Bernice arranged a charitable donation on the Club's behalf.

3.5.2 Bastille Night. Will be held at GHS on Wednesday 24th July, to allow Jen to both organise and attend.

3.5.3 Bernice urged Committee to reconsider the quantum of membership subscriptions paid by new members in their first part year and full year. This will be brought to Committee in January 2020.

4 Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 19th June, **6:00 pm**, at GHS.

Agreed

Date