

## West of England Bridge Club

Minutes of a Committee meeting held Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2018

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

Apologies: Alan Williams

- 1 Minutes of 31<sup>st</sup> October meeting  
Approved, and signed by Bernice as Vice Chairman
- 2 Actions arising. Most actions arising from the 31<sup>st</sup> October Committee meeting are included in New/Major Business items below. Other actions:
  - 2.1 (from AGM) Jane Chapman wants a secure bike rack. AE has told Ash of LifeCycle Bristol. Alan W will now raise the item with Keith Milsom. **Action: AW.**
  - 2.2 (from June gathering) Redesign of Membership Application form. **Action: CF.**
- 3 New/Major Business items
  - 3.1 GHS clubhouse refurbishment:
    - 3.1.1 WoEBC's return. Done Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December, at a cost of £68-40 van hire. Thanks to the many helpers. **Action: AW** to write a letter of thanks to Henleaze Bowling Club.
    - 3.1.2 GHS premises refurbishment. Issues and actions outstanding:
      - (i) coathooks need to be restored
      - (ii) Noticeboard needs to be returned
      - (iii) cupboard space looks inadequate, but we will try again. **Action: Jen** to ask Henleaze Bridge Club if we can use their cupboard to store table coverings.
      - (iv) wifi access; we may now connect via the GHS router and line
      - (v) stairlift; works, though slow **Action: AE** to learn how it is operated.
      - (vi) wall lights; protruding wires are electrically safe, and we do not need the light. For GHS to progress.
      - (vii) window blinds; we will need them installed by Springtime. Not a priority.
      - (viii) bookcase; its presence is part of the Lease Agreement, but we are trying to help GHS with decluttering, to make the room more generally hireable. Committee agreed to award trophies annually, for winners to keep for a year. Thus we will not need a trophy cabinet as such. The books in the bookcase are little used; perhaps Laurie can be persuaded to keep the books, and bookcase, at home and act as librarian? An index of our book collection could be held on our website. **Action: Jen**, to speak to Laurie.
      - (ix) tea and coffee things. Ash has agreed these may be kept in the kitchen
      - (x) flipchart and floor fans. We will remove; Bill to house flipchart, Chris to house fans.
  - 3.2 Venue options: news and views. Item carried forward.
  - 3.3 Partner finding.  
Jen reported that Carol Nolan could not be persuaded to do this; but Laurie is willing, and is prepared to go online. The news was welcomed.
  - 3.4 Xmas Parties arrangements  
The Thursday afternoons' Xmas party is at 12:30 on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December; the whole

Club event is from 7:00 pm Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December (doors open 6:30). Both events at Henleaze Bowling Club for ease of catering. Jen detailed the event timetable for each party, who was catering, the prizes, the raffle ticket sellers, technology and scoring issues, bar coverage, the panto performers, etc. All seems under control; **Action: Jen** to publish the timings.

3.5 Opening Hours over Xmas and the New Year

AE recommended that we close on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, but open on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> and then from Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January. This was agreed. **Action: AE** to put on website; and we need regular Directors' announcements nearer the time.

3.6 Review of Membership and Playing Charges from 2019/20

Bill recommended no change. Agreed. Bernice reminded us that the increase to full charge from the second year of membership will now kick in for some.

3.7 Review of Committee roles and candidates for 2019/20.

Chris reported that Alan Williams' health issues are such that he will stand down as Chairman and Committee member from the next AGM. Much sympathy was expressed.

Bernice also said that she would be standing down as Vice Chairman, Membership Secretary and Committee member from the AGM, after over 30 years of service. Committee thanked her for her decades of contribution and Chris said that we would say more at the AGM.

An instant straw poll indicated that Alan Evans was prepared to stand as a candidate for Chairman; Bridget Johnson is prepared to stand for Committee and do the Membership Secretary role. All other Committee members are prepared to stand again for their current roles.

Thus we would still have one Committee vacancy to be filled, and the role of GHS Liaison to be allocated. **Action: All** to persuade further candidates to present. Without more candidates, the elections will be uncontested.

3.8 Review calendar dates of upcoming competitions

Jan has a full calendar for 2019 on the website. The first event of 2019 will be our Burns Night party - 30<sup>th</sup> January.

3.9 Any Other Business, including Members' reports

Robert Glass has written to complain that the earlier start time of 7:15 is being frittered away in a delayed start and slower play, rather than leading to an earlier finish. Bill described the Directors' dilemma, that setting up the movement on the system is now more complex, and can't be done until 7:15 to accommodate last-minute arrivals. Committee understood, but asked that Directors are firmer about taking away boards for slow play at the time, rather than punishing the (blameless) next table after a delayed start. Directors who also play are recommended to set up alarm systems on their phones, to remind themselves of standard time allowances as an evening progresses.

4 Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January, **6:00 pm**, at GHS.

Agreed .....

Date .....