

West of England Bridge Club

Minutes of a Committee meeting held Wednesday 16th October 2019

Present: Alan Evans (Chair), Bridget Johnson, Jane Chapman, Chris Frew, Laurie Barth, Jan Duncan, Bill Ashford.

Apologies: Jen Challoner

1 Minutes of 21st August meeting

The minutes were approved.

2 Actions arising from 21st August meeting.

- 2.1 Sim Pairs charitable event participation. Bridget's note and recommendation were considered. We agreed, as an experiment, (i) to participate in the EBU's 'Club Stratified Sim Pairs' event of 11th March 2020, as recommended, and (ii) to cover the extra cost from Club funds. **Action: Alan and Jan** to diarise the event.

3 New/Major Business items

3.1 Report on latest transactions with the GHS Trustees

Alan reported that GHS, as part of their favoured future Lease Agreement, are keen to withdraw from manning the bar themselves for evening sessions, and propose a trial during November in which WoE finds barpersons and runs the bar. GHS are only interested in the bar being run with their systems and their stock, and they propose that Ash trains our nominees in a single session, date to be agreed.

We considered this offer from several aspects. Q. How much should we pay our barpeople? A. We'll try £20 per session during the trial. Q. Can we get sufficient candidates? A. (During the trial period, at least) it seems so; Chris volunteered for Fridays, Marc Lee's daughter Shelley for Wednesdays, Laurie's tenant, Chris Selway and others offered. Q. Should we expect to pay GHS a reduced amount of rental during the trial period? A. No, as it is a limited trial, we are clear that the existing Lease Arrangements should continue to apply.

So, we'll agree in principle to the trial. **Action: Alan** to discuss training dates and keys with Ash.

3.2 Alternative Venues

We agreed to decline Henleaze Bowling Club's latest offer, primarily because of insufficient flexibility in moving their fixtures to accommodate our sessions.

Committee noted the unfavourable situation report on The Ardagh redevelopment that Chris circulated on 7th September.

3.3 Christmas Parties

Jen reported (via Alan) that Henleaze Bowling Club has been booked for the afternoon of Thursday 12th December (for Thursday Improvers) and Saturday 21st December evening (for the whole Club). Both will feature a new play written by Laurie. Food, tickets and pricing, volunteers, raffle tickets and prizes, etc are all under control.

3.4 Disciplinary Issue

Committee was given the background by Alan, who will now write formally to the person in question.

4 Review calendar dates of upcoming competitions

Jan reported that three teams have entered the NICKO.

Chris is to be the spare person for the Individual Championship on 13th November.

5 Any Other Business, including Members' reports

5.1 Replacing grubby sets of cards. Committee considered a complaint. The argument against changing all at once (because brand-new packs are a trouble to the dealing machine) may have fallen away as Gareth has a new dealing machine at home. So, if Gareth is happy to do so, we'll change all packs every three months. **Action: Alan/Jan** to speak to Gareth and ascertain facts.

5.2 Stairlift. Committee considered a complaint from Irene that the stairlift would be less tedious to use if there was an additional charging point at the foot of the stairs. **Action: Alan** to reraise with GHS,

5.3 Pianola Partner Finder

Does it work? asked Jane. The answer is: yes, but it is hardly used. Our preferred system is for members to phone Laurie, who can bring a degree of emotional intelligence to partner-matching.

6 Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 11th December, **6:00 pm**, at GHS.

Agreed

Date