

West of England Bridge Club

Minutes of a Committee meeting held Wednesday 19th September 2018

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

Apologies: Alan Williams, Vicki Lucas

1 Minutes of 18th July meeting
Approved.

2 Actions arising. Most actions arising from the 18th July Committee meeting are included in New/Major Business items below. Other actions:

- 2.1 (from March Committee) Bill clarified which EBU courses he has attended/plans to attend: Director's Course only. Action completed.
- 2.2 (from AGM) Jane Chapman wants a secure bike rack. AE has approached GHS. Bill said that Bike Bristol [corrected to Lifecycle Bristol] install them free. AE will relay this to GHS. **Action: AE**
- 2.3 (from July meeting) Several actions necessary to move to a 7:15 evening start time completed, and the move was implemented from 1st September.
- 2.4 (from June gathering) AW to investigate how Licensing Laws apply when we provide free booze (as on Burns Night). Provisionally, it appears we should not do it, but AW investigation continues. (**Action: AW**).

3 New/Major Business items

3.1 GHS clubhouse refurbishment: GHS progress

Keith Milsom of GHS has written to AW to confirm the refurbishment works will start on 1st October and be complete by end November. They comprise:

- replacement of the kitchen
- creation of a separate bar area
- replacement of the ladies toilets & wash basin & redecoration
- renovation of the stairs & redecoration of the stairs area
- replacement floor covering & ceiling tiles in the function room & redecoration

This commitment was welcomed.

AW has negotiated the previous quote for £4,800 [corrected] for a stairlift will be honoured, and we will gift this stairlift to GHS for them to maintain. No grant-giving bodies to help defray this cost have been found, but Bill and Jen queried why VAT was payable. **Action: AW** to follow up.

3.2 GHS clubhouse refurbishment: WOE's relocation preparations.

Chris reported that scheduling issues have led to a change of plan. Chris will now hire a van and go to GHS Saturday 29th September morning at 10:30, to collect:

- contents of Directors' cupboard (but not the cupboard itself)
- the bookcase and our contents (all books and our trophies)

- our 16 metal tables
- our side tables
- our table coverings

We will leave behind our chairs and the whiteboard. (Jen is considering acquiring a 'temporary' whiteboard.)

Chris appealed for help in loading the van. So far we have Bernice, and Jen from 11:15ish. Others to be sought: **Action: all**

Chris will park up for two days, then deliver the materials to Henleaze BC at 10:00 am Monday 1st October. We will be met by Cedric of HBC, says AW. David Jones is able to help with this move, **but others welcome.**

Bill will take the all-new cards and bidding boxes to Chris on Thursday 27th.

Bill recommends giving away to members our surplus bidding boxes and cards (rather than levying a charge), starting Friday 28th September. We should keep the left-handed boxes.

Gareth to be asked if he could attend on the Monday morning, to help install the technology. **Action: Chris**

Will we (or Gareth) need keys for HBC? It seems unlikely that Cedric will always be there. **Action: AW** to consider.

3.3 WOE's relocation preparations: contingency planning

The Search Subcommittee of Chris, Vicki, Jan and Bernice has made several enquiries, but no stand-out candidate has appeared. Chris and Bernice played at St Theresa's church, at one of Gareth's Friendly Bridge sessions, one Friday morning. The venue has everything we could want, but Gareth reports that any session may be pre-empted by funerals, etc. Chris contacted Stoke Lodge, which would be an obvious candidate, but not one of their eleven rooms is large enough. An outstanding action is for Vicki to determine whether BAWA might moderate their charges because of her MoD connection.

The general feeling was that we should quiesce this contingency planning activity while we hope that the refurbishment will be entirely to our satisfaction. We need to visit GHS during October to satisfy ourselves on progress.

3.4 Playing numbers and partner finding. Wednesday numbers are now climbing, thanks to the migration of a number of the Thursday afternoon players. Monday afternoons have shown a little growth. However Monday evening numbers have fallen in recent weeks and this is our new concern.

Lynne Webley has reportedly declined to be the 'partner finder'; the search goes on. The **action on us all** to produce ideas for targeting local clubs is carried forward.

3.5 Monday afternoons David Jones believes it impractical to go to Pairs scoring at present.

3.6 Review of upcoming competitions

3.6.1 Jan has scheduled the Moorstone Cup, the Pairs and the Individual championships.

3.6.2 NICKO entry has escaped our attention this year and a degree of confusion exists. Robert Covill has asked AW enter a team, but is it the Chairman's responsibility, the Secretary's, or the Tournament Secretary's? We agreed it was the Chairman's responsibility, principally on the grounds he wasn't here. Confusingly, Mike Huggins wants to enter a team containing Robert Covill; and two potential team members are not in fact Club members this year. **Action: Jan** to send her material to AW, **for AW**

to sort out.

3.7 Membership Form

Action on Chris to redesign carried forward.

3.8 Xmas Parties

Jen proposed Thursday 13th December for the Thursday class, and Saturday 22nd December for the whole Club. These were accepted. **Action: AE** to book with GHS.

3.9 Any Other Business, including Members' reports

3.9.1 PITP. We have a letter of thanks from GHS for running the tea stall again.

3.9.2 Vicki and Damian want another fun event, but we concluded it was not practical while at HBC; perhaps around Easter would fill a gap. There is time to receive a considered proposal.

3.9.3 Chris complained that he can't see the Monthly Accounts in our shared Dropbox, though Bill claims he is posting them. A technical problem, to be investigated.

Action: Chris

4 Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 31st October, **6:00 pm** in the HBC clubhouse. Fancy dress optional.

Agreed

Date