

West of England Bridge Club

Minutes of a Committee meeting held Wednesday 21st August 2019

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

Apologies: n/a

1 Minutes of 19th June meeting
The minutes were approved.

2 Actions arising from 19th June meeting.

- 2.1 Alternative venues. The Ardagh; **Chris** reported that Bristol Council had transferred responsibility for The Ardagh, via a 35 year lease, to the 'Ardagh Community Trust'(ACT), formed for the purpose. However, no money endowment was involved; ACT must raise money via charitable donations. Current priorities appear to be the cafe, loos and the outside sports facilities, rather than hiring opportunities from a renovated building.
- 2.2 Monday afternoon Membership and Guest fees. Jane and Jen offered to help David Jones with admin matters on Monday afternoons.
- 2.3 Competition after the AGM. We agreed to continue to hold the Mixed Pairs Championship on that day. We will offer one spare person; Chris volunteered to be that person. Members who turn up without a partner will always get a game, though it may not be possible to pair them with a partner that qualifies them as an eligible Mixed Pair.
- 2.4 Quarterly Competitions. Chris's proposed that the Monday and Wednesday evening Leagues, currently 12 weeks long, be adjusted to give fixed quarterly end dates over the year, has been implemented.
- 2.5 Finishing time. Alan has told all Directors that no new boards should be started after 10:35pm.
- 2.6 Mobile Phone. Alan has cancelled. There may be a residual payment to mop up.

3 New/Major Business items

3.1 Report on Transactions with the GHS Trustees

Alan reported that there had been no reply to his email of 31st July. He presumes the matter awaits discussion at a future GHS Trustees meeting.

We reflected on whether to follow up, but as we have a satisfactory Lease Agreement in force it was felt that we should just wait for a GHS response.

4 Review calendar dates of upcoming competitions

Jan proposed:

- 4.1 Moorstone Cup. Gareth offered several dates in September. None suited everybody and Jan was asked to put October 4th to Gareth. *Subsequent to the meeting, Gareth said that October 4th didn't suit him and so Friday September 20th has been agreed.*
- 4.2 Pairs Championship Monday 21st October
- 4.3 Individual Championship Wednesday 13th November

5 Any Other Business, including Members' reports

- 5.1 Bastille Night. Jen reported that this was a social, culinary and financial success. An emergency cheese swoop had been necessary, only partly because we had sold at least 43 of the 40 tickets available. An £80 profit was generated.
- 5.2 Insurance claim. Bill reported that our insurers have paid out, less the excess of £100.

5.3 Trophies for events. Bridget had circulated a note proposing that we offer engraved wine glasses (or wine, or cash) instead of the wooden plaques we currently award. There are no significant financial differences; the wooden plaques are not especially attractive and have no use other than display.

Discussion showed that some were prepared to consider this, while others were stout defenders of the status quo. After sounding all Committee members, it was concluded that there was insufficient mandate for change.

5.4 Sim Pairs competitions. Bridget had circulated a note asking for restitution of one or two Sim Pairs events a year, as we used to hold.

In discussion we were reminded that the EBU Sim Pairs had been sufficiently unpopular that table numbers (and income) were reduced on those nights. Jan said that Bristol BC experience was the same. However, the idea of a Sim Pairs in support of a charity was considered a possibility, particularly for our current cohort of Wednesday evening players, who might well value a booklet explaining how hands they have just experienced should be bid, played and defended (as well as supporting a worthwhile cause). Bridget was asked to find details of such an event that might take place after our next Committee meeting; that we can consider at that meeting. **Action: Bridget.**

5.5 Christmas Party Dates. Jen proposed: Thursday 12th afternoon, for the current Thursday afternoon players, and Saturday 21st evening for the whole Club. Both to be at Henleaze Bowling Club. **Action: Jen** to book. Jen also appealed for helpers for both events.

5.6 Alternative venues. Chris reported an exchange with Cedric of HBC and sought clearance for a diary change offer to see whether HBC would offer a complementary quid pro quo.

5.7 Past trophy winners. Alan said that he planned to start a Pianola web page record of our past trophy winners.

6 Date of Next Meeting:
Wednesday 16th October, **6:00 pm**, at GHS.

Agreed

Date