

West of England Bridge Club

Minutes of a Committee meeting held Wednesday 31st October 2018

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

Apologies: n/a

1 Minutes of 19th September meeting

Approved after two corrections:

- at 3.1; stairlift will cost £4,800, not £4,600.

- at 2.2; LifeCycle Bristol installs free bike racks (reportedly), not Bike Bristol.

2 Actions arising. Most actions arising from the 19th September 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, as above. Alan W will now raise the item with Keith Milsom. **Action: AW.**

2.2 (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**).

2.3 (from June gathering) Redesign of Membership Application form. **Action:CF**

2.4 (3.9.3) Dropbox accounts: now visible. Action completed.

2.5 (3.1) Why are we paying VAT on the stairlift? AW explained that VAT exemption only applies to a personal sale to someone registered disabled. Action completed.

2.6 (3.6.2) NICKO entries. AW has sorted out our two teams for this year. Mike Elliott has still to pay membership, or play at WoEBC, this year. Steve Turner (team captain) will ensure membership is paid this year, but will warn Mike that he fails the 'regular player' test and will not be endorsed next year.

3 New/Major Business items

3.1 GHS clubhouse refurbishment: GHS progress

AW reported on his recent visit. Overall: looking good. Staircase renovated. Separate bar, forward of the kitchen created and nicely done. Brand new fittings in the redecorated ladies loo. New roof, new flooring and new lighting in the main room. Redecoration in progress, but GHS clearly on target for a timely completion. AW's only disappointment was the stairlift, which terminates at the top step of the staircase rather than fully on to the landing. This is not how AW recalls agreeing the spec and will raise with Acorn. **Action: AW**

The new doors and fitted furniture were cut from the original spec, so draughts will continue, though the ceiling is better insulated.

Action: CF to return the router inadvertently removed. The phone connection has been moved to the bar, and we may use their wifi free from when we return.

- 3.2 GHS clubhouse refurbishment: WoEBC's relocation to HBC.
CF thanked the team of helpers who managed this on 29th September and 1st October. Only small glitches, now resolved.
- 3.3 WoEBC's relocation preparations: WoEBC's matching refurbishment.
The plan for 'all new bidding boxes and cards' didn't quite work out. Gareth - who makes up the hands on Friday mornings – would have found that a considerable burden, so we have reverted to ad hoc replacement. We will address the criticisms of players over individual sets of cards by 'empowering' them to condemn a set. **Action:** CF to acquire 'condemned' stickers for players to put on travellers.
- 3.4 Issues with HBC venue
As there is only a month to go, we decided to park minor issues re lighting, bar service, and tea/coffee/milk provisioning.
- 3.5 WoEBC's relocation preparations: WoEBC's relocation back to GHS
CF proposed that he hire a van again, and that we remove from HBC and back in to GHS on Saturday 1st December. This was agreed. **Actions:** CF to appeal for helpers and liaise with Ash.
Keith Milsom says that GHS will buy and install a new Directors' Cupboard in advance, if we spec something from IKEA. **AE volunteered for this.**
Our bookcase is an unresolved issue.
- 3.6 Alternatives to GHS
We have quiesced activity, but Cedric's initiative is noted and we'll record our interest. **Action: AW**
- 3.7 Playing numbers and partner finding.
We still need a matchmaker, say Vicki. **Action: Jen** to ask Carol Nolan.
- 3.8 Review calendar dates of upcoming competitions
Jan noted the Club Individual on 28th November.
- 3.9 Xmas Parties
Jen has proposed Thursday 13th December afternoon for the Thursday class, and Saturday 22nd December evening for the whole Club. However she wants the principal party (22nd December) moved to HBC. This was agreed. **Action: AE** to alter booking with GHS.
Jen proposes to drop the General Knowledge Quiz and put on a playlet instead, to be written by Laurie and her. This was agreed, and Laurie will appeal for actors. **Action: AW** to repeat on our website.
- Jen is also thinking of staging Burns Night at HBC.
- 3.10 Any Other Business, including Members' reports
- 3.10.1 Vicki Lucas said that pressure of work means she must resign from the Committee, with immediate effect. Sad news; AW thanked her for the energy and contribution during her time on the Committee.
- 3.10.2 Vicki added that we can appear resistant to change and commended finding other 'new blood' for the Committee.

3.10.3 Bernice is eliminating Membership records for those who have not been members since April 2017. This was accepted.

4 Date of Next Meeting:
Wednesday 5th December, **6:00 pm** back at GHS.

Agreed

Date