

THE SOBELL BRIDGE CLUB

In aid of The Friends of Michael Sobell House
Registered Charity No. 1079638



Minutes of Committee Meeting No 98 held at the Michael Sobell Centre on Saturday 29 July, 2017

Present:

Doug Edmonds (DE)	Chairman
George Howlett (GH)	President
Lynne Mathys (LM)	Treasurer
Calver Townsend (CT)	
Terry Butfield (TB)	Playing Secretary
Joanna May (JM)	Weekend Organiser
Rob Pyburn (RP)	Webmaster
Val Lloyd (VL)	Session Manager
Gwen Cozens (GC)	Membership Secretary

- 1 Apologies for absence were received from Peter Cobden, Adrienne Finch and Jacquie North.
- 2 The minutes of the previous meeting No 97, held on 22 April 2017, were approved. DE asked JM to put them on Sobell website.

JM

3 Matters arising

- i) JM had put the minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2017 on the Sobell website.
- ii) Reference our old Bridgemates, we had kept 20 surplus for weekends. John Hinton (one of our weekenders) took the rest for his Club in Bedfordshire and the Club has made a donation direct to the Hospice.
- iii) Reference subscriptions, GC still has 30 to collect.
- iv) Michael Tucker has stepped down from Tuesday nights.
- v) PC has accepted DE's invitation to join the Committee.
- vi) GC has accepted DE's invitation to join the Committee.
- vii) DE met the Chief Executive of The Friends and briefed her on our finances.
- viii) The ramp will be there for a while as contractors are working on the Undercroft.
- ix) Reference Friday afternoon bridge, Sue Ganney has gone into hospital for a knee operation and may not be there for two weeks.
- x) Reference Tuition, Bev Purvis, the EBU Club Liaison Officer recommended a tutor and DE met her at the Club House. The tutor wanted a target number of 16 for the course with 12 as the breakeven number. This was more than the Club could achieve. DE consulted with a number of people and stood the tutor down so at the moment we have no tuition plans.
- xi) TB has added Sobell Bridge Club to 'Hillingdon People' which is a 'What's On' for Hillingdon residents. If you look on the website, you should find a link to the Sobell website + a calendar of Sobell events. TB there had been no cost for adding the Club to the website.

4 Chairman's report

- i) Bev Purvis, the EBU Club Liaison Officer visited the Club. This has resulted in an article being published in the EBU magazine for August 2017.
- ii) DE reported that The Friends now have a link from their website to the Sobell website.
- iii) Reference bridge at Croxley on Friday afternoons, DE reported that this is 'on the edge' as some weeks they have only 4 players; but financially, it is still breaking even.
- iv) DE held a course on the new Playing Rules which come into effect on 1 August 2017,

5 Treasurer's report

- i) LM reported a reduction in profit for the first three months of the year. Table money for the quarter ending June was down £1,871 compared to the same quarter last year. Every evening was down, particularly Monday (£620) and Tuesday (£534). Nonetheless £10k was available and LM recommended we send a donation to the Hospice for that amount. **LM**

LM hoped that funds may be raised by advertising and holding events. A number of members have passed away in the last couple of years and this has brought our membership down.

GC reported that she has not had a new member since she took over the role of Membership Secretary. However, TB reported that one new pair was showing interest and they may join the Club.

6 Secretary's report - nothing to report

7 Playing Secretary's report

- i) The Sim Pairs competition on 24 July went well. Both sides played the same cards, TB said that if on a future occasion he were short of SIMS players he may be able to persuade players from the other side to join the SIMS group.
- ii) TB confirmed we will be entering a team for the Eccles Cup and participation in the Champions Cup will be offered to the prize winners announced at our AGM on 22 May 2017. **TB**
- iii) David Horan has given notice of dates he cannot direct in August. Details of these dates and the directors who are willing to cover for David are as follows:

Monday 7 August – DE
Monday 21 August – TB
Monday 28 August - DE

DE
TB
DE

8 Webmaster's Report

- i) PC had reported that the dealing machine would not work. **RP**
- ii) RP commented that most members seemed happy for their results to be emailed out to them on Pianola.
- iii) RP expressed concern about the degree of dependence on his skills for the Sobell website and Pianola. In that connection, he has given PC and Josh Ruperalia permission to familiarize themselves with the programmes. **RP**

9 Social Matters

- i) DE reported a successful Summer Party with a profit of £962.
- ii) Reference the Chicago Tea on 5th August, LM confirmed that tickets for 15/16 tables had been sold. JM had resolved the catering issues but parking was still outstanding. DE will take this up with Lindsey Fealey of The Friends and report back to JM/LM. TB suggested that for future events, a flier should be available to hand to non-members **DE**

telling them about the Club, JM will work on this.

JM

iii) The Cheese & Wine event will be postponed from 9 September 2017 to 13 January 2018. DE will notify members of this change.

DE

iv) DE will table a calendar of events for 2018 at the next Committee.

DE

v) After the Chicago Tea event, JM will send an email to all members about the next weekend in Stratford-upon-Avon from 13-16 October 2017.

JM

10 Bridge weekends

i) JM reported a profit of £240 for the Cheltenham weekend which was a success and enjoyed by all.

ii) Dates of future weekends are:

Stratford Manor, Stratford-upon-Avon from 13-15 October 2017
Marsham Court, Bournemouth from 27-30 April 2018
Balmer Lawn, Brockenhurst from 19-22 October 2018

11 Liaison Officer's Report – nothing to report.

12 Any Other Business

VL reported the death of Babs Pacitto, one of her Sunday players. DE will write a letter of condolence to Pam Rawlings, the sister of the deceased, who is also a Sunday player.

DE

13 Date of Next Meeting – Saturday 11 November 2017 at 10:00 AM.