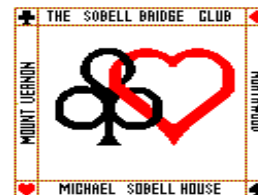


THE SOBELL BRIDGE CLUB

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



Minutes of Committee Meeting No 103 held at the Michael Sobell Centre on Saturday 30 March 2019

- Present:**
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| Doug Edmonds (DE) | Chairman |
| Lynne Mathys (LM) | Treasurer |
| Calver Townsend (CT) | Session Manager |
| Terry Butfield (TB) | Playing Secretary |
| Joanna May (JM) | Weekend Organiser |
| Peter Cobden (PC) | Publicity Officer |
| Gwen Cozens (GC) | Membership Secretary |
| Adrienne Finch (AF) | Secretary |
| Lois Hargreaves (LH) | Session Manager |
- Apologies for absence were received from Jane Brown and Jacquie North
 - The minutes of the previous meeting No 103, held on 19 January, 2019, were approved. JB will be asked to put them on the website. **AF/JB**
 - Matters arising**
 - Privacy:** The tabled Privacy Policy was accepted and should be put on the web site. The list of key holders was accepted with the addition of Gwen Cozens who has admin rights but hold no keys. **JB**
 - The Hospice:** DE outlined the present state of play, that East and North Herts Health authorities were no longer involved with the negotiations and that the Hillingdon commissioning group were expected to ask Harlington to run the hospice. Surveys are currently taking place to consider what needs to be done to the current building to bring it in to use, and what its life might be. LM asked for contact details of the Treasurer of the Michael Sobell charity as she had not received acknowledgement of the last two transfers. **DE/LM**
 - Scorer:** Pete Davis is still interested in becoming a scorer and CT & LM will run a further training session for him. **CT/LM**
 - Chairman's report**
 - Club Person of the Year:** DE asked the committee for nominations.
 - AGM:** This is to take place on Sunday, May 5, 2019 at 6.30. AF will circulate the agenda about 10 days before hand. Copies of it will be available at the club and it will be placed on the web site. As no notification has been received from the current committee it is assumed that all are willing to stand again. The committee asked LM if she would make available to the committee a copy of the agreed accounts prior to the meeting. DE will organise the refreshments. **AF/DE/LM/ All**
 - Treasurer's report**

Accounts: Table money for the year is down by £1051, however attendance is beginning to improve on most days. The number subscribing is also down but we have 21 new members as compared to 13 last year. Net profit on tuition is £4320.16 (£5,500 gross); suppers have raised about £2,000 and weekends £2,000. We have a surplus of about £39,000; and £36,000 has been donated to Michael Sobell this year (the last transfer was for £11,000). Figures for the accounts are still to be finalised, but when they have been agreed with the auditor (Howard Atkins) they will be circulated to the committee. **LM**

Re using pre purchased vouchers rather than cash for paying at the table. PC circulated vouchers that he and LM had designed. If we buy an embossing machine and use 250 gsm card the cost for 1000 vouchers would be £252. If we buy a laminator and laminate pouches for the vouchers printed onto normal paper the cost for 1000 vouchers would be £41. The committee agreed to use the second option, with JM loaning her laminator the cost would be only £9 for 1000 vouchers. The system will be publicised at the AGM with the launch in June. **LM/PC**
 - Secretary's report**

It may be that we have a volunteer to take on this post. AF will send LH and PC a note of the amount of work involved so that the candidate can consider whether to take this on. If he agrees then the membership will be asked to vote him in at the AGM. **AF**

7. Membership secretary's report.
GC said she was having difficulty with removing people's details from the system when they left. Membership fees were due on May 1st for the coming year. GC would take the fees as people arrived for bridge in the evening. **AF**
8. Teaching Programme.
DE tabled a report on integration of new players in to the club playing session. The system of PC holding a list of those who have volunteered to partner new players on an occasional basis is working at the moment. New players can attend any day that we run sessions, and Sunday evenings seem to be a good start point. The improvers' course starts on 13 May for which it is thought that 16-18 will register. There is a supervised bridge session on Monday afternoons. In the future some of these sessions will address particular issues and current members can attend these for a payment of £10 a session.
9. Publicity.
Courses are now listed on the web site and PC will once again organise suitable advertising and publicity. Optima should be used for advertising on an occasional basis, and there are other local magazines which could be used. **PC**
- 10.. Playing Secretary's Report.
- Coding of Sunday. The coding which should be used for Sunday play changes if more than three experienced players take part. The Club would then be liable for P2P charges for such sessions @ approximately 40p per person. **Wynn Lloyd**
 - Sunday Cup: It was agreed that Janice Thiel would be awarded this.
 - Other Winners: PC will send a list of all winners to Howard Atkins **PC**
 - Discipline: There had been complaints about the behaviour of an experienced player who was not a member, but who it was thought might apply for membership. She had completely disrupted the start of the session on Thursday, 28 March, and not behaved well at the tables at which she subsequently played. In fact a formal letter of complaint was received by the committee during the meeting. GC was concerned as to how she should deal with the situation should she apply for membership. DE agreed to try to find her contact details and would write her a letter stating that an application from her would not be welcome. **DE**
 - It was agreed that the director of the evening always had the final say, but is not to call the first movement until the scorer has said it was OK to do so. As a general rule people must be seated at a table by 7.20 although there were occasional circumstances (eg traffic problems) when this rule might be waived. TB will write a note to all directors. **TB**
 - AF will send a reply to Anne McConnell. **AF**
11. Webmaster's Report. There was nothing to report. JB seems to have everything under control without too much hassle.
12. Social Matters.
The wine and cheese evening raised £189. It was agreed that it was a very nice occasion.
13. Bridge Weekends.
- Eastbourne – May 10-13. 26 people have registered, which JM feels is a disappointing number considering how hard she has tried to encourage people to come to a super venue.
 - Oxford is booked for October 18-21 but has not yet been advertised.
 - Bournemouth is booked for May 1-4, 2020.
 - Stratford Manor was reserved for the autumn of 2020, but the hotel is asking for substantial deposit sums very early and it was agreed that we should not take up this booking, nor seek a replacement until we see whether numbers interested pick up.
14. AOB.
- On Sunday nights pre dealt hands are played on alternate weeks, the others being player shuffled hands. This is to suit all members. Some organisation is required to ensure that there are pre dealt hands available.
 - New table numbers need to be ordered. **TB**
15. DONM 20th July, 2019