

WORTHING BRIDGE CLUB
Committee Meeting
Friday 10 May 2024 at 10.00am
Byron Road
MINUTES

Present: Ernie Rivett, Robert Pepper, Eileen Perrigo, Alexa Baxter, Debbie Hildick-Smith, Chris Constable, Carol Pembrey, Sabina Surrey, Denise Ireland, Jean Meneely

- 1) **Apologies for absence:** Nigel Utting
- 2) **Minutes of the meeting 22 March 2024** were approved.
- 3) **Matters Arising:**
 - a) Nick will be asked to pay £20 for the desk.
 - b) DHS will compose a Pianola to members explaining how to update their Pianola details.
 - c) Fees are pro rata as per constitution.
- 4) **Treasurer's Report (AB)**
 - a) AB presented the March and April accounts. Table numbers have increased from 5.1 average in 2023 to 5.8 so far in 2024.
 - b) Nationwide are asking for a great deal of information for their business review of our account. For example, they require a signed copy of the approved minutes (signed by the Chairman). We have found a solicitor to sign off the accounts (Sue Simpson's daughter). **AB**
 - c) ER noted that the big expenses for 2024 are complete and we have £3K in the current account. Standard fees for Pianola and BridgeWebs are due during the year.
- 5) **Membership Report (JM)**
 - a) We currently have 196 full members.
 - b) The club wishes to extend a warm welcome to all new members:
 - I. There are 14 members currently in their probation period.
 - II. 4 members have completed their probation but have yet to be added online.
 - III. AB will provide a masterclass for JM to get new members online and also for Directors so that we do not have duplicate entries on the databases. **AB**
 - IV. Any deaths of members since the AGM will be reported at the next meeting. **JM**
- 6) **Spring Festival (ER)**
 - a) Everything is ready for the Teams event on 12 May. Buffet tables will be laid out for upstairs and downstairs. Utensils and plates will all be disposable. **EP**
- 7) **Passwords (AB)**
 - a) AB sent a note to the Committee. Numbers have been limited to need to know only basis. RP agreed to collate the the list of passwords. **RP**

8) New Fire Doors and Energy (SS & ER)

- a. SS has had some difficulty in locating people willing to quote. There is one quote for of £3-4K for an entirely new door.
- b. Both doors can be refurbished to include sanding down & refurnishing. Then they will be repainted with a fire seal and a fire-retardant paint at a cost of £550 per door plus WBC to purchase the paint at a cost of £260. With a new door close @ £45 gives a total c£1145. **SS**
- c. Solar panels investigations by SS: the cost for 23 solar panels to be fitted with no storage for use in daylight hours = £10.9K and will save WBC c£1325 p.a. giving a payback of c6.5 years.
- d. Alternatively: panels with storage = £13.15K giving an annual saving of c£1650 p.a. and a payback period of c7.5 years.
- e. Our current A/C could be replaced for £15,700 + servicing saving £1474 (full costs TBC).
- f. All quotations include VAT and the calculations are based on today's fuel prices.
- g. It was agreed that solar panels with storage would be preferred if we choose to go ahead.
- h. ER has been investigating the best energy prices ahead of our contract ending later this year. Another, lower, price cap is to be announced on 1 July which could affect suppliers' offerings. At pre-1 July prices the offerings will all increase our annual costs by c. £1k over 2023.
- i. The meeting agreed to wait for the 1 July changes to review which supplier to go with. **ER**

9) Easyfundraising.co.uk (DHS)

- a) WBC has been registered but until the account is linked with our bank details, no funds can be generated. The company is linked to over 7000 online retailers and donations can only be generated by installing their app on a laptop or smartphone and going through the app to the required website.
- b) ER suggested we have a target of £1000 to be generated via this method to defray the increasing energy costs.
- c) DHS to get a copy of the Logo used for the 60s club to affix to our fundraising page and poster rather than the one currently used (from the WBC website). SS will ask marketing friends to take a look. **DHS/SS**
- d) RP to look at how to get a QR code for WBC. (This has been resolved post meeting as easyfundraising have provided us with a QR code to use for marketing).
- e) DHS to meet with AB to attach bank details and DHS will then do a trial purchase. **DHS**
- f) DHS will create a poster for use in the club use when it goes live. **DHS**

10) Honorary Member Nominations (DHS)

- a) DHS met with existing HM's to discuss the nominations put forward after the AGM.
- b) Four new Honorary Members have been recommended by this group for approval by the Committee.
- c) The four recommendations are Alexa Baxter, Eileen Perrigo, Ernie Rivett and Dick Wheeler. The Committee unanimously agreed and welcomed the newly appointed Honorary Members.
- d) DHS will send out a formal letter of congratulations and after they have responded to the invitation, will announce to all members on Pianola. **DHS**
- e) ER will get the names added to the board at the same time as the 2024 SF winners. **ER**

11) AOB

- a) We are seeking a new caterer for the Hills. A group will meet separately to discuss. **EP/CC/SS**
- b) RP has updated the website with the details of our new Committee members. Please notify RP if any other changes are required. **All**

- c) It was agreed that J-AC would continue to manage the washing of the tablecloths as required, at her own request. Thank you, Judy-Ann. **All**
- d) Printer issues: the new HP printer is causing problems by not printing and also the replacement cartridges are very expensive. RP to look at getting a retrospective servicing deal. Subsequent to the meeting RP has sent his findings which could reduce costs. Item for June agenda. **RP**
- e) Getting another, more reliable and cost effective printer (e.g. Epson Ecotank) was discussed. RP to investigate. **RP**
- f) ER responded to a note from Colin's Year 3 students about a contribution to a charity they have chosen to support. ER explained that WBC finances and the finances of Colin's classes are unconnected. ER also explained what and how WBC chooses to do regarding donations to charity. Non-the-less we made a contribution.

**The date of the next meeting is:
Friday 21 June 10.00am at Byron Road.**