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Committee Meeting Minutes: Thursday 16th November 2023 at 2.0 p.m.

Held via Zoom

1. Present:

Steve Jarvis (Chairman), Bob Alderdice (Treasurer), David Nicklin (ATO), Christine Smith (Webmaster), Peter Milewski (Secretary), Perry Crickmere (Pembroke), Tony Haworth (Porthcawl).

Apologies were received from Nicky Hancock, Mike Reed, Lee Collier.

Tony left the meeting at approximately 2.50 p.m.

2. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising:

The minutes of the meeting held via Zoom on 19th October were circulated by email prior to the meeting. They were passed by general assent as a fair record.

3. Matters Arising:

Porthcawl congress online. The small number of entries was noted, resulting in cancellation of the teams event. The feeling of the committee was that running the event online should not be attempted again.

Porthcawl dealing machine. David informed us that agreement has been reached for purchase at £1000, and Janet Richards has agreed to keep the machine for the time being, and to deal for us. The committee has already agreed to offer her £5 per boardset and after further discussion, to offer her an annual honorarium of £50, plus this year a Christmas card expressing our gratitude (Peter to act).

Hoped-for resurrection of Porthcawl face to face 2024. Oliver Cowan has expressed to Peter considerable reservation about taking this on, because recently a couple of his face to face congresses have suffered too few entries. The feeling in the committee was to keep trying, and to act as a guarantor for Oliver against potential loss, especially as 2024 will be the 75th anniversary of what was previously a popular congress for many years. Tony H offered to visit the Heronston Hotel and to liaise with Oliver about taking this forward, and to let Peter give Oliver his contact details.

Perry Spickett and President's Cup. Lee and Steve have been investigating venues further. The Pavilion at the Haverfordwest Show Ground is adjacent to a noisy go-cart arena, there is no cutlery or crockery, so is probably not suitable. Peter has contacted



Pembrokeshire College, with no response. The Halliwell Centre in Carmarthen has been suggested, and Lee has emailed the result of her preliminary enquiries, with brochures and website entries. Steve has experience of its use in the past, and reported favourably. Peter offered to visit, as the member living closest to Carmarthen, and to make a provisional booking. Tables would probably be borrowed from Carmarthen Bridge Club if they are willing, with perhaps two or three from Porthcawl. Probably the second weekend in July (13th-14th) would be appropriate.

Porthcawl website articles. Tony H has kindly offered to transfer his educational material to the WWBA website over the next few weeks.

Action: Peter, Tony

4. Secretary's Report

Calendar updated following recent email from NTO. But that contained no mention of Teams of Eight or Champion of Champions. David identified that the Teams of Eight has already been earmarked for 16th June 2024. So still a query over CofC.

Otherwise issues dealt with in Matters Arising.

Action: none

5. Treasurer's Report

Bob had emailed his report to Peter who had not seen it but will forward to members. Reserves £13064 Current Account £10531 Business Savings Account. Bills for Vince Bevan and Swiss awaited (David told us that Tumble are behind in their accounts and trying to catch up in the next week or two). Deposit of £1.50 paid for duplimator, balance of £998.50 to be paid following agreement at this meeting (confirmed). It is a Playbridge Dealer4 which does not use belts or barcodes.

Action: Bob

6. ATO Report

Llanarthne Village Hall. The necessity to transport tables for each event is a problem, so David plans to use the hall maybe just once a year, to keep the management willing in case we need it more in future.

Laptop. The committee agreed to purchase a new Dell at approximately £302 with current discount. Perry has researched this. The item envisaged has two USB sockets (for printer and Bridgemates), an Ethernet one (in case legacy network required), and an HDMI socket (to allow for display of results on an overhead monitor). Bob will transfer the money to him, he will make the purchase and get the item delivered to David.

WBU Teams of Eight 16th June 2024. Investigating Awel-y-Mor as a possible venue.

Perry and Spickett selection. To be placed on next Agenda.

Area Mixed Pairs on 4th February 2024 will need advertising before Christmas.

Action: David, Bob, Perry, Peter



7. Webmaster's report:

No issues identified.

8. Chairman's report:

Report from WBU MC meeting 8th November. Tim the EBU IT manager is proceeding with work on alliance of the WBU and EBU systems that would solve the issues, at a cost. Can choose date for Perry and Spickett (will inform WBU as we have at this meeting chosen the 13th-14th July). Asked about the Porthcawl account which has been closed. Bob confirmed this. Next MC meeting 6th December.

Action: Steve

9. AOB:

none.

10. Next Meeting (on Zoom): Wednesday 24th January 2024 at 2.0 p.m.