

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE SBC COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 2ND. JUNE, 2026.

Present were Catherine C., Wanda K., Lawrie C., Brian C., Penny C., Louise L., Paul R., Jenny S., Rita W. and Rod W.

- 1) Apologies from Mike L.
- 2) The minutes of the previous meeting held on 17/3/26 were accepted as a true record – proposed by Wanda K. and seconded by Jenny S.
- 3) Matters arising from these minutes.

It was noted that the heating had recently been more satisfactory with only one instance of it being tampered with. We were reminded that the controls on the right hand side operated the heating in the main playing room and the rest of the building was controlled by the equipment on the left hand side. Brian C. told us that he had been tracking the heating during the past two months and Rod W. felt that the heating was best controlled by the radiators. There had been a few glitches with the new computer, but an anti-virus package at a cost of just £10 had been installed by Roy, who had found that no viruses were present. We were now short of authorized signatories who were mandated to sign cheques, but it was felt that this matter should be held over until the Treasurer was present. Similarly, with the matter of future table fees. Wanda K. had contacted the EBU with regard to our new officers.
- 4) President's Report.

Catherine C. welcomed Paul Readhead as a new co-opted member of the committee. She noted with sadness the loss of Glynn Elwick and Ted Goodacre. Ted's family were touched by the Club's response to his passing and the tribute published on our web site. Ted's son, Ian, was of the opinion that a legacy to the Club should take the form of a trophy linked to teaching. It was noted that we already had the Peter Cooke shield which was awarded to "less experienced players". Also the late Benda Goodacre used to present a small trophy to beginners as they improved. Students were tending to leave the lessons and going on to play on Thursday evenings but were reluctant to join the main sessions. Attendance on Wednesday evenings was steady but it was unlikely that the Friday evening sessions would be revived.

It was noted that the Tuesday afternoon session on the day of Ted's funeral had been cancelled as a mark of respect.

Catherine reported that our safe guarding and equality policies had been upgraded. Sue Keast has stepped down as director on Monday evenings and Roy has agreed to take over for all the Monday sessions. It will be put to the AGM that Paul Readhead should be appointed as one of the trustees. Mike L., Stuart Knox and Mike Galey were working at sorting the legal side of this matter.
- 5) Secretary's Report.

Lawrie C. had little to report, save to say that he was prepared to seek re-election at the next AGM if required. However, on account of old age, he was seriously considering all his responsibilities and felt one more year as secretary should be the limit. Further, he was prepared to stand down at the end of this year if any suitable member was keen to take over. The President joined the discussion at this point to say that she found the burden onerous at times and would also consider her position.
- 6) Treasurer's Report.

Although absent from the meeting, Mike L. submitted a written report. The financial position was steady, but utility bills had increased as expected. As noted in these minutes, various issues were to be held over until the treasurer can be in attendance. A further issue for the treasurer is the inspection of the roof.
- 7) Building.

Lawrie C. reported that our Plumber, David Clark, has promised to deal with the further problem with the ladies' toilets.
- 8) House/bar.

Slow progress continued to be made in the matter of the refurbishment of the kitchen.
- 9) County Matters.

Lou L. was not able to attend the last meeting, but understood that the County was going ahead with the intention of buying their own dealing machine and bridge mates.
- 10) Teaching.

Lou L. will progress the matter of advertising the next round of lessons. It was felt that an advertisement in the Telegraph is not good value for money. However, posters and fliers seemed to be worthwhile. It was also agreed that the date for the Open Evening would be 24/9/26 and that the lessons would start on 1/10/26.

- 11) It was agreed to put a further minor Constitution change to the next AGM – this recognizing that the President might be female. Even when the Constitution was drawn up, it is unlikely that anybody doubted this as a possibility – it is just that we are more careful these days. Wanda K. offered to produce an electronic version of the Constitution which could be used to facilitate any changes that might be agreed from time to time.
- 12) Some consideration was given to the possibility that some members of the Club might not wish to be resuscitated if taken ill on the premises. It was felt that this was a difficult issue for the committee to produce a policy for, but it was agreed that members might wish to make their wishes known when filling in the application form and/or the next of kin form. In which case, the Director of the relevant session should be made aware.
- 13) It was provisionally agreed to accept the calendar of events, drawn up by Roy Brixton. However, it was felt necessary to defer fixing the dates of the bridge holiday and the Christmas party. It was noted that attendance at the evening sessions remains a cause for concern, with unease about night driving being a significant factor. Various possibilities were considered such as encouraging car sharing and awarding prizes as an incentive.
- 14) Regarding Directors' Courses, it was felt that the retirement of Clive Turner from the EBU might be a step in the right direction and a new person would soon be in post at the Youth Development Centre. Three or four people from SBC were interested in these courses and we might qualify for a free place.
- 15) AOB. There was an issue regarding the accumulation of dust in one of the cupboards in the office. Jenny S. would look into the matter.

The date of the next meeting was fixed as 11/8/26. The present meeting closed at 9.23 pm.