

MINUTES OF THE SBC COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup>. SETEMBER, 2025.

- 1) Present :- Val Threadgould, Catherine Caldow, Lawrie Chapman, Mike Llewellyn, Penny Couling, Wanda Kotowska, Louise Lewis, Rita Watson and Rod Williams.
- 2) Apologies :- Brian Camm and Jenny Selby.
- 3) The minutes of the committee meeting held on 26/8/25 were accepted as being a true record after it was agreed that paragraph one should be rendered more concise in accordance with our normal practice.
- 4) There were no further matters arising.
- 5) The President commented that the recent Charity Tea had been both enjoyable and successful in raising £565 for Cancer Research UK and Macmillan Nurses. Many had helped with this in different ways but Jenny S. took the lead in this venture. Val T. went on to confirm that members and officers were content to accept various responsibilities, mainly to continue as in the previous year hence

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Admin/Support Wanda K.

Building Lawrie C.

County Rep. Louise L.

House Jenny S. and Penny C.

Membership Wanda K. and Rod W.

Teaching Louise L., Rod W. and Brian C.

Web Site and IT Louise L.

- 6) Lawrie C. reported that the documentation of all previous meetings was complete and asked members to print off and bring with them the various documents emailed to them for each meeting. This was currently especially important because our printer in the office was malfunctioning. It was suggested that we buy new equipment, but this was turned down providing the existing printer can be restored to working properly.
- 7) The Treasurer, Mike L., explained that he worked on the accounts in a quarterly way and he had but little to report because we had not completed the first quarter of the new year. It was noted that members of the club had until 31/12/25 to renew their subscriptions without incurring a discontinuity in their membership. However, there was no real penalty for late payment save that officially they would have to apply again for membership – but even this would be automatic. It was noted that the learners tended to prefer printed handouts rather than working from emails and so it was better to use printed material despite the expense. Mike L. reported that he had received 27 deposits for the bridge holiday by cheque or bank transfer.
- 8) Under the heading of BUILDING, it was agreed to accept the quotation of £690 inclusive of VAT from David Clark Plumbing and Heating for the most urgent remedial work in the gents. toilet. There would be further expense of up to £200 for basic painting after the plumbing work was done. David Clark had been asked to submit a further quotation for less urgent work in the toilets which

would be considered eventually. Lawrie C. was of the opinion that ideally more work should be approved for the three toilets in the premises.

- 9) Under HOUSE/BAR, it was noted that despite valiant efforts by Penny C. And Jenny S., we had failed to meet the criteria for the award of Lottery Funding to cover the cost of refurbishing the kitchen. The key point being that we are basically a private club rather than a community service provider. This disappointment would likely lead to a only a basic refurbishment centered on new doors and work surfaces. Steve Braithwaite and Paul Readhead were thanked for putting up the posters advertising the teaching and Steve had volunteered to do more. It was agreed to ask him to check the card tables, one of which had recently collapsed causing injury.
- 10) County Matters. Mike L. reported that the new chairman of the County Association is Anthony (Cos) Corry. Attempts to drum up more support for County events continue.
- 11) Teaching. Louise L. reported that some interest in the classes has already been shown – she especially mentioned that some people from Epworth seemed to be interested.
- 12) It was agreed that we would put a motion to the next AGM geared to allowing a simplified version of postal voting for absent members to vote for their choice(s) for officers and committee members. This would necessitate a change in the constitution.
- 13) It was agreed that we would again supply a Christmas tree for the Rotary organized Festival of Christmas Trees. It was noted that this year is the 20<sup>th</sup>. anniversary of this event. Wanda K. volunteered to again take responsibility for this and noted that some expense would be necessary this year.
- 14) At the behest of Jenny S., we considered very carefully her request to consider three options for the future course of the Friday afternoon bridge sessions. First of all, Rod W. outlined the history of the development of these sessions on account of his weighty and valuable involvement. Basically, Rod agreed with Jenny that a problem had developed leading to a loss of support by inexperienced players, which in the early days were the main beneficiaries of these sessions. We found problems with trying to progress two of Jenny's proposals – i.e. to split the session into two groups of players or to resurrect the Friday evening session for experienced players. However, we did agree that the third proposal to the effect that master points would not be available on the first and third Fridays of each month was the best option. It was agreed that Val T. would attempt to progress this decision in an amicable way with the view to it being implemented at the beginning of October.
- 15) Any Other Business.
  - I. Volunteers for a sub-committee to organize the Christmas Party would be asked for.
  - II. Directors would be asked to seek players who might be interested in playing online against a Canterbury club. The match would be

on BBO on a Wednesday at 7pm. on either 26/11/25 or 3/12/25. It would be free of charge.

16) Date of next meeting – Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup>. November.

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.