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Committee Meeting Minutes: Friday 22nd August 2025 at 10.0 a.m.

Held via Zoom

1. Present:

Steve Jarvis (Chairman), Sophie Sheppard (Treasurer), Christine Smith (Webmaster), David Nicklin (ATO), Peter Milewski (Secretary), Lee Collier (Haverfordwest), Nicky Hancock (Tenby), Tony Disley (Bridgend), Mike Reed (Carmarthen), Philip Skinner (Swansea), Nigel Astley (Merlin)

2. Previous Minutes and Matters Arising:

The minutes of the meeting held via Zoom on 4th July were circulated by email prior to the meeting. They were passed by general assent as a fair record.

3. Matters Arising:

Present for Bob. A voucher for Bob to spend at his golf club (Clyne) met with general approval. Peter and Steve to discuss.

Afternoon Tea event. Fully subscribed. Peter offered to collect the money. Peter will bring Porthcawl flyers. David to confirm teabags and milk. Start time 12.30, David and helpers will turn up at 11.30. The WWBA is subsidising the event with approximately £300-£400.

Tables. Lee suggested that we keep the white tables that are currently in storage, as they don't deteriorate, also side tables that are potentially useful. Mike repeated his offer to store in his large shed. Peter offered to tow Mike's trailer for transport later.

Inter-club league. The draft instructions were discussed with the result that there are several suggestions to be incorporated, for example members of two clubs can choose which one to play for, players can be borrowed as substitutes, in general trying to make the system as flexible as possible for participants' convenience. Instructions for setting up BBO team events to be incorporated on website, Steve and Peter's contact details for assistance (*subsequently Julie Milewski has also offered setup assistance*). Philip offered to help muster a team for Llanelli.

Free online BBO events. Peter to compile text in discussion with Steve, for circulation
Action: Peter, Steve, David, Philip, Christine



4. Secretary's Report

Peter had compiled a report incorporating all the above topics, so had nothing to add (though he forgot that he also wanted to mention the possibility of incorporating a GDPR statement on the website – he has subsequently emailed members about this).

Action: Peter, Christine (if GDPR idea approved)

5. Treasurer's Report

Sophie has emailed a brief report that has been forwarded to members, and made accessible her full report

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hw1lao6Gd7DYVubeYkt2PpmV0kP9tfYcd_mhElHntbs/edit?usp=drivesdk . Current cash assets total £21,713 with £10,182 in the Current Account. There is a Flexible Savings account requiring no notice of withdrawal and a Notice savings account. It was agreed that it would make sense to transfer a significant amount to the Flexible Savings account, leaving perhaps £1000 in the Current account, as it is easy to transfer back more money as required. Regarding Porthcawl, only 23 rooms booked so far (45 required by 1 October for parity), deposits less expenses so far £5,102.

Action: Sophie

6. ATO Report

David and Steve will bring tables to the Afternoon Tea event, David will need twenty minutes to enter non-affiliated names into the computer, so the bridge will probably not start till about 12.50. We will be prepared to cut short the event at 5.0 p.m.

Action: David, Steve

7. Webmaster's report:

No issues identified. The entry systems are working well.

8. Chairman's report:

No MC meeting to report, issues above already covered.

9. AOB:

Porthcawl. Rather too few bookings for comfort at the moment. Unfortunately there is a clash with the Lancashire Congress. Possible sponsorship offer was discussed and rejected. Peter this month has repeat emailed with brochures 117 last year's attendees, 47 club reps in South, Mid Wales and SW England, plus 54 club weblinks (that don't accept attachments or weblinks), and a few more distant clubs e.g. Stratford, Coventry, some Herefordshire ones, Shrewsbury, Wrexham, Malvern, any that he thought might just be interested. Also a couple of Irish clubs (in Greystones which is on the East coast of County Wexford), 7 U3A bridge groups in S Wales and 10 non-affiliated clubs in S



Wales and Swansea, hoping to attract some players to the Holiday Congress. Peter lacks WBU contacts outside the West, so Lee has approached Brent, Sarah, Paul. Philip suggested further communication with Norman Turner (mid Wales). Ceri offered to circulate WBU members several months ago, we don't know whether that has happened (Peter hasn't received an email from her though he is on the WBU email list). Peter suggested that Steve or Lee approach Ceri again, first regarding mailshots and second, to ask for the brochure to be placed in the home page of the WBU website (it can be found by clicking on the Porthcawl event link but anyone doing that is already interested). Also have another go at the EBU. Simon Gottschalk could also be approached as he apparently has the full email list. Finally, Peter has identified 40 U3A bridge groups in the South West of England. He could try these for possible entries to the Holiday Congress, and it was agreed that he should do this. He has also plenty of printed brochures and flyers that can be taken to events, starting with our forthcoming Afternoon Tea one.

Action: Peter, Steve, Lee

10. Next Meeting (on Zoom): Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 10.0 a.m.