

THE SOBELL BRIDGE CLUB

In aid of The Friends of Michael Sobell House
Registered Charity No. 1079638



Minutes of Committee Meeting No 108 held at the Michael Sobell Centre on Monday 12th October 2021

<u>Present:</u>	Adrienne Finch (AF)	President
	Peter Cobden (PC)	Chairman
	Lynne Mathys (LM)	Treasurer
	Alan McBride (AMcB)	Secretary
	Terry Butfield (TB)	Playing Secretary
	Gwen Cozens (GC)	Membership Secretary
	Jane Brown (JB)	Webmaster
	Val Lloyd (VL)	Session Manager
	Joanna May (JM)	

1. Apologies for absence were received from Lois Hargreaves & Calver Townsend.
2. The minutes of the most recent meeting, No 107 in September 2021, were approved as a true record of the meeting.

PC noted that all actions had been completed save that the transition of the Treasurer and Secretary roles had been agreed to commence after the end of November.

Action AMcB & JM

Other matters arising were;

- a) Whilst PC and Ann remain happy to deal, Pete Davis has also offered to assist
 - b) The AGM has been booked for 15th May 2022.
3. Chairman's report – PC noted TB's summary of Thursday night attendance which showed that 55 different people had attended the sessions so far, with around 32 being considered regulars. We have had an average of 8 tables which was considered good in comparison to other local clubs. TB commented that 7+ tables makes the movements much better, especially if it helps avoid 5 board rounds or long sit outs, neither of which are popular.

A questionnaire was suggested as a way of determining why those not attending on Thursdays were staying away. The topic of mask wearing was revisited as it seems that there is a group of people not attending whilst masks are compulsory (whereas others will only attend if they are!). VL confirmed that she and Lois will only run Sunday sessions if masks are compulsory. JB agreed to update the website announcing the resumption of the Sunday sessions.

Action JB

PC reported that Geoff Foley (GF) had offered to direct at an occasional Tuesday session if these were run without compulsory mask wearing. It was agreed to find 2 dates which Geoff could make and where CT would be available as Scorer, and to run 2 trial "mask optional" sessions. PC agreed to liaise with GF and CT.

Action PC

GC mentioned that the quality of presentation of the Scorer's instruction document was poor and that she planned to work on improving it. JB offered to provide soft copies of the existing version and once updated, she'd arrange a training session to be run by herself and GC, to train AF and JM in scoring.

Action JB / GC

TB reported that Director training was not currently available from the EBU and that it may be possible for him to organise some training personally in house at Sobell (PC, AMcB and Howard Atkins are willing to be trained). He may need to acquire a couple of extra EBU Director Rule books. Training to take place around the second week of November.

Action TB

AMcB confirmed that Keith Jones (KJ) had offered to Direct on an occasional basis, using his own software. He was asked to explain to KJ that having a Scorer and a Director made the Directors role easier at Sobell than elsewhere and therefore not software dependent. PC confirmed that he'd drafted "job descriptions" for each role. AMcB offered to connect PC and KJ so that they could become acquainted.

Action AMcB / PC

PC reported on the session held on 7th October where the Directing had been below the standard normally expected. In addition the Director had been rude and unwelcoming to two guests present on the night. It was agreed that PC should write to the individual concerned saying that we would not be asking him to direct in future. Furthermore, as he had been on a £160 Director training course, which is now considered a wasted expense, he would be invited to make a charitable contribution of a similar amount.

Action PC

JM proposed a vote of thanks to AMcB for his work in getting the online sessions up and running on BBO. PC asked AMcB to note this in the minutes.

Action

AMcB

4. Treasurer's report - LM and JB confirmed that the Sum Up payments system was working well. LM reported that payments were coming through and that people seemed generally happy to pay electronically. It was confirmed that the club had donated £1,000 to the Michael Sobell charity in the name of Doug Edmonds.
 5. Membership Secretary's report – GC reported on a query regarding duplicate membership lists on Pianola and Score Bridge. The solution to this seems to be switching to members entering their EBU numbers rather than club numbers on Bridgemate. GC will consider implementing this change after the April 2022 membership renewal.
- Action**
GC
6. Any other business – PC mentioned that The Michael Sobell charity has a "Big Give" event in November where any donations made via the website would be doubled. He asked AMcB to draft a note to members about this initiative.
- Action AMcB**
7. Date of Next meeting – 10am on Saturday 8th January 2022 at the Michael Sobell Centre.

