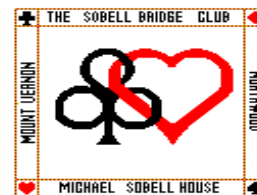


# THE SOBELL BRIDGE CLUB

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



## Minutes of Committee Meeting No.120 held in the Friends' Meeting Room of the Michael Sobell Centre on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2024

<b><u>Present:</u></b>	Peter Cobden (PC)	Chairman
	Adrienne Finch (AF)	President
	Lynne Mathys (LM)	
	Gwen Cozens (GC)	Membership Secretary
	Terry Butfield (TB)	Playing Secretary
	Jane Brown (JB)	IT Manager
	Lois Hargreaves (LH)	Session Manager
	Looi Tan (LT)	Printing & Publishing Officer

1. Apologies for absence were received from Joanna May, Alan McBride and Val Lloyd.
2. The minutes of the most recent meeting, No.119, held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2024, were approved as a true record of the meeting.

### **3. Matters arising:**

LH reported that the increased charge of £4 on Sundays had been implemented with no issues (para 5).

JB stated she had decided not to reprogram the Bridgemates (para 7).

### **4. Chairman's reports:**

#### **Hospice Information:**

Steve Curry will not be attending this meeting. He will be invited to the one in January.

We discussed whether we should email our members with information about the **Big Give** (matched funding). PC agreed to speak to MSH to find out details. (Note: the HH website states that the matching funding target has been reached).

**Action PC**

**OMT:**

PC reported that the sessions ended on 18<sup>th</sup> Sep. Average tables from April to Sept 3.7. From the start of the registration system in July the average was 2.8 tables. PC will be taking a bottle of Scotch to Colin at OMT as a thank you for his help. The OMT Chairman has also told Peter that he would be prepared to help again.

**Action PC**

Terry asked to minute a Thank you to all who were most involved – Peter, Adrienne, Joanna, and Jane.

**5. Playing Secretary's report:**

**September Social Function wash up:**

56 tickets sold out of 62.

**Problems:**

Terry raised the following issues with the party: He noted that despite this most people enjoyed the party.

- Late arrivals up to 2:10 were allowed to play which meant the start was delayed and the movements needed to be reset a few times.
- At least 10 players either couldn't remember their club numbers, were non-members and did not know their EBU number or entered the numbers incorrectly. One table had all 4 numbers missing.
- Due to the delays caused by the above, only 20 boards out of 26 were played.
- No-one knew how to enter un-played boards on EBUScore.

Adrienne felt that there were some problems with the catering, e.g.:

- Knowing how many tea bags to use
- Getting the balance between sandwiches and cakes right
- Making sure there were not too many (or too few) helpers

**Solutions:**

- Turn away players who arrive less than 15 minutes before start. This information to be added to tickets and sent out by PC as a reminder before the date.
- Have a Meeter/Greeter at the door with a list of all players with their club and EBU number. They will check make sure everyone has this written on their ticket.
- JB to show scorers how to close a session early. **Action JB**
- Ticket sellers to ask players if they would bring food so they can be advised later what is needed.
- Adrienne to draw up a catering Protocol. **Action AF**

## **Christmas Party:**

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm.

Ticket Price: £10.

Max tickets: 80, to be offered at bridge sessions for the first two weeks and then advertised via email.

We will run 2 sessions if necessary. Allowing 30 mins for food and 30 mins for the raffle we should have time for 24 boards and finish by 6pm.

Raffle: PC will ask the Gills if they will help raise raffle prizes, 12 maximum. It was agreed we need a “runner” to give out the prizes in a defined order rather than players coming to the raffle table to choose. These should speed things up.

**Action PC**

Roles:

Looi will print tickets and a poster for the bridge notice board.

Lois will Meet/Greet, Register and turn away late comers.

Terry will direct.

Jane/Adrienne will score.

Ann C will manage the catering.

Peter will set up the hall for the session.

Raffle runners tba.

## **6. Treasurer’s report:**

Voucher sales are down this quarter, partly reflecting the drop off in Wednesday sessions / attendances. The figure is still lower than AMcB would expect, and he will investigate this further when he is back from holiday. He can also add that due to timing differences, some receipts at the very end of September did not hit our bank account until the beginning of October and are therefore not included here. These include training income of £1,850, a donation of £100 and voucher income of £319. Had they been accounted for in Q2 the surplus would have been £1,969 higher at £5,803.

The closing cash balance at the end of September had grown to £17,668 and as of today, with those early October receipts, the latest total is just over £21,000. At PC’s request, AMcB has made a commitment to The Hospice to donate £7,500 in December under the Big Give scheme.

AMcB had circulated the Balance Summary before the meeting. PC will clarify with AMcB why the Receipt figure ytd did not match the Income figure in the Notes.

**Action PC/AMcB**

**7. IT Manager's report:**

There is still a shortage of scorers particularly on a Saturday. It was agreed we would ask some of the directors if they would be willing to set up the movement and do a limited shut down so Jane can upload the results later. If there is no other solution, we will need to use travellers when there is no scorer.

**8. Membership Secretary's report:**

GC intends to tidy up the membership list and clear out the lapsed members. She will let JB know when the database is ready to load onto EBU score.

People enrolled on the Intermediate course are entitled to one year's membership. GC to agree with Theresa how this should be administered.

**Action GC**

**9. Teaching programme:**

We have raised over £4000 this year from the teaching program.

There are 20 players enrolled on the current Beginners' Course.

The Brush Up Bridge sessions were very popular. PC to discuss with Teresa about running more sessions. It was agreed these should be better publicised.

**Action PC/TM**

It was agreed that Supervised bridge sessions are a good way to integrate beginners into playing sessions. PC to confirm we can use the meeting room on a Saturday. Looi to see if she can find volunteers to help on a Rota basis.

**Action PC/LT**

The EBU offer one free training session for bridge teacher a year. The course is 2 days. Upcoming sessions are not local.

**10. Sunday Evenings**

Attendance has increased to 8 tables.

**11. Date of next meeting**

10:00 a.m. on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2025-