

WELSH BRIDGE UNION

Minutes of the Management Committee held on 6th February 2017

Present: President Patrick Murphy (by Skype)

Geoff Evans	EWBA
Gareth Jones	WWBA
Herbie Rowley	MWBA (by Skype)
Jean Hand	National Tournament Organiser
Fiona Noyce	Treasurer
Phil Bowers	Membership and Master Points Secretary
Neville Richards	Chief Executive Officer
Judith Graham-Jones	In attendance for item 3, and Minutes taker

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 4th January. Received approved and signed as a correct record.
- 2 Matters arising from the Minutes.

2.1 Perry, Spickett and President's Cup and AGM. President reported that this will be held at Llanfairfechan

2.2 Finance committee. Treasurer reported that she had failed to convene due to apathy of Area Treasurers, but is hopeful to do so before 31st March'

2.3 Refusal to play. The matter to be referred to Laws and Ethics Committee. After its ruling consideration subsequently to amend Competition regulations.

2.4 Correspondence with David Stevenson. The President laid his draft before the Committee for its approval which was given.

- 3 Interviews for post of Chief Executive Officer.

The members of the panel {PM, GE,JGJ,HR,JH} and GJ agreed that all three applicants be interviewed on 24th February, provisionally at the Commodore Hotel Llandrindod Wells. Disappointment was expressed that only three applications had been received. It was agreed that the appointment not be made should none of the candidates be considered suitable. The CEO commented that is such an event he would be prepared to continue in office until the AGM. The candidates to be informed of the date and place as soon as possible. CEO to arrange venue.

JGJ commented on a rumour that there was a move to incorporate the role of NTO within the CEO's work and warned of the dangers of putting too many eggs in one basket. The rumour was emphatically denied.

4. National Tournament Officers Report (on File) JH presented her Report. The following matters were considered

4.1 The recent re-jigged Graded Masters was agreed to have been successful and it was agreed that with some modifications it would be repeated next season.

4.2 The Seniors Congress. It was agreed that this should revert to being a WBU event and it was proposed by the NTO that next year it would be held mid-week in mid Wales. Agreed.

4 Treasurers Report. The Accounts were circulated and considered. It was noted that the International budget has survived but is in danger. Of interest EBU and NIBA international players fund their own expenses. There ensued lively discussion and great concern was expressed re the perilous financial state of the Union. President, Treasurer and CEO will meet the Selectors to explain that because of the current financial situation the Union will find it difficult to support International players in the same way as in the past and a review of finances is required. ACTION: PM.

5 Membership and Master Points Secretary's Report. Circulated and on file. PB highlighted the good news that the constitutional change made at the AGM last June whereby all affiliated clubs must have all their members in membership of the Union has resulted so far in more gains than losses.

6 CEO Report. NR commented that his only concern was how the WBU is to move forward.

7 Junior Bridge. A team has been selected for the Junior Camrose, NPC Tony Disley, but there is no sufficiently able team to enter the Peggy Bayer.

8 Invitation Pairs; Maggie and Ceri Pierce are looking for a venue. Financial arrangements are being considered. Commonwealth Games in Australia. It was agreed that the Selectors be reminded that the WBU team that won the Gold Medal when the event was held in Scotland was sent as a one-off.

9 Lady Milne event. Following a query on the cost of importing a TD from Ireland it was reported that Mike and Sarah Amos are the match managers and the arrangement is in their hands. In future the M/C should exert tighter control of such events and budgets.

The meeting closed at 3pm.

Date of the next meeting: 27th March at 11.30a.m to be followed by a Council Meeting.

JGJ 7th February 2017