

Minutes of MC 28th June 2022, at 11:00 by Zoom

Present: Ceri Pierce, Alan Screen, Steve Webb, Paddy Murphy, Sophie Cunningham, Jean Hand, Simon Gottschalk, Gilly Clench, Jean Cufley

1. **Apologies:** Tony Disley

The Chairman welcomed Jean C, Gilly and Simon to the meeting and thanked Jean H for her work over the years as NTO as she will be retiring from the role.

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting** – accepted.

3. **AGM and Council Meeting arrangements**

Council Meeting to be set for 10:00 am. AGM for 10:30am.

AGM and Council Meeting Agendas approved.

Chairman of Council Meeting (to be appointed on the day) – Gilly Clench

Chairman of AGM – Alan Screen

Changes to the Constitution – these were reviewed. Some minor grammatical errors were corrected. These will be circulated this week in advance of the meeting.

The AGM will be a hybrid meeting. Sophie will organise and ensure it all runs smoothly. The speaker will need to sit in front of the laptop. She may use a projector and wireless Mic to facilitate.

The MC has the power to appoint Officers on an Interim basis. Agreed to appoint Simon G and Jean C into their new roles as NTO and Treasurer respectively forthwith.

Delegates to the Council Meeting :

East – Sophie Cunningham and Helen Houston

Mid – Alan Screen, Jean Cufley and Rita Lawrence

North – Rod Sheard (TBC)

West – TBC

Ceri to chase Tony D for delegate names.

4. **Officer Reports**

CEO Report – Ceri

Madeira Europeans – Open team came a creditable 20th out of 30. Gary Jones caught covid and had to isolate for the last 4 days which no doubt affected the team's performance.

Ceri and Sophie qualified for the Women's Pairs final and finished 8th (from 14).

A post on the WBU website has raised the point that there were 2 members of the team and 6 members of the MC who are not members of the WBU. This was investigated and it is because not all clubs have made their returns yet. Individuals also have until the end of June to re-join before their membership lapses. Steve further confirmed that there was actually only one outstanding member who had been in touch, and as a result of the post, one has now joined twice and will need a refund.

The new Treasurer has specified that no Stripe or PayPal payments should be used in the future in order to simplify the accounts process. Entries will need to be made by BACs. Steve Webb also found the payments overly complex

and will adopt the same approach. Problems have occurred in the past as the WBU took payments for WWBA events to help whilst they were setting up their own Stripe account and it became very cumbersome.

Simon offered to meet with Jean to demonstrate the benefits of Stripe/BESS for the future. It was agreed at the last meeting that a laptop will be purchased for Jean to use in her role as treasurer.

Hopefully Jean C will have full bank access shortly. Forms have been sent off to the bank.

Paul Lamford is doing a 12-board play and chat around the fireside to analyse them afterwards. Please support this event and come along and play, or encourage your members to play.

Chepstow have suggested setting up a WhatsApp group for small clubs and the WBU to exchange views and ideas.

Very sad to report the death of Pat Haworth. Neville and Derek are supporting his WBU work for the next few days/weeks, until he is ready to return.

BBO returns which are outstanding need to be completed.

Teams of 8 attracted 7 teams (was 8, but one dropped out due to covid). Congratulations to Penarth, the winners. It was excellent to have a face-to-face event again.

Please encourage entries to the Llandudno Congress.

NTO Report – Simon

Simon outlined his initial plans to start talking to the ATOs and be more proactive in getting feedback to try and kickstart bridge across Wales. He will work with the ATOs over the coming months to put a plan together. Key will be long lead times for events to maximise publicity.

EWBA - meeting on Friday. They have 6 players for both the Perry and Spickett

MWB – nothing to report. They have a Perry and Spickett team.

NWBA – 4 players in Perry. Spickett team being put together with help from Gilly

Perry and Spickett

Gilly has been involved in getting Spickett teams together in her role as Women's co-ordinator using her women's emailing list. Gilly offered to try and get some Presidents Cup teams sorted out, but it was decided that it was too late for this year. More effort will be put in for next year.

AOB

Gilly confirmed that she will be happy to chair future MC meetings

Separating the AGM and Perry/Spickett was discussed. In principle it was agreed that next year's AGM will be the 1st Sunday in June held by zoom and the Perry and Spickett to be held in 2nd weekend in July (to be confirmed).

Gilly would like to have an email list for all members in order to send out a monthly newsletter to raise the profile of the WBU. Steve to provide this. The importance of Data Protection and privacy was flagged. Gilly is an experienced data controller and is aware of the issues.

8. Next Meeting

Tuesday 26th July at 11.00am by Zoom.