**Minutes of the Huddersfield Bridge Club Committee Meeting held on 10th November 2021**

**Members Present**

Michael Robertson, David Ford, Liz Greensides, Sue Measures, Margaret Rhodes, Katie Thorpe,

Ian Whitehead and Pat Whitehouse

**Apologies for Absence**

None

**Minutes of the previous Meetings**

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed by Michael Robertson

**Membership**

We have 172 paid members plus 5 Honorary.

**Finance**

The cash balance was £45523.00

**Premises**

*Damp downstairs –* We may have a bigger problem but we shall see how it goes for now

*Cleaner –* Our cleaner would like more hours to do a proper COVID clean each time but we will leave it for now and ask her to tackle each radiator, etc on a rota basis

*Lock on no 6* – We shall look into this at the next meeting

*Insurance* –Katie is looking into insurance to run various activities at the Club

*Teaching Update -* We are running 3 beginner and 1 improver sessions

**Competitions/Teams**

*Castle Swiss Pairs* **–** Oliver Cowan has offered to run an online version of this and we have agreed for him to go ahead

**Other Items**

*TD Training* –Michael has contacted the YCBA and is waiting to hear back from them

*Bridge handicapping* – Michael will talk to Brighouse to see how this works

*Christmas Parties –* We have had a good response to both these parties

**Date of Next Meeting**

12th January 2022

**MINUTES:**

**HBC Action Session:** 8th November 2021: 4PM

**Present:** MichaelRobertson, Ian Whitehead, Pat Whitehouse, Liz Greensides, David Ford, Margaret Rhodes, Katie Thorpe

**Apologies**: Sue Measures

**Discussion and Outcomes:**

The demographic of the membership has changed significantly through Lockdown and in the aftermath. A high proportion of the more experienced/skillful players have either left the club or do not attend due to being able to gain more challenge online or elsewhere – this is both understood and accepted, and is a national issue. As a result the club leans more to social members, and these are the needs that should now be fulfilled, whilst keeping an eye on opportunities to continue to grow.

In the short and medium term, the club’s funds are reasonably healthy, but at current income levels, funds will not be sufficient in the long term.

In order to streamline the administration of the club, it was decided to take the year’s free trial of Pianola. Liz to follow up.

**Please see the next page for a Plan of Action following our discussions.**

*I would propose that the Action Plan forms the basis of future committee meetings, that it should be dynamic – ie we can add to it/change and adapt it, at any time. It is not meant to be (as yet) fully comprehensive, but to represent the direction of our discussions. Any new strategies or ideas should be developed within this Action Plan, once agreed.*

**ACTION PLAN:**

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| **GOAL** | **To ensure retention of current membership, and to encourage new** |
| **Strategies and Action:**   * To advertise locally Michael * To begin to provide a partner for some sessions For further discussion * To continue to offer No Fear Bridge sessions to encourage new membership David and Pam H * To provide a Welcome Pack for all new faces, and those taking lessons Liz | |
| **GOAL** | **To continue to develop what the club can offer its membership** |
| **Strategies and Action:**   * To promote discussions with local clubs Michael * To provide free of charge venues for smaller clubs/U3A which may be struggling (eg Crosland Moor) For further discussion * To explore opportunities to provide further sessions Committee * To provide training for new TDs Michael, Liz, Katie * To explore Hybrid sessions Liz | |
| **GOAL** | **To provide opportunities for further learning and challenge** |
| **Strategies and Action:**   * To further develop the teaching programme Michael with Denis * To continue to develop the teams Carrie * To offer “Play with an an experienced member” sessions Michael | |
| **GOAL** | **To ensure the long term financial survival of the club** |
| **Strategies and Action:**   * It is possible that Yorkshire Bridge are offering grants to individual clubs. Michael to follow up. * To offer the club as a venue for eg parties, funerals etc, at a small cost Sue to check insurance | |
| **GOAL** | **To continue to explore the best use of the building and space** |
| * To consider the best use of the building for club sessions. Katie * In the longer term, to revisit the suitability of the current premises. For future committee meetings | |

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