**Minutes of the Huddersfield Bridge Club Committee Meeting held on 9th Jan 2024**

**Members Present**

Michael Robertson, David Ford, Sue Measures, Margaret Rhodes, Ian Whitehead and Pat Whitehouse

**Apologies for Absence**

Carrie Babington, Katie Thorpe, Liz Greensides, Hazel Barker (resignation). The committee accepted the resignation letter from Hazel and wish to place on record their thanks for the work she has completed on behalf of Huddersfield Bridge Club.

**Minutes of the previous Meetings**

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed by Michael Robertson

**Matters Arising**

No matters arising.

**Health and safety**

No matters arising.

**Membership**

There are 176 Members. Membership is open to new applications with applicants asked to complete a membership form for consideration at the next committee meeting before acceptance. The current fee is half an annual membership fee as we are in the second half of the membership year.

**Financial Update**

We have £52,169 in the bank. Recent income was slightly down due to the holiday season.

**Premises**

It was decided to leave the boiler and fire alarm servicing and for any discretionary expenditure to cease. Any urgent work required to maintain the club in a fit state for members to play bridge to be approved at a committee meeting.

**Competitions/Teams Update**

Teams winter break currently underway. No internal competitions planned at the moment.

**Any Other Business**

**Move Update** *–* **Michael** and **Carrie** have been heavily involved in design meetings with the Trustees at Lockwood and are close to finalising a layout for Huddersfield Bridge Club. This will be shared with all members when agreed but it will include sufficient space for a large enough playing area, teaching area, social and kitchen/toilets space as well as storage space. We have engaged a local architect on very favourable rates to assist with the technical aspects too. We are planning on taking our existing kitchen units with us.

The first meeting to finalise leasing arrangements, rental costs etc has also taken place where both sides have stated their opening position. **Michael** (joined by **Katie**) will continue the dialogue to reach the best outcome for HBC. Lockwood to provide draft Heads of Terms.

**Ian** and **Pat** will formalise the financial governance and investment strategy for the club going forward and may well request help from members with the suitable skills to assist.

We have received one offer for 4/6 Cambridge Road and have been contacted by a second developer who is viewing the properties with **Michael** this week. Depending on the outcome of that meeting the committee will decide how best to proceed. A patient purchaser will allow us to proceed with our plans with a degree of certainty.

**Announcing and Alerting** *–* **David** has produced some new information re EBU rules to apply from August onwards. These will be handed out to TDs and introduced to members.

**Christmas Party** *-* Summary of income and expenditure below

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Buffet | 648.00 |  |
| Wine | 70.00 |  |
| Cleaner's wage | 36.00 |  |
| Prizes | 32.00 |  |
| Refund to 2 people | 30.00 |  |
| Decorations | 14.00 |  |
| Sundry Food Items | 41.00 |  |
|  | 871.00 |  |
| Income 48x15 | 720.00 |  |
|  | £151.00 | LOSS |

The raffle raised some money to mitigate this loss however the committee were happy to maintain ticket prices at a low level and subsidise the event.

**Christmas Tree Donations** - £115 was raised for the Salvation Army.

**Cambridge Road, Clearing Out** - We shall need volunteers to help with clearing out cupboards and such like and the work can start. Please let **Michael** know if interested

**Grants.** **Katie** has found out information regarding local grants that are available and appear suitable for supporting the Bridge club - various ideas were discussed as to how structure proposals for financial help and it was agreed to go with Katie’s ideas in approaching two in particular to help with transport to and from the club and replacing with new, a lot of the consumables – boards, bidding boxes, table cloths etc. Further details will be provided once the outcome of our grant submission – closing dates Feb is known.

**Ian** informed the committee that Syngenta also provide funds to local causes.

**Ian Hazelhurst Comp** – It was decided to not hold it this this year because of the move and review for 2025.

**Extra Session** – David Charlton has volunteered to TD an extra session. It was decided to wait until after we have move but to determine if there was interest in running another session maybe on a Friday or Saturday during the daytime.

**Teaching Declarer Play** – Denis is running this brand new series of lessons and 8 people have signed up and the course started Tues 9th

**David Charlton improver lessons** – 9 people have signed up for this continuation starting Thursday 11th Jan

**U3A Pro Am Bridge Competition** It was agreed to let Dallas use the club for this competition and we will provide the ‘Pros’ and hopefully join in the U3A celebrations/award night.

**Date of Next Meeting**

28th February 2024