

# **WELSH BRIDGE UNION**

## **Minutes of the Council meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2011**

### **Present:**

President:	Adrian Thomas
Immediate Past President:	Alan Screen
Vice-Presidents:	Chris Davies (WWBA) Mike Tedd (MWBA) Marie Topp (NWBA)
Area delegates:	Bob Alderdice & Kate Craven (WWBA) Jean Cufley (MWBA) Jean & Peter Hand (NWBA) Patrick Jourdain & Ken Richardson (EWBA)
Chief Executive:	Neville Richards
Hon.Treasurer:	Linda Greenland
Minute Secretary	Judith Graham-Jones

**Apologies for absence** Dewi Jones (MWBA)

### **1. Minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

Subject to the following corrections the Minutes were approved nem.con.

- 5.9. line 2: delete Profits, insert Licence
- 8.3. line 1 delete “result” insert “jeopardise”
- Line 3 delete “and IBU”

### **2. Matters arising from these Minutes**

2.1.2 Standing Orders. Although the Management Committee has devised Orders for its own conduct, Orders for Council are still awaited although a detailed paper had been submitted to Council a year ago. It was agreed that the MC would consider these which do not have to be submitted to the AGM.

5.6 Jean Cufley had acted as Match Manager for the Camrose match.

5.1 It had proved possible to purchase light weight screens that will be used at selected event.

### **3. Consideration of nominations for sub-committees and vacant posts**

3.1 Finance Committee members are Area Treasurers ex-officio

3.2 Laws & Ethics Committee: Patrick Jourdain, Tim Rees, David Stevenson.

3.3 Selectors: Paul Denning (Chairman), Mike Close, Julian Pottage, Alan Stephenson plus one to be appointed (Alan Jones was suggested & subsequently appointed) with Linda Greenland to advise on budgets and to deputise if necessary

3.4 Liz Atkinson had indicated her willingness to become Master Points Secretary when Noelle Bond retires at the AGM.

3.5 National Tournament Organiser. Sheila Shea wishes to stand down after the Teams of Eight Competition; the vacancy will be displayed on the website and in the Newsletter. Alan Screen requested it be noted that both Sheila Shea and Mike Best who had assisted her by organising the Welsh and Cambria Cups arrangements had been disappointed with the criticism that they had received.

3.6 Chris Davies informed Council that he will be unable to assume the Presidency at the AGM as he is planning to move away from Wales.

The WWBA had therefore invited Adrian Thomas who is a member of the Area, to be their nominee in his place. This would not only save the situation but also enable Adrian to continue the work that he has already achieved in his current year as President. Council agreed its support for this nomination.

3.7 A discussion followed concerning the date of the AGM. It was agreed to hold it on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> May at 11am at the David Lloyd Centre, Cardiff.

## **4. Management Committee Report**

Received and on file. The following items were discussed:

### **4.1 WBU Competitions:**

The New Tier event should be renamed the WBU President's Cup. The WBU will make a grant of £500 to the hosting area for the first four years to cope with the extra cost of this. It was suggested that Clubs could if they wished subsidise players. There should be a contingency plan if any Area cannot field a team, perhaps that the host Area be offered an additional place.

MC has agreed that it will review all Competitions, Rules, Format Viability. Where events are held at different venues they can be scored across the field. Mike Tedd will work with Gwynn Davis on the regulations for the Welsh & Cambria Cups.

It was agreed that there is an urgent need for a Code of Behaviour; there seems to be no doubt that absence of good behaviour among a minority of players has a deterrent effect on others who then cease to attend events. Adrian Thomas will head a working group which will liaise with Laws & Ethics Committee.

### **4.2 Bridge Great Britain.**

Discussions with the EBU and SBU continue. There has still been no decision on allocation of monies between the NBO's

### **4.3 Financing of teams for European events.**

It was observed that the Juniors should play more often in mainland UK events.

Council confirmed its previous decision that the Juniors should not attend this year's event in Bulgaria.

### **4.4 WBU Honoraria.**

The recommendations of the report were accepted with the following amendments: Newsletter Editor £500, Newsletter layout £200 (each for 4 issues in year), Website Manager £500. There should be no backdating, so existing Honoraria should be paid in 2010-11. (The amounts for the Newsletter Editor and Website Manager are notional, because the incumbents do not accept payment.)

## **5. NTO's Report**

Received and on file

The need for a better deal at the Metropole was noted. The final of the Teams of 8 will be at the Elephant & Castle, Newtown. It was reported that some players liked the Showground Bulth Wells as a venue.

It was agreed that in future the organiser of the Welsh/Cambria cups should report to the NTO.

Any club playing less than 16 boards in the WBU simultaneous pairs should not be included in the national rankings.

The NTO was thanked for the Report and for her endeavours over the last two years.

## **6. CEO's Report**

Received with interest and thanks. On file.

## **7. Treasurer's Report**

On file.

Council shared the Treasurer's pleasure at the unexpected improvement in the overall financial situation.

Subscriptions for 2012/13 were recommended to remain at £6 (£12 direct).

The approval of the Report was proposed by Patrick Jourdain, seconded by Alan Screen and approved nem.con.

## **8. Selectors' Report**

Received and on file.

Council endorsed the Selectors' concern at the lack of entries for the Ladies' Trials.

The Selectors have suggested Terms of Reference for themselves. This was approved.

Mike Tedd observed that there were some misconceptions among last year's selectors regarding the application of their budget to players' training.

Emails had been received from one of the Selectors, Mike Close, with various suggestions, including the establishment of a Cod of Conduct for players representing Wales. It was referred to the MC to consider the detail and make recommendations.

It was agreed that MC should consider policy for Junior selection.

## **9. President's Report.**

On file.

The great success of winning the Camrose trophy was equalled only by the splendid organisation of the event by Jean Cufley and her team of volunteers; there had been many expressions of appreciation from the visiting players.

Council congratulated the President on his achievements and thanked him for his comprehensive report.

The President thanked members for their attendance and contribution to the meeting and declared it closed at 3.05pm

## **10. Provisional date of the next meeting**

18<sup>th</sup> March 2012 {Another meeting was subsequently held on 30/10/11.}

Judith Graham-Jones

Minutes Secretary, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011