

# WARGRAVE & DISTRICT SNOOKER CLUB

## Minutes of Committee Meeting held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 8pm

|                 |                      |           |
|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|
| <b>Present:</b> | Darren Cabbage (DC)  | Chairman  |
|                 | Dom Matthews (DM)    | Treasurer |
|                 | Steve Wallace (SW)   | Secretary |
|                 | Graeme Blythe (GB)   | Committee |
|                 | Dustin Handcock (DH) | Committee |
|                 | Steve Barton (SB)    | Committee |
|                 | Glene Sandom (GS)    | Committee |

### Apologies:

### 1. Previous Minutes (14 June 2021)

No corrections had been received by the secretary and the meeting approved these unanimously. Actions updates are included in their appropriate sections.

### 2. Financial Update

Dom had finished preparing the (unaudited) accounts and had sent these for review prior to the meeting. Highlights:

- We were only actually open for 21 weeks of last year, owing to the pandemic.
- Revenues reflected the significant periods of closures, although beer margins held up.
- The grants from Wokingham Borough Council more than made up for the revenue decrease, leading to an almost doubled gross profit.
- Occupancy costs were down, thanks to a reduction in rent from the Hostel Trustees.
- Some other costs were down, such as cleaning, which was not required during lockdown, whilst other costs were new, such as PPE and broadband.
- The final profit was £11,698, leading to reserves carried forward of £29,695.

Dom stressed that he has personally spoken to our contact at WBC to make sure that they are aware of our circumstances, and to ensure that they have not overpaid us. We are in good shape to cope with uncertainties next year, for example if another lockdown was forced on us.

Next year, we will have reduced revenue (having waived renewals for existing members) and will have broadband costs ongoing.

The accounts were proposed by Graeme Blythe, seconded by Steve Barton, and accepted unanimously by committee. They will be passed to Richard Arnold for approval.

**Action: DM**

### 3. Facilities (and Re-opening)

Light meters. These have been installed by Bruce Glasby. We now have new meters on all three tables, in preparation for reopening all tables on 19<sup>th</sup> July.

Ladies' Toilet. Bruce also fitted the new heater, but this does not appear to be functioning correctly. Steve W will arrange for Henley Heating & Plumbing to investigate.

**Action: SW**

Television Reception. This has been poor. The existing booster is out of warranty. Darren arranged for Paul Parnell to inspect the TV and he recommended a strengthened booster, which appears to have fixed the issue.

Television Upgrade? Our present TV is HD, but we need to upgrade to HD Freeview. Boxes for this start at £35. If we spend a bit more (probably in the region of £120) we can get a box that will allow us to pause, record and access on-line content. This is for discussion at next meeting. C/F.

**Review 14/9**

Relaxation of restrictions. From 19<sup>th</sup> July, we will be able to relax further the restrictions on the club. The committee has decided to open the middle table, bringing us back to 3 in total. It was decided that there will remain two bookable tables. To avoid interactions, this will be the middle and far tables. The table nearest the bar will be available on a roll-up basis (as per prior to Covid-19) by putting names on the board.

A possible follow-on position, perhaps to be implemented in September, is to have all three tables bookable Monday-Wednesdays while having Thursday and Friday as roll-up days. This would seem to fit with the observed pattern of usage, and may help to reinvigorate Fridays, which have declined in popularity. We will review progress before deciding on this.

Changes to be made to the booking system.

**Action: DM**

Email to be sent to members advising changes on 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Action: DM/GS**

#### **4. Memberships**

A few more members renewed before year-end, to take advantage of free renewals. The number auto renewed was 71, plus about 10 new joiners subsequently, taking our membership over 80.

#### **5. Bar Matters**

The bar rota continues to function well and the combination of one barrel and some keg beers has also worked well.

The action to investigate Guinness on tap is carried forward.

**Action: DC**

#### **6. Competitions**

Two of the three semi-finals have been completed. Glene will endeavour to get everything completed. The trophy company have indicated that a relatively quick turnaround is possible.

Sign-up sheets are on the board, but numbers are low. Glene will email a reminder and indicate that a sign-up by email reply is also acceptable.

**Action: GS**

#### **7. Events**

Social events are obviously held in abeyance. The items that will need to be discussed when there are fewer restrictions in place include the following, which are noted only so we will not forget to discuss them when the time comes:

- an evening donated to the auction of promises (for Simon Holburn).
- a commitment to host the CAMRA crowd on a Thursday evening.
- an outing to a snooker event.

We indicated our willingness to support the Village Festival, which in fact has been postponed by a year, to be held in 2022.

All the above carried forward.

## **8. Web Site**

Steve needs to ask Jerry to put in place a page at the same level as meeting minutes to show policies as these are growing in number.

## **9. AOB**

### AGM plans

The view is that we should probably wait until we can hold a physical meeting and roll the previous AGM and current one into one meeting, since that would make more sense. We have decided to aim for 30 September. Steve W will draft an appropriate email and bring nomination sheets (for officers and committee members) to the club at next visit.

Coaching. We have some real momentum on this, thanks to Dustin. The email that went out advertising sessions for juniors (subsidised) and adults has prompted several favourable responses. We so far have 6 adults and 5 juniors interested.

The date suggested by the coach was 14 August. We will advertise this on the basis that procedural issues (DBS, etc.) will have been tackled by then. (Later addition: this date may be in doubt – DH to advise.)

Dustin will respond to the applicants and to the coach.

**Action: DH**

Steve will tackle the policies, hopefully issuing draft versions in the next week.

**Action: SW**

It was also noted that, should juniors wish to join as individual members, the present minimum age (stipulated by our constitution) is 14 years old. If younger children wish to play, then we either need to state that they must be accompanied by a member (adult or junior) or alternatively we could lower the age limit, but this would need the agreement of the AGM.

Pool Table. The idea of a pool table was mooted. This could be a good way of attracting more youth to the club but could also generate more noise. We agreed to ask opinion at the AGM before going further with this idea. C/F.

## **10. Next Meeting**

This will be at 8pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September.

Steve Wallace, Club Secretary