

MILDMAY CLUB COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Meeting date; Monday 13th May 2024

Time; 7.30pm

Present; Laurence Fryer (Vice President), Dan Isaacs (Treasurer), Pete Brown, Colin Butler, Tom Campbell, Andrea Davies, Lucian Evans, Kat Heaton, Andrea Jung, Jon Riley, Barnaby Taylor, Jonny Trunk, John Woods,

Non voting; Peter Snell (Secretary), Iona Dudley (Manager), Terri Ciftci (Bar and Functions supervisor), Sam Whatmore (Bookkeeper - Finance report only)

Observers; None

1. Apologies; Tom Jones (President), Andy McAdie,

2. Minutes of the last committee meeting; Minutes accepted as a true record for signature and posting in the Club.

3. Matters arising; None

4. Reports

A. Secretary's report (Peter Snell)

Peter reported he had attended the national CIU AGM on 19th April and abstained on the vote to increase affiliation fees.

He had not yet convened a Special General Meeting to adopt the latest version of the model Club rules as they needed amendment to;

- Ensure any proceeds from dissolution would not be distributed to Members but to other charities and not for profit organisations serving the local community.
- Ensure that specific reference to the "Club Premises Certificate" referred equally to any other type of License.

Peter had checked with the Lottery Heritage Fund that such changes would make the Club eligible for such funds and had drafted amendments currently being checked with Tom Jones. He was hoping to present the amended rules to the June management committee meeting to allow a Special General Meeting to be held to adopt the new rules in early July.

Peter noted the successful conclusion of the Annual General Meeting on 28th April and the subsequent elections held from 9th to 11th May as 8 candidates submitted valid nomination forms for 4 vacant posts on the Management Committee. Peter thanked David Dade and Helen Gorry for their help with running the elections and reported the results as;

- Jonny Trunk; 141
- Tom Campbell; 169
- Lucian Evans; 157
- Kat Heaton; 148
- Ron Jeffryes; 71

- Viv Jeffryes; 76
- Sharon Lyons; 44
- Kevin Mullings; 52

Ron and Viv Jeffryes were thanked for their long service to the Committee while Jonny and Kat were welcomed as new Members. Peter promised to convene a meeting with Dave and Helen to consider how to improve the election process in 2025 and consider any complaints received by him as Secretary. Tom Jones said he had been talking to Viv encouraging her ongoing engagement with areas of interest like Bingo. The meeting agreed unanimously to grant life membership to Ron and Viv Jeffryes.

B. Membership report (Tom Campbell)

Tom reported total Club membership now exceeded 2,000. He noted the interruption of interviews prior to the election had led to a surge in new applications

C. Treasurers Report (Dan Isaacs)

Dan spoke to a cash flow spreadsheet for April circulated to all present and a written report. He noted the decision of the previous meeting to increase prices by 10% across all trading areas and he was working with appropriate sub-committees to agree actual price increases. The meeting noted that the AGM had approved an increase in the annual membership fee to £35 which would be applicable from January 2025.

Dan noted that the bank balance had now returned to more than £100,000 but the Club had drawn down all its £500K mortgage. He was working with Andrea J to allow a trickle of works to continue whilst maintaining a balance of over £100K and thought works to the flats could resume in January 2025. He noted that bar takings continued at higher levels than ever before but was concerned about net profits once all bar related expenditure was added in.

Dan reported that an important factor in the stabilisation of our financial position had been the resumption of TV/ film hire over the past month (£42,000 in April, with a further £15,000 projected in May). He said that had been possible in large part because of the pause in the building works.

Dan reported on what he was doing to pursue London Living Wage accreditation.

D. Entertainment Report (Andrea Davies/ Lucian Evans)

Andrea and Lucian spoke to the list of events held and planned they presented to the meeting. They anticipated lots more Members events would be held now the Entertainment Committee was up and running. Iona had listed some of the emerging ideas within her written report.

Volunteers were recruited to a sub-committee to support Lucian in upgrading the pa system

Laurence reported back on his engagement with the Stoke Newington Jazz Festival.

Peter reported that the Hackney History festival had been a great success and would probably be repeated next year. Iona was disappointed that the date had been changed so the Mildmay had not been able to participate but she would continue to liaise about participation in future Hackney History festivals.

E. Club Management (Iona Dudley)

Iona spoke to her written report submitted in advance of the meeting.

The meeting agreed that Iona could discuss the use of consultants funded by the London Mural Festival to sort out barriers to participating in the festival in 2024. The need to identify and develop a new "green room" for the Literary Festival was discussed. Iona reported that the 10% increase in hall hire charges had been introduced and all the wedding slots for 2025 had already been fully booked.

Iona noted that an invitation to Members with graphic design experience had attracted 10 expressions of interest. Kat volunteered to represent the Committee on a working group comprising these Members to work on new promotional material. The meeting discussed and agreed plans to develop a new design for the staff t-shirt incorporating the newly designed logo.

F. Games Report (John Woods)

John announced that the snooker league had started and more introductory training events were planned.

G. House Report (Andrea Jung)

Andrea spoke to a written report circulated in advance of the meeting. She noted that works on the flats and the main hall lighting had been paused pending improvement in the Club's financial position, although Lucian had already developed plans for the latter. She asked that a facilities management and health and safety team be established. She noted that volunteer help would be required to assist in clearing out the side rooms and the garden. She would investigate options for heating the snooker hall in advance of next winter. The meeting agreed she should investigate changes to the entrance to the flats and the installation of CCTV to improve security while works were paused.

H. Health & Safety (Jon Riley)

Jon reported;

H&S update Jon, Andrea J, Cordelia Hammond and Iona are meeting Tuesday 14th at 6pm to go through and update an action list before the Fire Risk Assessment in 5 weeks.

Access

Jon reported on current provision for disabled Members and guests, the benefits to the Club & Members of improving access, affordable options for improvement, and possible funding routes. The meeting welcomed his report and supported him to continue to progress the work.

I. Stock and finance (Pete Brown)

Pete gave a verbal report on his ongoing work with managers and staff on modifying the range and repricing the lines..

5. Any Other Business

There was no other business

6. Committee/ Officers only; Staff and other confidential business.

Non committee members left the meeting which considered a report by a sub-committee set up to investigate complaints about the behaviour of a Club Member.

7. Date of next meeting; Monday 17th June 2024.