

MILDMAY CLUB COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Meeting date; Monday 2nd September 2024

Time; 7.30pm

Present; Tom Jones (President), Laurence Fryer (Vice President), Dan Isaacs (Treasurer), Colin Butler, Andrea Davies, Lucian Evans, Jon Riley, Barnaby Taylor, Jonny Trunk, John Woods,

Non voting; Iona Dudley (Club Manager), Peter Snell (Secretary),

Tom Jones opened the meeting as President and reported that he had received a complaint letter from 40 members with a request that John Wood read it to the meeting. He ruled this was inappropriate but that the complaint, as with all others, would be considered by himself and the Secretary who would provide a written reply. Many of those who had signed the letter attended the meeting as observers.

1. Apologies; Pete Brown, Tom Campbell, Kat Heaton,

2. Minutes of the last committee meeting; Minutes accepted as a true record, after correction to the venue for membership interviews, for signature and posting in the Club.

3. Matters arising

All covered in subsequent reports.

4. Reports

A. Secretary's report (Peter Snell)

Peter spoke to a written report circulated before the meeting. The meeting was asked to vote on proposals to manage the Club on the pre-2014 rules since the SGM had refused to adopt the most recent model CIU rules book. It unanimously voted, with one abstention to;

- Delegate authority to Iona to accept guests as "Temporary Affiliates" to the Club on behalf of the Committee.
- Allow up to 20 guests per Member to be admitted on the door to private and club run events.

Peter repeated the suggestion in his written report that the Committee should drop its proposal to amend Club rules to improve eligibility for lottery and charity funding but should hold further General Meetings to amend and adopt the latest CIU model rules and agree to apply for a Premises Licence. The meeting agreed with one vote against and one abstention to;

- Hold another Special General Meeting immediately after the 2025 AGM on an available Sunday in April or March 2025.
- Book the Rio Cinema to hold both meetings to ensure there is space for all Members to attend.

B. Membership report (Tom Campbell)

In Tom's absence Dan reported on plans to restart interviews on Tuesday, 10th September and weekly on a Tuesday thereafter.

C. Treasurers Report (Dan Isaacs)

Dan ran through a spreadsheet of the takings through August. He noted low takings and consequent loses through the month as paying for refurbishment works had reduced the bank balance to £75K. He noted takings halved through the holiday period but the final payment had been made for works to the roof. Film income had been down on last year and he emphasised the need to manage staffing bills through quiet periods.

D. Entertainment Report (Andrea Davies/ Lucian Evans)

Andrea spoke to a list of forthcoming events circulated in advance of the meeting. In particular she noted forthcoming events including the 20th century society visit on 11th September from 6.30 pm (Committee Members welcomed) and Open House on 22nd September when the Club would be open to the public from 11 to 5. She noted that the Club featured in the publicity film for Open House so she hoped lots of committee Members would act as guides. She noted that the first comedy event organised by new volunteers was selling well.

E. Club Management (Iona Dudley)

Iona spoke to a written summary of events submitted to the meeting. She asked Committee Members to use the updated committee rota for September so she knew event management was adequately covered. She asked the Committee to note the top bar takings over 5 nights to the end of July. Money had been saved over the slack period by cancelling jazz events on Friday nights. She pointed out that takings might have been down but were still higher than last year. She thanked all the Members who has assisted the clear out and jumble sale at which over £2,000 had been raised. Iona outlined new booking procedures circulated in advance of the meeting which were approved.

Terri reported on staff meetings she had arranged which had addressed the maintenance of the refurbished Jubilee Bar. She noted the cellar needs reorganisation to better manage stock and improve accessibility.

F. Games Report (John Woods/ Andy McAdie)

John noted takings were inevitably down through the holiday season. He said the snooker Festival did attract new people who were now using the hall. The darts teams were about to restart following the normal summer break. A snooker team had been formed and wanted to compete in local leagues. He said the snooker table affected by water caused by the vandalism to the women's toilet was still OK to play but would be included in the review of table condition planned for the end of the year.

Andy offered to work with Iona to relaunch the Sunday dogs & games club.

G. House Report (Andrea Jung)

Andrea provided a verbal report. She noted the roof renewal & associated solar PV was now done. She reported that renewal of the food prep room was nearly complete. She planned to specify a package of works to finish the front of the Club. John Clark had looked at stage lighting to check everything is on an adequate & safe supply. He also needed to check fire escape etc doors close properly to reduce noise nuisance. New steps to the stage needed

completion in time for the pantomime. Andrea noted the need to check for asbestos before breaking through to the Main Hall stage.. She flagged upcoming works to address the fire risk assessment and noted the need for members bar refurbishment to address health and safety concerns.

H. Health & Safety (Jon Riley)

Jon summarised the finding of the recent fire risk assessment which had identified electrical works needed. Jon was sorting out extinguishers and a fire detector upgrade. A surprise fire safety drill was planned. He noted the need to refuse offers to leave stuff from filming etc. in Club as it just builds up fire hazards. A backstage clear-out was planned.

I. Stock and finance (Pete Brown)

Pete was not present and had not submitted a report and was now spending a lot of time in his new home in Norwich. Tom said he was talking to Colin and Laurence to provide backup to bar stock management.

5. AOB

Cat had circulated a report from Jay Derrick in advance of the meeting on the activities of the archive group. The report was welcomed and group congratulated for their hard work. Cat reported good social media promotion had led to increased engagement.

Tom reported on the flooding incident following vandalism in the women's toilet at a private function. Tom will write to the party booker seeking to recover full costs and would consider a backup option of applying for compensation from the Small Claims Court which remained an option for up to 6 years. Iona reported she was in discussion with our booking system to address the technical issues which currently prevented us obtaining a larger damages balance.

The meeting agreed proposals from Tom that the New Year Eve party should allow a maximum of three guest per Member. The meeting agreed that John, Iona and Colin should coordinate a proposal to the October management committee meeting. The meeting agreed that a maximum 180 tickets should be made available of which 50% should be sold online.

Laurence proposed organising a Members outing to the Mardon Club in October self-funded by attendees and leaving by train from London Bridge.

Tom, Dan and Laurence updated the meeting on IT issues caused by a malicious hacking attack which caused emails to be rejected by a number of email accounts including gmail. The issue had been resolved online with help from an IT consultant based in Vancouver for a rescue cost of £135. Dan was looking into retaining his services to manage & prevent such problems in future. Laurence suggested the Club should look to immediate 2 factor identification of users in the light of the level of hostile attacks on the Club website.

Dan reported that the long awaited upgrade for the Club and flats with UK Power Networks would take place in October with payment due in September.

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

None

7. Date of next meeting; Monday 7th October 2024.