MILDMAY CLUB COMMITTEE

MINUTES

# Meeting date; Monday 3$^{rd}$ March 2025

**Time; 7.30pm**

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

**Non voting;** Terri Ciftci (Head of Bar & Functions), Iona Dudley (Manager), Peter Snell (Secretary),

**1. Apologies;** Pete Brown, John Woods (lateness)

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

## 3. Matters arising

All covered in subsequent reports.

## 4. Reports

### A. Secretary's report (Peter Snell)

Peter reported he'd been elected back onto the NE Met CIU branch at the AGM on the 18$^{th}$ February. He'd promised that meeting to generate a motion to address failings in the operation of the CIU recognised by all current committee Members. He was already working with Laurence on a motion to suggest a process for the CIU to cut costs and improve operation. They promised to circulate what they agreed to the Committee for comment.

Peter noted that the CIU AGM would be held in Blackpool on 25-26$^{th}$ April which he would attend as the Mildmay delegate. The meeting agreed to advertise the remaining two delegate posts on the website as in previous years.

### B. Membership report (Tom Campbell)

Tom reported membership now stood at 2,650 despite the usual loss of some at the year end. The period for membership renewal for those not on direct debits had ended on Friday 28$^{th}$ February so further renewals would only be allowed in special circumstances by prior appointment. Acceptance of further new Members would be paused after 4$^{th}$ of March when extra help was requested to cope with likely numbers. Membership interviews would recommence on April 8$^{th}$. Laurence said he was making ongoing visits to other Clubs with Peter to identify cost effective e-card systems in use elsewhere. The meeting agreed that setting a limit on total members should be discussed as part of the Member consultation planned with Members after the Annual/ Special General Meetings.

### Annual General Meeting/ Special General Meetings (Tom Jones Special Report)

Tom reported all meetings would be held on 16th March. Main hall capacity was capped at 200 but online access could be provided for up to 500. He had obtained Kings Counsel advice that online attendance and voting was consistent with our rules and guidance from the CIU and the only option that would allow all likely attendees to take part. The meeting agreed to hold the AGM, a comfort break, and the SGMs in order. David Dade would scrutinize the physical ballot while Chris Pond would do the same for the online ballot. Peter would run the meeting and the time for speeches and questions would be strictly limited. Jon reported how the online video coverage  and Anonyvoter would work. The email link for voting being added to the voting register would close on Saturday evening. A Zoom link would be live from the start of the meeting and online questions would be reported to the Members in the Main Hall. The arrangements would be set out in this week's newsletter to Members due out on Thursday.

## C. Treasurers Report (Dan Isaacs)

Dan provided a brief summary of annual accounts for year ended 31st December 2024. He had not yet checked them but they indicated almost £1m annual turnover. He welcomed news of a  film booking for the end of March but noted the Club would have to close to Members for a few days but felt it might help us pay down the mortgage earlier. He explained a variation in staff wages caused by student loan deductions from some wages. He reported that a separate flat redevelopment account had been established to generate regular payments checked against the actual cost of works. He explained the difference between a current trading account and the cash movement accounts reported to the Committee.

## D. Entertainment Report (Andrea Davies/ Lucian Evans)

Ents report. Lucian spoke to written reports submitted by Andrea D and Iona. Jonny reported explained that misuse of discos by DJs could muffle the sound permitted through the sound limiter. Lucian suggested increased numbers of speakers might improve the volume for attendees at busy events. Hackney Council had now been informed a sound limiter was in place but complaints from one neighbour persisted.

## E. Club Management (Iona Dudley)

Talked to her written report giving a breakdown of takings. The meeting discussed issues over noise nuisance management. Iona reported that despite entry limits and improved door management the popularity of Bingo was still challenging. She briefly summarised forthcoming events.

Terri Cifti spoke to her written report. Jonny offered to assist with setting up signage for the Tartan Bar at a budget to be agreed with Club Manager.

## F. Games (Andy McAdie & John Woods)

Butchers from Hill & Stock, who were regular snooker players, were looking to fund table upgrades. John reported on a games trip to Plumstead Radical Club by 6 Members. He said he was getting complaints about snooker hall being too cold. Andrea J reported 5/7 heaters were working but repairs were in progress. Iona promised to pass Toolstation account details to John so he could replace lightbulbs etc.

## G. House Report (Andrea Jung)

No written report had been submitted this month. Works on the flats had recommenced and regular meetings were being held with Sail & Sons to progress the works. New electrics supplies to the flats had been installed and new street numbers allocated by Hackney Council. Electrical supply work in the cellar was underway. Remedial works to the roof to be funded from retained deposit needed checking.

## H. Health & Safety (Jon Riley)

The next fire risk assessment is due on 16th April. Jon would organise a clear out 5th or 12th. He had identified appropriate wheelchair access at a cost of £20,000. Peter agreed to contact Councillor Joe Walker of Hackney Council about a round of community engagement capital grants that had been flagged up during his visit to the Club.

## I. Stock and finance (Laurence Fryer/ Colin Butler)

Laurence said this had mostly been covered by Terri's report. He was looking to increase the number of taps in the bar. An initial survey had shown the works to rerun pipes were complicated so he was seeking advice from supply experts. The meeting agreed such works would need to be August to minimise disruption.

# 5. AOB

The meeting noted with sadness the unexpected death of Richard Collings and agreed to send condolences. Iona was asked to sort out flowers and a card.

Tom announced he was standing down from the Committee after 15 years on the committee and 7 years as President. He appealed for less tribalism amongst committee Members in future.

Commented [PS1]:

Laurence outlined the rules the 2025 elections. It was the turn of Jon, John, Andrea J, Barney, Colin, Andrea D and Pete Brown to stand for re-election. Election notices needed to be agreed with Iona. Barney and Pete Brown had indicated they were not seeking re-election.

Peter said he was happy to continue as Secretary unless the Committee asked him to stand down but the meeting asked him to continue in the role. He promised to work with candidates and scrutineers to ensure inclusive and fair elections.

The meeting ended with a unanimous vote of thanks to Tom.

# 6. Committee only; Staff and other confidential business.

None