

TESTON CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of the August meeting held in the club on Weds 3rd September, 2008

PRESENT: -

J. Wood (Chair), R. Harker (Treas.) B. Playford (Sec), R. Thornton, N. Wood, T. Vince, K. Loughlin, R. Pullen, S. Worcester.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: P. Bond, T. Smith

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES: -

The previous minutes were accepted and duly signed as a true record.

ANY MATTERS ARISING: -

Trevor reported on his first session of voluntary bar tending, which was O.K. but not very busy. Steve reported on his and Rod's meeting with Mr. John Leigh Pemberton regarding the ownership of the clubhouse and land. Mr. Leigh Pemberton does not see the property as an asset for the Leigh Pemberton Estate but wishes it to remain for the use of the village. He was impressed with the appearance and decor of the club and will search Land Registry and Public Records to establish where entitlement lies. Until such times the premises cannot be used as collateral for any proposed loan, should this be the way forward. Mr. Leigh Pemberton will also take advice from a friend who is a barrister in estate law. We will await a, hopefully, positive outcome. Two lady members have kindly offered their services for cleaning on Saturday mornings. Ronnie will be cleaning on Mondays and Rod has offered to pop in on Wednesdays to tidy up and rearrange chairs etc. A letter together with the club rules was sent to the licensing department on 1st August, regarding the bye law passed at our last committee meeting concerning corporate membership. We have not received an acknowledgement and Bon will telephone the department. Rod reported on the meeting he and Bon had with the solicitor at the C.A.B. Advice was obtained regarding employee redundancy and liability for any debts that should be incurred at close of business. Any outstanding debts would have to be borne by the whole club membership and not just the committee members. Unless members feel that the committee has mismanaged the club and then redress could be requested of the committee or even a particular committee member. At this point our treasurer assured us that this scenario would not happen as he would not allow the funds to diminish to such a point where to wind up the club would entail any debt. The C.A.B. solicitor also advised that should the committee feel that the club is in danger of closing then a general membership meeting should be held. Jim thanked Steve, Rod and Bon for their efforts.

CORRESPONDENCE: -

A letter was received from our President regarding his dissension at the committee's recent cost cutting measures taken and in particular Monday

closing. Our Treasurer and all the committee are of the opinion that what is needed more than anything is support for decisions made at this difficult time and a reply will be sent. A letter was received from our Steward regarding his situation following the cut in his duties. A reply will be sent confirming his new working week.

NEW MEMBERS: -

There were five new members this month namely, Mr. Ian Latter, Mr. Gary and Mrs. Lorraine Gore, and Mr. Donald and Mrs. Susan Hooper. There was also a group membership of four from the Cricket Club.

FINANCE: -

Our Treasurer informed the committee that last years figures were now completed, he agreed that they are very late for which he apologised, but that he hasn't had to balance them himself until this year and that he needed two weeks in which to complete the work. His work commitments have been such that he hadn't had the time to finish the clubs accounts earlier. He will furnish Tony Edwards and Trevor Sidley with his figures when Tony returns from his holiday. The figures up to end of August compared to the same period last year show that the bar, fruit machines, games and lotto made a loss and only the subs showed gain. Overall the figures were down by £6,495. Although Bob feels we do not need to panic at present, he feels that our downward spiral will mean that the cut off time will probably be at the end of the year.

BAR COMMITTEE: -

Although Terry was not present, it was agreed that the real ale may have to go or be replaced with another which will keep longer.

HOUSE COMMITTEE: -

Rod had nothing to report, but various things were pointed out that needed attention.

The lights in the ladies toilet and over the front and side doors are out. The spot light over the dart board is malfunctioning and the push bar on the side door is jamming.

ENTERTAINMENTS: -

Ronnie reported that the B.B.Q./Karaoke/Meat and Drinks raffles were well supported and the bar and raffles take was well worth all work and effort undertaken by committee members. Thanks to all who helped. Ronnie is organising three further functions for October and November. There will be another Race Night on Saturday 11th October and Steve will purchase better tickets for this from the internet. There will be Bingo on the first Friday of each month, starting with October and the previously advertised 1940's night with fish & chip supper will be on Saturday 8th November.

CLUB GAMES: -

The games will return in October.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS: -

Bon has placed a piece in the Wateringbury parish magazine Rostrum and in the quarterly Barming News in the hopes that this will stir up some interest from neighbouring villages. Further shorter items will go in forthcoming issues. Jim will talk with Phil regarding the website. Rod asked if we should consider cancelling weekend papers now, but general opinion was that they are read by quite a number of members and that we should keep this facility. Ronnie asked for sheets to be printed for entry in the Tapestry regarding extra functions and Rod will oblige. Karen will find the blackboards, which are missing from the walls, advertise the extra events and Rod will affix them again. Jim is generously proposing to run a marathon in October with any monies received going to the club. Anyone wishing to help with his training please make contact a.s.a.p!

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.45pmish.

J. Wood Chairman.....