

DRUMSHEUGH BATHS CLUB. LIMITED

MINUTE of

MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

11 am 21 March 2023 at the Club

(Where appropriate, responsibility for action is noted in red.)

PRESENT:

Carol Keith (Chair) (CK)
Stephen Archer (SA)
Tony Vettraino (TV)
Caroline Docherty (CD)
Robert Robertson (RR)
John Jackson (JJ)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Paul Dunlop (PD)

1. APOLOGIES

None

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTE

A draft Minute of the last meeting (February) had been circulated. One amendment had been intimated (the maximum number of family memberships was previously agreed at 40, not 30), and incorporated, and on that basis the draft, as so amended, was APPROVED.

3. FINANCE

- **Finance Report**

The preparation of the monthly management figures had been delayed, due to the work required for the year end. JJ will circulate when available. JJ

- **Final update on membership numbers, following subs invoices**

JJ REPORTED the final number of members who have chosen not to renew membership. PD CONFIRMED that new members had been admitted to replace them. As previously agreed, the position will be revisited in August.

4. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

This had been circulated in advance.

- **Steam room.** PD REPORTED that he was chasing suppliers for the required parts. The new control panel is expected within the week. The aim is to increase the temperature setting to 43 degrees Celsius. PD
- **Open balcony.** NOTED that PD and RR have this in hand. PD will order parts and the work will be carried out. PD & RR
- **Social Events.** CK REPORTED that the event on 2 March, attended by 40 members, plus Board members, was a success. Another event, for those who

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wished to attend the first, but were unable to, is planned for April. The intention is to arrange future social events, which will be member lead.

- **External Wall.** NOTED that the erection of a screen at wall height has been carried out. This addresses the important issue of safety, as the wall is unstable. It may not, however, deter further fly-tipping. AGREED that we should simply keep an eye on the situation, and in the meantime PD, with willing staff members, will clear the items which remain in place, following recent incidents of fly tipping. **PD**
- **Ladies' downstairs toilet.** NOTED that it had not yet been possible to turn off the urinal in the adjoining gents, to see if this was causing the problem of water pooling. PD will deal with this before the next meeting. **PD & RR**
- **Shoe cubbies.** Arrangements for new shoe cubbies are in hand. **PD**
- **Power usage review.** NOTED that it had not been possible for PD and SA to complete this, but they will do so. On the wider issue of power usage, AGREED that Harley Haddow be approached to obtain a quote for updating their Report, particularly with a view to advising on emerging technologies and current practices. **PD & SA**
- **Classes.** NOTED per PD that an additional aquafit class has been introduced. It is not full every week.

On the issue of classes generally, NOTED that members are reporting difficulty in booking classes. A number of issues were discussed:

- Yoga and Pilates classes are particularly popular. Incidences have been noted of multiple class bookings being made by a member, with a number then being cancelled at short notice. Consideration was given to the possibility of placing a limit on the number of classes that a member can book or attend per week. NOTED that if we are to introduce such regulation, a more sophisticated booking system would be required. (The current system costs nothing.) The cost would be in the region of £300 per month.
- Members report that they find it frustrating that the time for booking is so early (6.00/6.30 am) – and that it varies from day to day. NOTED per PD that the system has to be set “live” each day, by staff members, which is why the time varies slightly. AGREED that staff be instructed that the system should go live each day at 6.20 am, so that there is consistency.

AGREED that the situation may settle down after a month, as there are currently many new members who are keen to attend classes. There will therefore be a further review of the position at the April Board meeting.

- **Cycle parking.** CD REPORTED that she is in dialogue with City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) about the provision of cycle parking facilities for members to use, at the front of the Club. The response received from CEC in the first instance is that we are very low priority. There are issues from CEC's perspective, as there is insufficient room on the pavement for the provision of such facilities, which means that they would need to be on the road itself, which would involve the loss of a car parking space, which is both controversial from the point of view of local residents, and complex from CEC's point of view in terms of the necessary legal procedures. The issue is of

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concern to a number of members. Recently one reported the theft of a very expensive bicycle from outside the Club, which was luckily recovered. CD CONFIRMED that she has good contacts at CEC, both at officer and councillor level. The local councillor for the area in which the Club is located is engaging with us and is seeking to involve officers further. CD will continue to press for a meeting, and for CEC to see this as a priority. CD cautioned, however, that the wheels of CEC (along with those of all local authorities) turn exceedingly slowly. There are insufficient staff to deal with matters such as this. Members, of course, are frustrated, especially since CEC places such an emphasis on the priority to be given to cycling as a mode of transport within the city. It seems to run counter to this to make it so difficult for our members to feel they can safely use cycling as a mode of transport to the Club. CD CONCLUDED that she will continue to engage with CEC as a matter of priority, and in conversations with members about this issue, it would be helpful if Board members could assure them that this is the case. If members wish to assist, they should be asked to contact CD. It is, however, counterproductive for others to contact CEC themselves direct. CD

5. BUILDING

- **Possible EWHT Grant funding.** CD REPORTED that there is not much to report. We do not expect a decision before May at the earliest. In the meantime, our title deeds have been obtained from the Bank, and we will be ready to progress matters as soon as we hear from EWHT. CD

6. AOCB

- **Pool closure** PD REPORTED that the building had to be closed on the previous Sunday morning, due to a member of staff experiencing a family bereavement. AGREED that our procedures be amended so that in the event of the pool being unable to open in the morning, an email should be sent to members advising them.
- **Coffee machine** SA commented that the machine we currently have in the lounge does not produce great coffee. Could we move to a Nespresso style machine? CD reminded the meeting that we had looked at this issue previously, and obtained quotes from the providers of our machine, for alternatives. These had been reviewed by PD, CK and CD who had identified that machines which operated on the basis of powdered or long-life milk would not be acceptable, and machines which operate using fresh milk are expensive to run, and involve a lot of cleaning and looking after, which would not be possible. On that basis, given the number of coffees we serve each day, a Nespresso machine, with the ability to add fresh milk to the cup may be the best option. PD would ask our providers for quotes. NOTED however, that a Nespresso machine would likely be less costly than our current machine, and on that basis we may have to wait for the lease arrangement on our current machine to run out. AGREED that it may be better simply to purchase a machine. PD to investigate and report back. PD

7. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- 25 April at 11.00 am
- 30 May at 11.00 am