

**IBM RETIRED EMPLOYEES CLUB (SOUTH HANTS)  
MINUTES OF THE AGM – 7th April 2022 via Zoom**

**Meeting Opened at 2pm**

**Matters arising from previous AGM** – no matters arising and the minutes were accepted

Proposed by Julie Mills

Seconded by Pat Meech

**The AGM Minutes are on our website. If a member wants a copy of this presentation please contact our Secretary, Ann Reid, who will forward you a copy**

**Chairman's report –**

Dave welcomed everyone to the 2022 AGM. He worked for IBM for 29 years and has been retired for 19 years

Dave was pleased that you could join us at this difficult time. We are running the AGM a little later than usual as we wanted to see if we had better news regarding the subsidy we receive from IBM. Dave contacted the HR Manager, Elisa Pearson and she replied saying that we should expect a grant w/c 11/4/2022. At this stage we have no idea of the amount. Dave will update the website as soon as the money is in the bank

**2021 Events (last year) -**

3 events ran – The Summer Lunch, An Overnight Trip to Torquay and Christmas Lunches run over 2 days

**2022 Programme –**

We had a planning meeting in October 2021 and agreed a Programme, which has been posted on the website. We may not run the full programme as we have not yet received any subsidy from IBM.

Only 2 events have been confirmed so far this year:

London Drop on 26<sup>th</sup> April (£10), run by Sue and the closing date is 13<sup>th</sup> April

Exbury Gardens on 10<sup>th</sup> May (£20), run by Bernie and the closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> April

We still plan to run the Christmas Lunches, probably at a higher cost.

Until we receive news of the IBM subsidy we can't confirm which trips we will run and the price of those trips.

Please keep an eye on the website for news of the subsidy

**Coronavirus (Covid19) –**

Although the Government say there are no restrictions The Committee do not feel comfortable travelling with unmasked, unvaccinated passengers. We have decided, therefore to limit places on events to members who are fully vaccinated and masks must be worn on coaches for the foreseeable future. Members must confirm on the booking form that they and their guest are fully vaccinated.

The possible impact of Coronavirus is being reviewed constantly.

The Committee will continue to meet monthly via Zoom.

Q. Are members aware of the mask rule or are masks available on the coach?

A. A notice will be put on the Website and the trip organiser will have a supply of masks for anyone who forgets their own. The information will also be added to the trip 'successful' form. Anyone not complying with this will not be allowed on the coach and there will be no refund.

### **Financial Report -**

Ron presented the accounts for 2021 which were submitted to the FSC. They were approved On 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022  
Ron showed the finance charts and explained the entries.

The first chart showed the year on year overall accounts  
The second chart showed the Committee expenses which were greatly reduced  
The third, chart showed year on year trip data, ie. Member attendance rates, however, only three trips took place in 2021.

The bank the club used changed their rules this year, adding substantial costs to the running Of the account. The bank has now been changed. Ron emailed IBM to inform them of the change so they can update their records He, but has not yet received an acknowledgement. He will contact them again as we don't want the subsidy going to the wrong bank. Dave will chase IBM on Thursday if the money is not in the account.

### **Acceptance of Accounts**

Proposed by Trish Davies  
Seconded by Ray Clark

### **Q & A Session**

Q. Is there any reason why IBM are not paying a subsidy?

A. IBM has not formally said it is not going to pay the grant to clubs. However, we are expecting to receive some money w/c 11/4/2022, but until it arrives we don't know how much. Also, we have no idea if we will get any more.

Q. What percentage of subsidy is applied to trips

A. With prices rising of every event each year the Treasurer was working on approximately 40% subsidy to ensure there was enough cash left to carry over to the following year in order to start the programme. We are now looking at 20% subsidy. We usually get a reasonable discount by age and volume. Currently, coaches cost £745, but that is likely to increase.

### **The Future of our Club –**

Dave suggested we discuss the future of the Club and presented a few options  
1. Reduce the number of trips we run and/or increase the price

Member – Luckets charge £70 - £80 for a theatre trip. He feels that members would be happy to use the IBM Club at the same price rather than use Luckets. The advantage of the IBM trips is that the coach is waiting at the venue at the end of an event. This makes it very easy for members.

Ron – we just aren't getting members booking and if coaches aren't full then the Club incurs the cost of the empty seats. Also, we don't have the flexibility with National Express that we had with Coliseum.

Member – Could we use smaller coaches?

Ron/Julie - There is very little difference in price for a smaller coach and they don't have toilets.

Member – could we try offering ticket only for more local theatres.

Dave – we have not had much success selling tickets for local theatre shows in the past, but it's something to consider.

City and Village started doing matinee show packages which were excellent value for money. They have not started them yet for 2022.

Member – The Exbury Garden trip is too local for some people which is maybe why ticket sales are slow. If number are low, eg. London Drop, is it possible for members to bring extra family members at full cost?

Ron – This happened once on an overnight trip due to a late cancellation. The full price was paid. This is worth considering, but will only be offered after the closing date if the trip isn't full. The member will have to confirm that their guest is fully vaccinated.

Member – what happens if the tickets purchased for an event are for 'seniors' and the guest is younger?

Dave – Should that happen and the guest is challenged on entry to the event then the member is responsible for paying any additional amount requested.

2. Should we charge a membership fee to boost funds if the subsidy stops?

Dave – The Warwick club allow retirees to join, but charge £26pa for full membership. Retirees can join without paying, but have reduced benefits. We are not convinced that this would work for our club. Would 'subscribing' members expect priority over 'non subscribing' on trips?

Another club is currently charging cost plus 7%

Member – could we merge with another club?

Dave/Ron – This is definitely not recommended

**Election of the Committee** – Unfortunately, Richard Munday has decided to step down from the Committee. Dave thanked him for all his work, he will be greatly missed.

The rest of the current committee members are happy to stand for another year. Their names are: Dave Whitbourne (chairman), Ron Bunce (treasurer), Ann Reid (secretary), Sue Clark, Keith Wright, Julie Mills, Dave Smith

We have also been joined by 2 new members – Bernie Dickson and Jane Evans

Proposed by – Stephen Quigley

Seconded by – Pete Redshaw

Dave reminded everyone that The Committee are all volunteers. We do not get paid and we pay the same ticket price for events as every other member.

Dave Whitbourne thanked everyone for attending. He also thanked Ron and Ann for all their hard work

**AOB**

None

The meeting was attended by 22 members, including 8 Committee.

Meeting closed at 3pm and was minuted by Sue Clark