

# Minutes of the 101st Board Meeting of the English Chess Federation Held at the British Film Institute, Stephen Street, London on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

Present: David Eustace (Director of Finance) (DE)  
Alex Holowczak (Director of Home Chess) (AH)  
David Thomas (Director of Membership) (DT)  
Julian Clissold (Non-Executive Director) (JC)  
Malcolm Pein (Director of International Chess, FIDE Delegate) (MP) (via Skype  
intermittently)  
Julie Denning (Non-Executive Director) (JD)  
Mike Truran (Chair, Finance Committee) (MT)

In attendance: John Philpott (Company Secretary) (JP) (via Skype)  
Gary Willson (Office Manager, minutes, except for items 7 & 10) (GW)

The meeting began at 11:30am.

## 1 Appointment of the Chair.

JC was appointed chair.

## 2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Dominic Lawson (DL) and Traci Whitfield (TW). DL had appointed MP as his alternate.

## 3 Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved, being adjusted to accommodate the late arrival of one of the candidates (item 10).

## 4 Minutes of the 100<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting & Matters Arising

Some minor adjustments were made to the draft version previously circulated to members, and agreed nem con. JC asked if future minutes could include a closing time. It was agreed that no redactions would be made to the published version.

## 5 To Note Email Votes Taken Since the Last Board Meeting.

No email votes had been taken since the last meeting.

## 6 Action Point Update

99/3: To be included within the Governance Review sub-Committee. Cleared.

99/4: Cleared as part of normal duties.

99/5: Cleared as part of normal duties

99/6: Issue to be taken forward by the Governance Review sub-Committee. Cleared.

99/8: Ongoing.

100/1: Cleared  
100/2: Cleared.  
100/3: Cleared.  
100/4: Cleared.  
100/5 & 6: Ongoing.  
100/7: A questionnaire will be issued at the next 4NCL weekend. On-going.  
100/8: Cleared  
100/9: Cleared, included in agenda.  
100/10: Ongoing, will form the main part of the Agenda for the next meeting.  
100/11: Ongoing, needs to be in place by October 2016.  
100/12: Cleared.  
100/13: Cleared.  
100/14: Cleared.  
100/15: Following a meeting with David Sedgwick, and with input from MP, we have agreed a way forward which is workable. Cleared.

## 7 Appointment of the Chief Executive

The Board appointed Mike Truran as the Federation's Chief Executive nem con. MT agreed to complete the Chair of Finance Committee report for Council, and commented that it may be best if Council could appoint his successor as Finance Committee Chairman.

AP 101/1: Concerning the appointment of a Chief Executive, JP to update website and notify relevant bodies.

AP 101/2: JP to draft and publish an advert for the vacancy of Chair of the Finance Committee, in time for Finance Council to appoint subject to a suitable candidate coming forward.

## 8 Manager of Women's Chess.

The Board reiterated its stated position from the previous meeting. The position has its own budget that could be increased, and serious consideration needs to be given to making the post a directorship. No candidates had come forward for the vacancy.

It was agreed that we need to create a complete package, to attract the right person to develop and implement women's chess in England.

AP 101/3: AH and MP to discuss the role of Manager of Women's Chess and propose a way forward, to include a strategy for developing women's chess.

AP 101/4: AH and MP to consider changes to the job description of Manager of Women's Chess, and make recommendations to the Board.

## 9 League Management Software

AH outlined the proposals for League Management Software.

AP 101/5: AH and JD to discuss the detailed requirements of the League Management Software.

AP 101/6: AH to draw up proposals for League Management Software in time for Finance Council.

## 10 Appointment of the Chair of the Governance Committee

The candidates were interviewed, and the Board agreed that one candidate in particular was most suitable. He would be offered the post, subject to suitable references being received and his acceptance. The Board also agreed all candidates were very strong, and should be offered suitable volunteer posts within the Federation, including membership of the Governance Committee.

AP 101/7: MT to contact Mike Gunn concerning the SRA.

AP 101/8: JP to contact the candidates informing them of the outcome, making formal offers for membership of the Governance Committee and in one case Chairmanship of the Charity & Sports Recognition Committee and when appropriate publish the outcome on the website.

## 11 AOB

The Board agreed that MT can sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Bridge Overseas to help seek accommodation for the British Championships 2016 in Bournemouth, and a venue and accommodation for 2017.

The Board wished Richard Haddrell a speedy recovery from his recent illness and stay in hospital.

## 12 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January in Birmingham. A follow on meeting will be necessary to prepare for Finance Council. The Board noted the Governance Review Group was meeting on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February.

AP 101/9: GW to contact TW, to identify her availability during w/c 29/2, in order to arrange a Board meeting.

The meeting closed at 5.15pm.