

COUNTY BRIDGE CLUB

Draft Minutes of the 57th Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 6th June 2018

1 St James Road, starting at 7.15pm

Present: Mr Walkerdine and 31 members

Apologies: 16 members tendered their apologies

Minutes of the 56th AGM held on 14th June 2017:

The minutes were signed as a true record.

Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

Treasurer's Financial Report:

The accounts have been circulated to all members. The treasurer, John Bee, and Frank Travers, who does much of the accounting, were absent. This should not be interpreted as a major accounting problem! The accounts were approved by the committee at a meeting on held on May 1st 2018 and have been audited by Richard Smith.

The main point to note is the very low surplus on bridge activities, £719.00. The committee agreed unanimously to increase table monies this year, from April, to maintain our strong financial position so that we can afford to move to better premises.

There were no questions.

Adoption of the report proposed by: Simon Stokes Seconded by: Kate Boulter

Chairman's Remarks

Premises:

As reported, last year, we needed to spend money mainly on a damp problem in the back room. This accounted for £3000 of our repair costs. We are now looking at refurbishing the kitchen. The expected cost for this is likely to be in the region of £3000. We are aware that improvements are needed in the toilets.

We spent many hours in committee and time meeting with some of the committee members of the Leicestershire Golf club. A 'Heads of Agreement' was agreed which, in principle, was the basis of producing a contract to lease some land and build new clubhouse of about 300 square metres near the entrance to their car park. At a Special General Meeting, here in December, our members gave the committee approval to continue with negotiations. A similar meeting between the golf club committee and their members rejected the plan.

I also reported last year about a meeting with Oadby Conservative councillors to discuss the disused swimming pool opposite Asda on London Road. This project failed. However, at the end of last week I received an email asking me to make contact again. I am doubtful that this will result in acquiring the site, but I will try to set up a meeting.

In the meantime, we continue looking. If you are aware of any premises, preferably in the London Road area, please tell me.

Membership:

Sadly, Ken Vernon and Bas Thomas died during this year.

We have spent quite some time in the last few months getting to grips with Data protection. There are still about 100 members out of 210 who have not filled in the data protection questionnaire. We will contact those shortly, so we can then publish contact details, for those who have given permission, on the notice board and the members section of the website.

Computers:

As promised, we have upgraded our computer system – we don't need floppy disks anymore. The software for scoring is supplied by the EBU. There have been teething problems but generally it is working well - provided Windows 10 leaves us alone whilst we are using our bridgemates. The history held on the old computers is being extracted.

Attendance

There was an overall drop in attendance of 7.3% for the year. Last year it was a drop of 2.1% and the previous year 7.4%. The main reasons for the drop this year was the abandonment of the Friday evening sessions and very low attendance in September & October when Putin sent over his Siberian weather. The estimated attendance reduction allowing for these two items was nearer 3%.

County Competitions

Our members have done well in most of the County competitions:

PAIRS LEAGUE. A clean sweep for county members. In division 1, 1st Ian Bruce & Mick Mahoney - winning by just 2 VPs. Last year this pair came top in division 2. In division 2 1st Lyn Hilton & Irene Krantz 2nd Simon Stokes & Alison Nichols. In Division 3, 1st Beryl Allen and Richard Tyler

JOYCE CUP, PIVOT TEAMS. 1st Alison Nichols, Simon Stokes & Ian Bruce

STANLEY. 3rd Simon Stokes & Alison Nichols

OLGA CUP. Top place was Irene Krantz & Linda Stone

GIMSON. 1st Ian Bruce & Mick Mahoney in 2nd place Simon Stokes & Alison Nichols

OTTO & EDITH.1st David Deane & Irene Krantz

JOSEPH'S BOWL. The winning team included Simon Stokes (Captain) and Ian Bruce.

BUTTERWORTH-LANGLEY PLATE 1ST Peter Halford, John Milne & Andy Mackriell

YATES 1st Graham Langley & Terry Green

WILDE CUP 1st David Betterley, Linda Burdett, Gill Ivell , Chiman Haria

THE LEAGUE In Division one, County A were 4th. In division 2, County B came 4th and County C were 7th. In division 4 County D were 4th

Holiday:

This again was a great success due to the hard work put in by Frank Travers and run at short notice by Paul Loveday. Simon Stokes was Director and lecturer. Following a survey a few weeks later, it was agreed to move away from Bournemouth for the next holiday. In 2019 we go to Eastbourne on March 18th.

Party:

The new year party was a success thanks to the work by David Betterley and Kate Boulter. It is a pity that the attendance was only 28. It's on the calendar for next year. Perhaps we can get more to attend.

Teaching:

Lyn Hilton, Simon Stokes, John Milne, Steve Wright and Peter Halford continue their roles as teachers assisted by Judy Hill, Joanna Tuppen, Richard Smith and your Chairman. I thank all the teachers and assistants for their time. We remain dependent on the same few people each year. There must be more of our members who would be willing to take on teaching. We are dependent on the same people every year. If there are any volunteers wanting to get involved with teaching, please let me know.

I'm pleased that Paul Bowyer seminars are back for 2018. Last year we ran a series of 'No fear bridge'. This was well received. We will run some more this year.

Committee resignations

David Betterley. He has masterminded most of the improvements in the playing area and spent a considerable time looking at possible new premises.

Simon Stokes. In error he has not signed up for the committee.

Frank Travers has decided to take a break. A quote from the minutes dated 8th July 1999, 'The Chairman welcomed Betty Gray and Frank Travers to their first committee meeting'. The Chairman at that time was Mrs Harris. In 2000 he was Treasurer and in 2004 became Chairman. After stepping down as Chairman he has remained on the committee doing a spell as Secretary. He was elected as Honorary Life member in 2011.

I thank them for their time.

Directors:

I would like to thank the directors. A special thank you to Tom O'Rourke who has been running and hosting the Wednesday afternoon sessions and has now decided it's time for a break.

During the year the club hosted an EBU directors training course attended by 3 of our members. I believe we need a few more. If you think you have what it takes to run a session, let me know. We may attempt to host another course in the next 12 months.

Thanks:

We also have a small group who give up a few hours every month to duplimate the boards. Thank you. Again, more volunteers are required. If you are willing to be included on the rota, please let me know. Just a couple of hours every month is all it takes.

I like to thank the committee for their support and attendance at some very long meetings during this year.

Apologies to those I have not mentioned.

We still need help with running the club: teaching, directing, duplimating and generally tidying up. Please, tell me what you are prepared to do.

Adoption of report proposed by: Howard Leigh Seconded by: Paul Loveday

Election of Officers and Committee members

The following officers were elected unopposed:

<u>Office</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Seconder</u>
Chairman	Ian Walkerdine	Frank Travers	Kate Boulter
Secretary	Kate Boulter	Anthea Byrne	Josie Hyslop
Treasurer	John Bee	Charles Gurr	Peter Halford
Tournament secretary	Richard Tyler	Kate Boulter	Muriel Sperrings
Membership Secretary	Charles Gurr	Joanna Tuppen	Kate Boulter

There were 5 nominations for the 4 committee member vacancies:

Committee	Martin Stone	Joanna Tuppen	Charles Gurr
Committee	Anthea Byrne	John Bee	Kate Boulter
Committee	Howard Leigh	Alastair Lennox	Ron Ferguson
Committee	Gilly Chivers	Aman Ansari	Kate Boulter
Committee	Aman Ansari	Philip Oldknow	Kate Boulter

Each nominee gave a short talk stating what skills they could bring to the committee. Voting was by secret ballot. The following were elected as committee members.

Committee	Anthea Byrne	John Bee	Kate Boulter
Committee	Howard Leigh	Alastair Lennox	Ron Ferguson
Committee	Gilly Chivers	Aman Ansari	Kate Boulter
Committee	Aman Ansari	Philip Oldknow	Kate Boulter

Election of Reporting Accountant:

Richard Smith was thanked both for the audit and other help he has kindly provided over the previous year. He is happy to continue in this role.

His re-election was proposed by: Ian Walkerdine and Seconded by: Simon Stokes

His re-election was accepted unanimously.

Presentation of trophies:

The chairman introduced the guest of honour, Robert Northage, who presented the prizes. After the presentation of cups and trophies Robert noted that this was the 57th AGM and reflected that he had been playing bridge for longer than County Bridge Club has been in existence.

AOB:

There was no further business, so the Chairman thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.00pm