

Clare Bridge Club

Minutes of meeting 17 November 2023

1. Present: John S, Gerry, John H, Kathy, Nick, Paul Starling
2. Minutes of meeting 29/9/23 ... agreed and signed.
3. No matters arising/not on agenda.
4. Committee it was agreed that we should invite Paul Starling to join the committee. Proposed by Nick and seconded by Gerry, unanimously agreed and accepted by Paul.

There followed a long discussion re roles of members of the committee.

It was agreed that: John Symons would chair meetings, keep the minutes, speak for the committee as required and try to organise club matches.

Nick Kerry would continue in his arduous role of running the website and leading on all IT issues.

Kathy Rose would look to planning future events.

Gerry would continue as Treasurer(much appreciated).

John Hooper would continue his excellent running of the Lavenham Events and support Nick as required.

Paul Starling would work with Gerry, Nick and Kathy, to establish the membership and then hopefully become the membership secretary.

11. (out of sequence) Fees and membership. It was agreed that Membership fees of £5 per annum would apply from 1/1/24 and that from that date the table money at Clare should increase to £3 so as to fall in line with Lavenham.
5. The treasurers report was noted. We are currently holding a healthy balance of c £6.7K. this is £1k down on last year reflecting the capital spent on tables etc. and our generosity in giving full refunds to non attenders at the latest Robson masterclass (bad weather).
6. The Tyler Hill match was fun but poorly attended at least partly due to a clash of dates (JCS to plan more carefully in future). (Also we lost!!)

7. Andrew Robson masterclass (2/11/23) went very well (but note item 5.) We were especially delighted by the lovely food provided by Emily White (aided and abetted by her father).

We understand that Andrew, as of 2025 will only give us one visit per annum. Next year we are having the spring session on Feb.2nd and we aim to move the autumn session to October the 18th.

- a) Robson 2/2/24 To be at Lavenham, 30 tables. Cold ham, hot potatoes, salad, pudding. Vegan/gf option, wine (JCS).

John H. to check availability of second room. Emily to be asked to cater (Gerry ? Away)

Plan; coffee 10.30 a.m bridge 11a.m.to 12.30p.m. LUNCH. Bridge 1.30 to 3.30p.m. NO TEA

JCS to ask Jayne re contacts with other clubs to promote this. We need to contact all local clubs ? via Suffolk (?Nick) and to get an advert on our website.

We will schedule another meeting in about a month to discuss this item.

8. Christmas party at Lavenham.15/12/23 ... 1.30 start for bridge so as to make time for a BIG Christmas tea.

John H. Will liaise with Mick (ex baker)and let us know what else he needs.

We would like to have some Christmas event at Clare so agreed that on Monday 18th. Dec. We would supply food and drinks. Eat at 7 pm; bridge after. Gerry / Katy and John S to liaise).

9. The on line arrangements with Swindon ... going very well. Many thanks to John Hooper for getting this off the ground and to Nick Kerry for setting up all the links that made it possible. They are very welcoming and we should encourage more Clare members to 'give it a go'.

10. There are no current plans to change the venue of face to face bridge.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 1 p.m.