



## Essex Contract Bridge Association

A constituent member of the English Bridge Union

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at 19.30 on Wednesday 15 January 2020 at Paul and Val Mollison's house – Tekoa Lodge, Mayes Lane, Sandon, Essex, CM2 7RW

**Present** Petra Bromfield, Linda Fleet, Pat Johnson, Paul Mollison, Val Mollison, Sue Thorburn

1. **Welcome** Paul Mollison welcomed those present. Apologies received from Bernie Hunt, John Sutcliffe and Dennis Valtisiaris. Paul welcomed Valdie Poter to the committee. He will be the EBU's single point of contact for education.
2. **Minutes of the last meeting held on Wednesday 30 October 2019** These had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was agreed that the minutes were a correct record of the meeting. A copy was signed by the chairman.
3. **Matters arising from the minutes not already included in the agenda** None
4. **Reports from Officers**
  - a. **General Secretary** (Sue Thorburn) Nothing to report
  - b. **Treasurer** (Linda Fleet)

**Bank Balance** (at 06.01.20)

£10,883 - Barclays & Lloyds (Compared to £11,644 at 16.01.19)

£15,994 - Skipton

**Competitions** The Autumn Competitions, Daytime, Fletcher/Cup for Clubs and Sue Taylor Memorial Trophy all made a surplus, but the Mixed Pairs ended up with a big deficit. This was partly due to a drop in fees (£84 less than 2018), the cost of employing an EBU director and booking but not needing the Education Room. To control costs, it may be necessary to limit competition entries to the number that can be accommodated in the main room at Barleylands.

**UM** Up to December 2019 we have received £1,967 in UM (2018 - £1,944). Linda has advised the EBU that our membership amount is to remain the same at 4p.

**Prizes** The system of paying prizes immediately after the results have been confirmed has been working very well

**Independent examiner** Petra feels it is inappropriate to continue as independent examiner while she is working at Barleylands. Linda will look for someone else to take over.

**c. Tournament Secretary (Val Mollison)**

**Events** There was a problem with hand records at the last two teams events. This seems to have been resolved and there is a workaround if necessary.

There have been some changes to the National Pairs but they are not major and will be run very much like a county event. Alan Rodger will direct.

Arrangements for the Cornell are in place.

**County matches** Plans for all matches are in hand.

**d. League Secretary (Bernie Hunt)**

Pat Johnson is looking after things in Bernie's absence. Nothing to report.

**e. Webmaster (Petra Bromfield)**

The recent issue with Bridgewebs had not caused any problems. Paul had been unable to find some records on the website. Petra will follow up.

**f. Shareholders**

Linda was unable to attend the AGM. Keith had attended and noted that EBED are keen to support bridge in schools initiatives..

5. **Herts/Essex joint venture.** We received £1,750 (2017 - £1,700) from the surplus this year. Ware is now booked for 18/19th July and 19/20th September 2020.
6. **2020/21 Calendar** Pat outline the proposed calendar. A few small changes were agreed and it was noted that other organisations' events in 2021 were not yet confirmed. The revised calendar is attached. Val will produce the more detailed notifications showing date, venue etc. They will make it clear that there is a supplementary entry cost if paid on the day of the competition. Petra will also ensure this information is clearly stated on the website
7. **Bridge in schools** The committee were very impressed with the work Valdie has done in introducing bridge to Essex schools. He outlined the current position including the discussions he has had with Giles Ip from EBED. It was agreed he should be given an annual budget of £500 to fund this work.
8. **Date of next meeting** The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 1 April 2020 at Val and Paul's home. Paul then closed the meeting. The committee would like to thank Val and Paul for their hospitality.

Accounts up to January 2020



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