##

 Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at 19.30 on Wednesday 17 January 2018 at

 Paul and Val Mollison’s house – Tekoa Lodge, Mayes Lane, Sandon, Essex, CM2 7RW

 **Present:** Linda Fleet, Bernie Hunt, Pat Johnson, Paul Mollison, Val Mollison, Chris Taylor, Sue Thorburn and Dennis Valtisiaris

1. **Welcome and apologies for absence** Paul Mollison welcomed those present. He accepted apologies from Petra Bromfield
2. **Minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 1 November 2017** 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** There were no separate matters arising.

 **Reports from Officers**

1. **General Secretary** (Sue Thorburn)

Sue had established that the Essex event promoting activities for older people will not be announced until February. It was felt we did not need a stand but may send a batch of flyers. Keith is happy to continue to receive queries.

There will a Director’s course at Little Baddow Village Hall in March/April. Details are on the Essex and EBU websites and Sue will circulate club secretaries.

1. **Treasurer** (Linda Fleet)

Bank Balance on 15/01/2018

£12917.50 - Barclays (Compared to £11,184 at 27/01/17)

£15,188 - Skipton

**Competitions** The Autumn Competitions, Seniors, Fletcher/Cup for Clubs and Sue Taylor all made a surplus, but the Mixed Pairs will end up with a deficit as the late cancellation means we have had to pay for the hall. It was agreed unnecessary hall bookings should be avoided and, for smaller events, this will be done by setting a limit on numbers of 28 pairs. This will be clearly stated on the programme and the entry form. If there are additional entries a second hall may be booked but this cannot be guaranteed.

After an increase last year, numbers for the Gwen Herga are down to the usual level which, unless increased entry can be encouraged, raises questions over the longer-term viability of the event.

There were several dissatisfied comments at the Seniors about the sandwich platter and requests to return to Ploughman’s. It was felt “you can’t please all of the people all of the time” and no change should be considered unless the topic was raised at the AGM.

**P2P** So far, this year we have received £2,176.40 in P2P (2017 - for same period £2,232.24). Linda thanked Tony Philpott who very kindly keeps this list up to date. The reduction of £55 can be accounted for by the drop in membership generally.

**Prizes** The total this year is £1,114 (2017 - £1,122). I have allowed for a third place in Mixed Pairs in case entries go over 30 and for 2nd place in Teams of Four plate which is not on my list for last year. Giving cash as a prize was generally accepted as a good thing. Linda thanked Val and Paul who very kindly took over last year as she was unable to attend the AGM. A list of the cash necessary to fill the envelopes has been prepared.

**Independent Examiner** Many thanks to Tony Philpott who stepped in last year. This year Petra Bromfield has agreed to act for us.

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

**Swiss Pairs** Unfortunately a few problems occurred with the Swiss pairs again this year. The problems mainly stemmed from a Bridgemate being put out at the wrong table which resulted in several knock-on effects as the manual did not give instructions on how to address the problem. Corrections were made the following day.

The current arrangement whereby Alan does the directing (calling moves, dealing with director calls) and Val does the computer side works fine for the smaller straightforward events but outside directors are needed for the Swiss pairs and Championship pairs in addition to the Cornell and Fletcher.

Finding qualified directors is not easy. Val has a number of options in mind and Dennis suggested she contact the EBU as there were staff newly assigned to support tournament direction.

**Calendar** Val circulated the draft 2018/19 programme. County match dates are agreed and venues for all events will be confirmed after the meeting. If any changes become necessary because of venue problems they will be agreed by email.

There was a discussion about the date for the Gwen Herga in 2019. It was agreed there was no date better than the proposed date of 19 January.

**Knockout events** One team took up the offer of going straight into the Teams of 4 plate and won their first match which hopefully will encourage them to try again, possibly in the main competition. Maybe other teams might have a go too. All matches have been played on time, so far so good.

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

The leagues are all set up with the only issue being that Division 3 only has four teams. Following a discussion on possible changes in the league structure it was agreed Bernie would produced a proposal for discussion at the AGM.

1. **Webmaster** (Petra Bromfield)

Petra said she was pleased to have taken on the webmaster role and thanked Theo for a smooth handover. The only issue is that there should be back up to cover her absence which she expects to be infrequent. Val and Bernie have scorer passwords but do not have access to the rest of the website. It was suggested Theo may be prepared to act as back up. Another alternative is John McCoy.

Petra has also started creating an archive and asked any committee member who has any old documents to let her have them. It was agreed that retention should be discussed at the next meeting.

1. **Shareholders** (Dennis Valtisiaris)

Dennis updated the meeting on the recent EBU AGM where Audrey Hartley had received the Dimmie Fleming award. He felt the only issue which needed follow up was the introduction of new data protection legislation in May 2018. Sue will follow up on this.

One more shareholder is needed. Paul suggested Margaret Curtis should be asked to continue as a shareholder but would not need to attend committee meetings. Dennis will contact her about attending the next meeting on 16 May.

1. **ECL Team Selection Committee** (Chris Taylor)

The performance in the Tollemache in November 2017 was below expectations but against tough international opposition.

A selection committee meeting took place on 13th January. The new C team captain is Jon Ward. Thanks should go to the outgoing captain, Maureen Vede
The Warboys competition preliminary for 2018 has been organized. It was felt the re-introduction of the Warboys had been a big success but perhaps needed a little more disciplined organisation. There should be a TD and separate scorer. Alan Rodgers will be asked but Val or Bernie will step in if necessary. The organisers should make sure there is a team to set up and clear up. Communication needs to improve to ensure that everyone who has said they are available are told if they are invited to play or not. Finally, Val will see if a cup is available and consider if there should be a cash prize.

1. **Publicity Officer (**Pat Johnson)

The EBU are no longer publishing county news on the website but Pat had some responses when she asked secretaries for news and has forwarded them to the magazine editor.

Work on production of the certificates to replace engraving on the cups is progressing. It was suggested she concentrate on compiling the lists of previous winners rather than design of the certificates. Linda asked for a list of 2017/18 prizewinners.

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1. **Herts/Essex joint venture** As reported in November we received £2,000 (2016 - £750) from the surplus this year. Ware is now booked for July and September 2018. The date has been changed for September to 15/16h to avoid a clash with Surrey. After complaints last year, the free tea and coffee will be reinstated. Bernie and Alan Woof have agreed that Woodson Park will provide the urns and Bernie will supply everything else. Alan Woof will recruit a caddy to look after the area and clear up.
2. **Directors fees** Val has looked at TD and caddy fees. If an outside director is used EBU rates apply. For the smaller events, where Essex has discretion, she is happy the fees paid are in line with EBU guidelines.

1. **Fundraising** It was agreed Essex would support the fundraising for the EBU junior teams. Bernie suggested a county level SIMs on three evenings with £1 additional table money. He agreed to contact Anna Gudge to establish the details. It was suggested the county might match the clubs’ contributions. **LATER** Bernie has circulated the information received from ECATs

1. **Any Other Business**

Dennis asked about the £5 refund from the Swiss pairs. It was confirmed this had been done and published on the website.

He also asked for clarification on parking for matches against Cambridge University. Val said it depended on which venue the university were using. She would discuss it when the captain was appointed in the autumn term.

Val said she had been contacted by Val Poter who plays at several clubs in the Chelmsford area. He is planning to find out more about the possibility of teaching bridge to children. He had been talking to Ted Cockle who is working on a similar idea. We will give his efforts all possible support.

1. **Date of next meeting** The next meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday 18 April 2018

Paul then closed the meeting. The committee would like to thank Val and Paul for their hospitality.

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|  |  |  |  |  |  | **Competitions 2017/18** |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Competition** | Date | **Entry** | ***Entry Fee*** | **Room Hire** | **Refreshnent** | **Tournament** | **Hands** | **Prizes** | **Capitation** | **P2P** | **Profit/** |  |
|  |  | **Fees** | ***2017/18*** |  |  | **Directors** | **Bridgemates** |  |  |  | **Loss** |  |
| Championship Pairs 2015/16 | 23/04/2017 | 900.00 | *30.00* | **260.00** | **45.60** | **180.00** | 60.00 | **186.00** | 208.00 | **25.26** | -64.86 | \*\* |
| Teams of Four |  | 330.00 | *30.00* |  |  |  |  | **96.00** | 219.00 | 20.16 | -5.16 | \*\*\* |
| Switch Cup |  | 144.00 | *18.00* |  |  |  |  | **36.00** |  | 10.08 | 97.92 |  |
| Mixed Teams | 14/05/2017 | 180.00 | *20.00* | 50.0050.00**100.00****80.00 80.00 80.00****80.00** | **10.80** | **40.00** | **15.00** | **36.00** |  | **6.48** | 21.72 |  |
| Club Pairs | 04/06/2017 | 170.00 | *10.00* | **11.40** | **40.00** | **15.00** | **36.00** |  | **6.12** | 11.48 |  |
| George Curtis(Blue Point) | 11/06/2017 | 252.00 | *36.00* | **16.80** | 80.00 | **30.00** | **72.00** |  | **36.40** | -83.20 |  |
| Warboys - Heat 1 | 14/06/2017 | 126.00 | *4.50* | **8.40** |  | **60.00** |  |  | **5.04** | -27.44 |  |
| Warboys - Heat 2 | 12/07/2017 | 140.00 | *5.00* | **8.40** |  | **60.00** |  |  | **5.04** | -13.44 |  |
| Warboys & B Flight | 09/08/2017 | 280.00 | *5.00* | **16.80** | 40.00 | **75.00** |  |  | **10.08** | 58.12 |  |
| Warboys & B Flight | 13/09/2017 | 280.00 | *5.00* | **16.80** | 40.00 | **75.00** |  |  | **10.08** | 58.12 |  |
| Summer Seniors | 19/07/2017 | 750.00 | *30.00* | **25.00** | **315.00** | **40.00** | **15.00** | **52.00** |  | **9.00** | 294.00 |  |
| Really Easy Cancelled | 09/07/2017 |  | *10.00* |  |  | **20.00** |  |  |  |  | -20.00 |  |
| Autumn Seniors | 12/11/2017 | 660.00 | *30.00* | **150.00** | **295.80** | **282.00** | **15.00** | **52.00** |  |  | -134.80 |  |
| Fletcher/ Club Trophy | 29/10/2017 | 1920.00 | *120,/60* | **407.00** | **854.40** | **221.95** | **90.00** | **135.00** |  | **6.48** | 205.17 |  |
| Sue Taylor Trophy | 12/11/2017 | 432.00 | *36.00* | **100.00****160.00** | **28.40** | **120.00** | **30.00** | **72.00** |  | **18.00** | 63.60 |  |
| Mixed Pairs | 10/12/2017 | 380.00 | *21.00* |  |  | **9.60** | **84.00** |  |  | 126.40 |  |
| Swiss Pairs | 14/01/2018 | 837.00 | *25.00* |  | **100.00** |  | **86.00** |  |  | 651.00 |  |
| Gwen Herga | 24/02/2018 |  | *13.00* |  |  |  | **72.00** |  |  | -72.00 |  |
| Cornell Sponsorship |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.00 |  |
| Cornell Trophy | 18/02/2018 |  | *55.00* |  |  |  |  |  | 268.00 |  | -268.00 | \*\*\*\* |
| Play with an Expert | 03/02/2018 |  | *5.00* |  |  |  |  | **36.00** |  |  | -36.00 |  |
| Spring Seniors  | 14/03/2018 |  | *30.00* | **78.60** |  |  |  | **52.00** |  |  | -130.60 |  |
| Seniors Cup |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.00 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.00 |  |
| **Sub Total** |  | 7781.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Prepaid |  | -30.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | -30.00 |  |
| **Sub Total** |  | 7751.00 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| League S.E | 2017/2018 |  |  |  |  |  |  | **120.00** |  | 57.60 | -177.60 |  |
| League West | 2017/2018 |  |  |  |  |  |  | **40.00** |  |  | -40.00 |  |
|  |  | 7751.00 |  | 1700.60 | 1628.60 | 1203.95 | 549.60 | 1263.00 | 695.00 | 168.22 | 702.03 |  |
| One Day Event\* |  | 0.00 |  | \_\_\_\_\_ |  | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ |  | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_\_ |  | \* |
| **Total** |  | 7751.00 |  | 1,700.60 | 1628.60 | 1203.95 | 549.60 | 1263.00 | 695.00 | 168.22 | 702.03 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Thornwood | 549.60 |  |  | 168.22 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | *Barleylands* |  |  | Disc | -16.00 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | *Anglo European* |  |  |  | 152.22 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | *Thorpe Bay BC* |  | \* Half share of net surplus. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | *Little Baddow VH* |  | \*\*Includes entry to Corwen |  |  |
|  |  |  |  | \*\*\*\* includes entry to Garden Cities | \*\*\* includes entry to Pachabo |  |

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|  | **P2P Submissions for Year to 31st March 2018** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **April** | **May** | **Jun** | **July** | **Aug** | **Sept** | **Oct** | **Nov** | **Dec** | **Jan**  | **Feb** | **March** |
| **Club** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Alpha** | 12.72 |  | 10.88 |  | 12.88 |  | 10.64 |  | 9.92 |  |  |  |
| **Ann Owen** | 6.80 | 5.68 | 2.56 | 4.80 | 7.84 |  | 7.44 |  | 9.12 |  |  |  |
| **Apple** | 10.64 | 6.56 | 6.96 | 11.36 | 8.40 | 8.00 | 7.28 | 7.52 | 4.24 | 7.44 |  |  |
| **Billericay Mayflower** | 14.00 |  | 17.04 |  | 13.44 |  | 15.60 |  | 15.68 |  |  |  |
| **Brentwood & District** | 3.92 |  | 1.28 |  | 7.12 |  | 5.52 |  | 6.56 |  |  |  |
| **Brevion** | 20.08 |  | 16.88 |  | 18.40 |  | 17.64 |  | 12.88 |  |  |  |
| **Chelmsford** | 5.36 | 2.72 | 2.56 | 4.72 | 6.16 | 3.28 | 5.60 | 4.48 | 6.16 | 0.96 |  |  |
| **Collier Row** | 10.24 |  | 7.76 |  | 8.72 |  | 6.72 |  | 9.92 |  |  |  |
| **Felstead** | 10.40 |  | 14.32 |  | 9.68 |  | 12.16 |  | 12.32 |  |  |  |
| **Hamlet Court** | 7.04 |  | 8.16 |  | 7.36 |  | 9.20 |  | 7.92 |  |  |  |
| **Hutton** | 7.44 | 6.16 | 6.80 | 6.56 | 5.60 | 8.24 | 6.48 | 16.24 | 6.8 | 2.16 |  |  |
| **Ilford** | 9.12 |  | 6.96 |  | 9.84 |  | 6.72 |  | 8.4 |  |  |  |
| **Lingwood** | 16.16 |  | 14.72 | -3.52 | 18.40 |  | 14.24 |  | 15.92 |  |  |  |
| **Loughton** | 17.52 |  | 17.76 |  | 18.56 |  | 18.48 |  | 17.28 |  |  |  |
| **Mid Essex** | 23.28 | 24.40 | 24.40 | 25.04 | 22.32 | 22.56 | 23.36 | 24.88 | 19.2 | 24.96 |  |  |
| **Monday** | 4.72 | 6.08 | 4.40 | 5.36 | 7.68 | 4.56 | 5.28 | 6.16 | 4.4 | 4.16 |  |  |
| **Mountnessing** | 15.84 |  | 18.56 |  | 14.96 |  | 15.20 |  | 14.24 |  |  |  |
| **Old House Friday** | 3.76 | 2.64 | 3.92 | 4.16 | 2.80 | 3.84 | 3.60 | 3.60 | 4.4 | 3.52 |  |  |
| **Rochford & Rayleigh** |  | 5.84 |  | 6.08 |  | 7.68 |  | 8.88 | 2.24 | 2.72 |  |  |
| **Southend & Leigh** | 23.12 | 59.52 | 37.52 | 37.36 | 33.76 | 39.24 | 28.40 | 38.16 | 34.16 | 26.08 |  |  |
| **St. Annes** | 10.40 | 8.72 | 9.68 | 7.20 | 8.56 | 10.96 | 8.00 | 8.08 | 7.6 | 1.76 |  |  |
| **Thorpe Bay** | 34.24 | 27.92 | 34.24 | 32.16 | 31.44 | 30.16 | 26.48 | 28.64 | 28.16 | 23.12 |  |  |
| **Waltham Forest** | 4.64 | 4.64 | 3.84 | 5.84 | 3.12 | 4.96 | 3.92 | 6.16 | 6.16 | 3.44 |  |  |
| **Westbury** | 15.44 |  | 13.20 |  | 18.08 |  | 16.72 |  | 14.16 |  |  |  |
| **Witham** | 2.24 | 2.48 | 2.24 | 0.96 | 1.36 |  | 0.48 | 1.68 | 1.44 | 1.04 |  |  |
| **Woodham Ferrers** | 7.76 |  | 8.08 |  | 9.44 |  | 7.44 |  | 6.24 |  |  |  |
|  | 296.88 | 163.36 | 294.72 | 148.08 | 305.92 | 143.48 | 282.60 | 154.48 | 285.52 | 101.36 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Adjustments by EBU |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Previous year*** | 311.28 | 143.60 | 297.12 | 156.08 | 311.20 | 140.08 | 291.60 | 0.00 | 469.60 | 111.68 |  |  |
| ***Difference*** | *-14.40* | *19.76* | *-2.40* | *-8.00* | *-5.28* | *3.40* | *-9.00* | *154.48* | *-184.08* | *-10.32* |  |  |
| ***Total to date 2017.2018*** | *296.88* | *460.24* | *754.96* | *893.52* | *1199.44* | *1342.92* | *1625.52* | *1789.52* | 2075.04 | 2176.40 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Cumulative Difference** | -14.40 | 5.36 | 2.96 | -5.04 | -10.32 | -6.92 | -15.92 | 138.56 | -45.52 | -55.84 |  |  |