

NORFOLK AND NORWICH BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the 65th AGM held at the British Legion Club on Friday 4th May 2012.

Apologies - 17 apologies were received on the list circulated among members.

Minutes of the last AGM - accepted as a true record.

Matters Arising – none.

Chairman's Report – John Massey advised that a party will be visiting Koblenz shortly and he intends to keep his speeches short, whether speaking in English or German!

John thanked the committee for their hard work and particularly Trish who is very sorry that she is unable to attend tonight in her year as President.

John revealed that Mike Harnden is standing down after a period of 12 years on the committee, including acting as Chief Tournament Director and thanked him for his unstinting efforts over such a long period. Barbara will also be standing down and John similarly thanked her for her period on the committee.

We intend to expand our panel of tournament directors so that the responsibility is shared out more in future and John intends to organise training and refresher courses for actual and prospective directors.

The main change during the year was our move to new premises at the British Legion Club and John has every confidence that we will settle there for a long period and can look forward to a long and happy relationship with the British Legion.

John reminded members that one sad loss during the year was the death of one of our well-known Honorary Members, Jean Samuels.

We considered changing the start time following the move to the BL Club, but in practice there does not appear to be a problem with keeping to our normal start time and we do not anticipate making a change.

John advised that most of the Friday events at the BL Club during the summer will be run by NCBA, but as we are committed to use of the premises every Wednesday and Friday we will run a duplicate pairs event on those few Fridays when the County event is held elsewhere. We do not consider that this will detract from the attendance at County events and we wish to make bridge available for those members who do not want to travel or are unqualified to play.

John reminded members that next Wednesday (9th May) will be a Simultaneous Pairs event – so bring enough money!

John revealed that we will be keeping membership fees and table money unchanged this year, but expect that we will make a loss this year so it may be necessary to ask for an increase next year.

Finally, if trophy winners would rather leave them in the safekeeping of the Club, please give them to Richard at the end of the evening.

Annual Accounts for the period to December 2011 – Neil Tracey explained that the reason why the expenditure on rent had almost doubled was due to the following factors:

During the period when we were at the High School the rent had increased by more than 15%.

The rate of VAT had increased.

This figure is not directly comparable to that for the previous year as the amount paid to the school for NCBA use of school premises was shown differently last year.

Neil also explained that the increase in expenditure for Match Fees and Expenses is because this now includes £550 for Simultaneous Pairs and £280 for the Leagues.

Christine Buchanan proposed that the Accounts be accepted, seconded by Gillian Hall and carried without dissent.

Election of Officers

The Committee nominated the following as Officers for the season 2012/2013 and they were accepted unanimously:

Vice President	Lily Cox
Chairman	John Massey
Secretary	Richard Thornley
Treasurer	Neil Tracey
Committee Members	Mary Smith
	Trish Raywood
	Robbie Roberson
	Stuart Langridge
Hon Auditor	John Brister

Constitution – John Massey explained that the reason we are seeking to change our Constitution is because the EBU have recently recommended that Clubs adopt a new standard Constitution devised by them and which includes a procedure for dealing with disciplinary matters. John hopes that in practice we will never need to use this procedure and so far as members are concerned they should be unaware that anything has changed. The minor Rules that previously existed have disappeared as they were considered to be either stating the obvious or unnecessary. However, if in the future we feel that some rules are necessary, the new Constitution allows the Committee to introduce such rules.

Lily Cox proposed that the new Constitution be adopted and this was seconded by Barbara Hacker and agreed unanimously.

AOB

John Massey proposed that Alan Houd be elected as an Honorary Member of the Club in recognition of the many years he has served tirelessly on the Committee, including as Competition Secretary. This was seconded by Barbara Hacker and accepted unanimously.

Presentation of Trophies – Peter Gaskin presented the trophies to all the successful members.

The Meeting was then closed and followed by a competition for the Hunt Trophy.

