

FINAL DRAFT

SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION HELD AT WORTHING BRIDGE CLUB ON FRIDAY 6TH MAY 2016 AT 6.30PM

Present:

Mr A Ryder
Mr R J Wheeler
Mr D Galpin

Chairman
Honorary Secretary
Honorary Treasurer

and 5 members, as shown in the record of attendance. Apologies were received from Martin Pool, Richard Jameson, Gerry Stanford and Mervyn Wotton.

0. Opening Remarks

The Secretary rehearsed the background to this EGM and indicated that he had produced a short factual note for the record in relation to the AGM which had been aborted on 10th April. This note would be published on the county web site along with the draft minutes from this EGM in due course.

1. Approval of minutes of AGM held on 12th April 2015

The minutes were approved as a correct record of the meeting.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

2.1 Actions under paragraphs 1, 3.9, 4.2 and 5.2 had been completed

2.2 There were no other matters arising.

3. Chairman's Report

3.1 The Chairman observed that another year had gone by and with it unfortunately, one of our Sussex greats, Alan Jeffrey, who had passed away earlier this year aged 101. He will be greatly missed, especially by his friends at Worthing where he was President.

3.2 It had been very good to see our entry to the Loughborough Junior Teach In, organised by Dave and Jill Armstrong, once again attended by more Sussex Juniors than any other county. English Bridge Education have decided they cannot run it this year, but the Chairman was delighted to be able to announce that Sussex would be offering an alternative event in conjunction with Surrey and Kent. He advised members to keep an eye on the website for more details. Since last year the Association had held two very successful festivals for juniors resulting in the formation of a Junior Section at the Avenue and a trip to the Palace of Westminster to play the Lords at Minibridge. The Chairman offered his congratulations to Ollie Powell and was pleased to award him Sussex Best Junior last year for his help in coaching these youngsters every week. The Chairman indicated that he would like to be able to offer festivals at other clubs around the County. He believed that they really work in attracting youngsters to the game and he would love to get involved with any other club that wishes to set up a Junior Section. The Chairman also conveyed his congratulations to Stephen Kennedy and his partner Michael Alishaw who had topped the National Pairs qualifiers.

3.3 The Chairman said that there was of course much more to the make-up of Sussex bridge than the youth activities and he passed on his thanks all of his 'back room' colleagues who had worked tirelessly in keeping the County's bridge offerings going - Martin Pool our president, Mervyn Wotton our webmaster, Hazel Beveridge our membership secretary, Dick Wheeler our secretary and Gerry Stanford, an organiser of multiple events and co-editor of the Year Book. But in particular, the Chairman paid tribute to David Galpin, the county's Treasurer, who was hanging up his abacus after 14 years diligent service. Subject to the upcoming elections, his role would be taken up by John Hardy and the Chairman welcomed him and the other new recruit to the Management Committee, Ros Wolfarth, who had recently taken on the role of Tournament Manager and had now been nominated as his Vice-Chairman.

3.4 In conclusion, the Chairman asked all members to remember that a lot of work is put in to enable them to play the great game of bridge in Sussex and he exhorted everyone to try to enjoy it, have a good time and respect opponents and partners.

4. Honorary Treasurer's Report

4.1 **Adoption of the Examined Annual Accounts.** The Treasurer reported that the certified income and expenditure account (distributed at the meeting) showed a modest surplus compared with the small loss in 2014. The year's outturn had therefore been broadly to budget and the main reason behind the surplus had been that in 2015 the county's attendance at the EBU Loughborough JTI had been funded from the Lottery allocation. The Treasurer also drew attention to the difference in the figures for P2P. In 2014 these had been

shown as gross before amounts paid had been allocated against individual tournaments whereas in 2015 only the net figure had been shown. The Treasurer invited questions. Ros Wolfarth asked whether the 'gain' from the youth bridge activities being funded from the Lottery allocation would be available for similar activities in 2016. Andy Ryder replied that the main event in 2016 would be the Southern Counties JTI and the target there was to break even if possible. Part of the Lottery allocation had been carried forward to 2016 and this had funded the second Junior Bridge Festival. It was proposed by Hazel Beveridge and seconded by Peter Bates that the accounts be adopted. By show of hands this was approved unanimously.

4.2 Appointment of Independent Examiner. The Treasurer announced that Mr Ronald James had agreed to be nominated for re-appointment as the independent examiner who would certify the County's accounts for a further year. Mr James had advised that he would be on holiday early in 2017 but it was agreed that there would still be ample time to complete his examination before the MC meeting in March which would consider the 2016 accounts before the AGM. MC Members approved this appointment.

4.3 Subscriptions for the Years 2015/16 and 2016/17. The Honorary Treasurer confirmed that the County P2P rate would remain at 7p for the year 2016/17 as approved at the 2015 AGM. He added that he was also pleased to be able to report that as current financial performance was broadly on budget, he did not believe that it would be necessary to increase the P2P rate next year. On a show of hands, Ros Wolfarth's proposal, seconded by Andrea Galpin, that the P2P rate for 2017/18 should be a maximum of 7p was carried unanimously.

4.4 Approval of membership T&C

The draft membership terms and conditions for 2016/17 had been circulated to Members present. The Treasurer indicated that the only change from those of 2015/16 was that the MC had decided to drop the additional subscription previously charged for direct members. The number involved was very small and the financial impact low and the change would remove an anomaly arising from the introduction of the new constitution. By show of hands the proposal was carried unanimously.

5. Election of Officers

5.1 Chairman

The Secretary indicated that there was only one nomination for this post and he invited members present to agree to the election of **Andy Ryder**. Members present agreed.

5.2 Vice Chairman

The Secretary reported that there was only one nomination for this post and he invited members present to agree to the election of **Ros Wolfarth**. Members present agreed.

5.3 Honorary Secretary

The Secretary reported that there was only one nomination for this post and he invited members present to agree to the election of **Dick Wheeler**. Members present agreed.

5.4 Honorary Treasurer

The Secretary reported that there was only one nomination for this post and he invited members present to agree to the election of **John Hardy**. Members present agreed.

6. Election of a Maximum of Ten Committee Members

There being only six candidates (of the maximum of ten allowed by the constitution) nominated for these posts, the Secretary invited members present to agree to their election. Members present agreed and the following were elected:

Mr P Bates, Mrs H Beveridge, Mrs A Galpin, Mr D Galpin, Mr M Wotton and Mr M Wright.

7. Members' Resolutions

The Secretary reported that no Members' resolutions had been submitted.

8. Presentation of Dimmie Fleming Award 2015

This presentation (to David Galpin) had been made at the aborted AGM on 10 April.

9. Award of Gladys Hakki Trophy.

This presentation (to Hazel Beveridge) had been made at the aborted AGM on 10 April.

10. Any Other Business.

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 6.46pm.