

## **Minutes for the Annual General Meeting – Tuesday 8 March 2016 at 7pm Beechen Grove Church 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

These were received from Christine Leek, Paul and Fiona Littlewood, Chris Pratt, Dara Godivala, Careen Benjamin, Alex Kent, Andy Fenn, Adie Gardener.

### **2. Minutes of the 2015 AGM and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the 2015 AGM were unanimously adopted with no outstanding action points.

### **3. Chairman's Report – David Eddleston** Key points were as follows:

- The club has had a very successful year, table numbers on Tuesday nights have increased from 9.6 to 10.6, and on Friday nights from 7.5 to 7.6. The Gentle Duplicate session, which was a new initiative this year, has averaged 8 tables, and the weekly Supervised Play continues to be popular.
- The club is considering the introduction of an additional weekly duplicate session on Monday mornings.
- Highlights of the year included:
  - The Eccles Cup won by Sheila Oxenham, Jim Blair, Joe Coulson, Richard Hannaby, John McBryde, Tony Osborne, Keith and Maureen Ashman.
  - Our NICKO Teams (Alan Hudson, Mike Kaltz, Mike Levy, Peter Lewy and David Arrighi, Richard Banbury, Andy Fenn, Jeff Green) who have both reached the fourth round.
- David thanked Donald Reid, who is standing down from the Committee, for his invaluable contribution to the club's development because without him the club would not be where it is today. Donald re-assured the meeting that he will continue the partner finding service.
- David reported that the club is still looking for new premises, but this is proving difficult due to the need for ample parking space. The club might be able to move to the third floor of the present building providing more permanent accommodation with storage space though questions were raised about adequate heating in that room.
- Our Lessons Programme is an essential part of the clubs future and David thanked all our tutors for their sterling work. However, Peter Lewy, Alan Hudson and David Arrighi are standing down as tutors on the Improvers course and there is an urgent need to find new tutors. Ros Campbell and Chris Pratt will continue to run the Beginners class.

### **4. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of the Accounts – Ros Campbell**

The final Accounts were circulated prior to the meeting with the Agenda. Key points included:

- There had been a surplus for the financial year of £1155.71.
- Table money was up on the previous year, mainly due to the new Gentle Duplicate sessions.
- Beginners and Improvers lessons made a small loss, while advanced lessons made a small surplus.
- Catering costs have increased mainly due to the increasing number of participants at evening sessions.
- The club made donations totalling £237 to Children in Need and to the Marjorie Lukyn Fund.

### **5. Auditor's Report – Robert Girvan** (not present at the meeting)

The auditor has signed the Accounts as showing a true and fair view of the profit and loss for the year and the statement of assets as at 31 December 2015.

## **6. Motion to adopt the Accounts**

It was agreed unanimously that the Accounts as tabled be approved and adopted.

## **7. Secretary's report – Susan Mount**

- Membership continues to increase from 139 in 2014 to 169 in 2015 and currently standing at 175. Many of the new members are from the new Gentle Duplicate session.
- The club is hoping to attract additional members if a day-time duplicate session is introduced, catering for players who do not like going out in the evening.
- It was unanimously agreed that the Christmas Party had been most successful. As no volunteers came forward to organise it, Susan agreed to consider it again.

## **8. Competition Secretary's report – Richard Banbury**

Watford had a successful year and Richard thanked all those who contribute in so many ways to the regular sessions. See attached list of results.

## **9. Catering Report – Maureen Ashman**

Maureen reported that there are not enough volunteers signing up on the catering rota, especially on Fridays. As the club is a members' club, everyone needs to help out. Mo passed round list of Friday dates until the end of the year, for members to volunteer with the rota.

## **10. Election of Officers**

- Donald Reid stood down from the committee.
- The following committee members stood for re-election and were elected nem.com:

David Eddleston	<b>Chairman</b>	Richard Banbury	<b>Competition Secretary</b>
Susan Mount	<b>Secretary</b>	Keith Ashman	<b>Technical Director</b>
Rosalind Campbell	<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeff Green	<b>HBA Liaison</b>
- Tony Osborne was elected, post to be determined.

## **11. Election of Auditor**

Robert Girvan (Treasurer of Hitchin Bridge Club) was proposed and unanimously accepted as Auditor of the club.

## **12. Resolution - "That Watford and Bushey Bridge Club does hereby resolve that the three signatories to the National Savings Investment Account be changed to the following three individuals, of which any two will be required to withdraw funds from the account:**

David Eddleston	<b>Chairman</b>
Susan Mount	<b>Secretary</b>
Rosalind Campbell	<b>Treasurer</b>

Should any of these individuals stand down from the committee then it will be the responsibility of the committee to inform National Savings of the change of personnel and update the mandates accordingly."

The above Resolution was unanimously carried.

## **13. Any Other Business**

Alistair Allen proposed a vote of thanks to the club's officers, which was supported by all present.

## **14. Presentation of Trophies by Donald Reid**