



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY 16 July 2014**

Present:

David Parkinson (DNP) Chair
Ian Cotton (IanC)
David Powell (DJP) Treasurer
Val Smith (VS)

Dave Harper (DH) Vice Chair
Vernon Hughes (VH)
Hilary Powell (HP) Secretary

| | Item | Action |
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| 1 | Apologies for Absence Judy McKeown | |
| 2 | Minutes of the last Meeting The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 23 April 2014 were taken as read and agreed. | |
| 3 | Matters Arising from previous meeting HP is to discuss the use of Pianola software with Jan Titcombe. Bank mandate forms are in the process of being completed. David Lightfoot has kindly offered to review the BNBC constitution, in relation to membership rules. It is intended that changes will be proposed at the next AGM. The committee agreed the following new rules for the Ladder competition next year, to try to make the competition as fair as possible and to encourage pairs competing in the ladder to play on normal club evenings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - pairs would only be able to win a prize in the Ladder if they had both attended a minimum of 16 times throughout the year, - the ladder would continue to be played over 10 months with the best 8 scores being counted, - there would be no arrow switch so E/W and N/S pairs would each be given scores from 15 down to 1, with their scores being merged into one list over the year. The committee discussed the feedback from the recent Cut-in teams' event. It was agreed that future teams' events would be improved if the director gave an explanation about how the event would work and also if time was allowed for teams to get together at the end to review their scores. | HP DH/DNP/ DP HP |



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| | <p>HP is to review the teams' movements prior to the next event to ensure a quicker start and is to review the calendar to determine a date for another teams' event.</p> <p>Good progress is being made with the arrangements to bring the Bridgewebs (club website) members' area into general usage. Thanks are due to Jan Titcombe who is working on this.</p> <p>HP /IC are to check how many tables the club owns.</p> <p>HP is to purchase a new laptop for the club to be used as a back-up for the existing laptop which is still working fine but which could fail at any time.</p> <p>After further discussions with the SGC club manager, it has been confirmed that there can be no change to the non-availability of the SGC clubhouse on public holidays.</p> | <p>HP</p> <p>HP/IC</p> <p>HP</p> |
| 4 | <p>Financial Position</p> <p>DP gave a financial report. The balance remains healthy although it has been depleted a little as a deposit of £1000 has been paid to the Hythe Imperial hotel for the weekend away in March.</p> <p>DP is to take up the EBU's offer for the purchase of playing cards at a discounted rate.</p> | |
| 5 | <p>Weekend away</p> <p>21 people have booked for the weekend away so far. DNP will remind members about the event and that this will be opened up to non-members at the end of August.</p> | DNP |
| 6 | <p>Swiss Teams</p> <p>Arrangements are in place for the Swiss team event on 4 October and 10 teams have booked so far. Details will be posted on the Kent website. The following additional prizes will be awarded this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - highest all-member team - highest team with no players holding of queen ranking or higher | DP |
| 7 | <p>Thursday evening play</p> <p>DNP has discussed proposals for Thursday evening play with the SGC club manager. He has been advised that it will not be possible to book the venue on Thursdays due to a regular Thursday evening golf event.</p> | |

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| 8 | <p>AOB</p> <p>DH advised that he and Miranda are attending directors' courses with completion expected in August. DP is to reimburse them on the cost of the purchase of their red books.</p> <p>An email has been received from the Kent EBU urging clubs to provide bridge teaching linked to the club in order to encourage new members. As the club is not currently in a position to encourage new members it was not considered that BNBC could do this. However it was agreed that a link would be added to the website putting bridge beginners in touch with local teachers.</p> <p>It was decided not to take up the EBU's offer for director training this year as it is considered that there are enough directors.</p> <p>As is previous years, depending on whether any existing members decide not to re-join, members currently on the waiting list will be invited to join subject to the current limit of 120 members.</p> <p>Following feedback from one of the directors it was agreed to urge members to have a convention card. A standard BNBC convention card will be drawn up for use by members who do not have their own.</p> <p>DNP is to discuss whether there is storage space for a fan if the club buys one for use on Monday evenings. DNP will also discuss the poor lighting at the near end of the clubhouse due to missing light bulbs.</p> <p>It was agreed that in order to try and finish playing earlier in the evening the break would be cancelled. HP is to advise directors.</p> | <p>DP</p> <p>HP/DNP</p> <p>HP/DP</p> <p>HP</p> <p>DNP</p> <p>HP</p> |
| 11 | <p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>The next meeting will be on Wednesday 15 October 2014, at Dave Parkinson's house. VS will not be able to attend on this date.</p> | |