**East Wales Bridge Association**

**Minutes of the AGM 29 April 2018 held at Cardiff Bridge Club**

Chairman Geoff Evans called the meeting to commence at 2.30 p.m.

**1 Attendance and Apologies**

36 members were present (attendance list attached). Apologies for absence had been received from Keith Edwards, Margaret Harrop, Mike Pownall, Glenda Roberts and Roger Wright.

**2 Minutes of the AGM held on 7May 2017**

The minutes were approved. There were no matters arising.

**3 Chairman’s Remarks**

Geoff Evans gave a comprehensive report on the past year’s activities, thanking officers of the Association and all the clubs who had hosted and organised EWBA events. A full transcript of the Chairman’s speech is available on the EWBA website. The meeting recorded its thanks for Geoff’s work for and leadership of the Association.

**4 Treasurer’s Report**

Simon Gottschalk presented the accounts of the Association for the year to 31st March 2018. These showed a small loss in the year chiefly ascribable to falling numbers playing in the two East Wales Congresses and the Welsh foursomes. In past years these had been the money-earners that had paid for EWBA’s other activities. The accounts may be viewed on the EWBA website. There were no questions from the meeting which recorded its appreciation and thanks for Simon’s work and for that of the independent examiner, Laurie Delmonte.

**5 Tournament Director’s Report**

Helen Houston had provided a printed report (now available on the EWBA website). Winners of competitions were congratulated and prizes and trophies (where available) were presented. Helen endorsed the Treasurer’s opinion that a shake-up of bridge organisation throughout Wales was needed to revitalise national and area events. Helen thanked Meike Deschepper for her work on publicising events and clubs for hosting them. The meeting expressed its thanks for the work of Helen and her team.

**6 League Organiser’s Report**

Steve Webb reported that so far fifty-five EWBA members had participated in the three Western League league teams fielded by EWBA. Both the A and B teams were enjoying successful seasons, currently standing second in their divisions. The full results are available on the EWBA website. Steve thanked Richard Welsford for organising the C team.

Steve Webb referred to the East Wales League table available on the EWBA website. Division winners were congratulated and prizes presented. Steve was hopeful of increasing the number of teams in 2018-19. The meeting thanked him for his work in organising both this league and our teams in the Western league.

**7 Election of Officers**

Geoff Evans (Chair), Simon Gottschalk (Treasurer), Helen Houston (Tournament Organiser), and Adrian Trickey (Secretary) had all indicated that they were willing to stand again for those positions. There had been no other nominations. Their appointments were confirmed.

**8 Election of Auditor**

Laurie Delmonte was re-elected auditor for the year 2018-19.

**9 Members’ Business**

No motions had been received.

From the floor, William Parkinson suggested that the ATO reconsider the date for the area qualifying round of the WBU Teams of Eight. December was very early to hold a preliminary round for an event whose final was not until the following May. It was agreed that the ATO and Committee would consider this in relation to other events and the WBU’s overall timetable.

**10 Date of next AGM**

Provisionally, this will be on 12th May 2019, to coincide with the Arthur James Bowl and Beatus Cup competitions when the venue and dates for this event has been confirmed.