

## **BOSTON BRIDGE CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Meeting held on 8th January 2020 at The Conservative Club at 6.15pm

### **PRESENT:**

The meeting was attended by 27 members, with 6 apologies for absence. (See attached list.)

### **Minutes of AGM 2019**

Proposed by Kath Yates

Seconded by Ruth Street

### **CHAIRS REPORT: Sue Gray**

Firstly I would like to thank all members of the committee for their support and commitment this year, a special thank you to Sheila as secretary and to Richard as treasurer and enthusiastic bridge player / teacher. Secondly I would like to thank the members of the club for their support over the year especially with the All comers evenings.

This year has seen the club continue to build on the work we started last year with teaching bridge at different levels. It is very encouraging to see some of the people who started with us last year now regularly attending club nights. It's great that there is an appetite for continued learning and improvement amongst the members. The lessons have also generated income to the club. This has enabled us to subsidise all Sims events as well as providing refreshments on the teams event and the All comers evenings.

Parking continues to present a challenge despite our efforts to persuade the solicitors opposite to allow us to use this space. We will now be trying to contact BT who own the land next door to the club.

The web page is a very informative area and is a way of getting information to a large number very easily BUT...it does depend on members looking at the site and ensuring they provide details to our secretary to ensure they are on the email list. Each member has been provided with a user name and password to access the site. Do we need a lesson to help people?

Donations to our charity this year, the Boston hospital league of friends , has been an amazing £449. Thanks to all who made donations. The Charity bridge day raised a total of £340. We also continued to support Ecats Children in need.

The Sims and ECATS events provided our members an opportunity to pit their wits against the rest of the country and we have proved to be a club who can more than hold their own. Notable positions in the SIMS have been achieved by:

Autumn - Janet Sharman and Katy Lishman	Third
Summer - Sue Gray and Rob Fabian	Eighteenth
Spring - Janet Sharman and Katy Lishman	Eleventh

### **ECATS Children in Need**

Katy Lishman and Richard Tupper	Seventy First
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Janet and Katy also entered the Mens /Ladies pairs Championships for Lincs back in May and won the ladies section. Paul Wokes and John Brocklehurst won the mens section.

Another Lincs event, The Bainton cup, was won by Richard and Peter who went on to the area competition.

The coop bid this year was not successful. The aim was to buy a dealing machine which would be beneficial on several levels.

- It would enable the club to publish the hands via our web page.
- enable each pair to study their bidding as an aid to developing their skills
- it would provide a way of generating the fixed hands events which are currently done by Paul Wokes. This does mean that he cannot enter these events.
- It would enable set hands to be dealt for the teaching groups. An onerous task normally.

We will be looking to focus our fund raising activities closer to home this year.... the dealing machine pot.

Once again a big thanks to all for the support from the club members. It has been a pleasure .

### **TREASURERS REPORT: Richard Tupper**

Richard circulated the years finance and balance sheets (attached) and thanked Sheila Manning for producing them so quickly. He said that the club was in a healthy position with increased membership from 44 to 49 members. Some members will not be rejoining this year and we wish them well in their new locations. He said that we need new fresher blood and that a beginner's course would be worth considering again.

Richard went on to say that the financial position is healthy despite a small loss of £127, the main reason being the costs associated with the computer allied to the usual inflationary increases imposed by the various bodies and the Conservative Club. We had a good increase in subs of 12% and table money 22% but this was offset by increased room hire of over 15% and EBU fees of over 10%. The EBU has increased the fee for each member playing from 37p to 40p an 8% increase but it is the first increase in 3 years. However with over £4150 in the bank there is sufficient to play with and no need at this stage to increase subs.

Other expenditure for 2018 included the usual running costs of replacement cards which was supplemented by a subscription to Mr Bridge which has kept us well stocked in useful magazines, and the purchase of Microsoft office at £60 has enabled us to use the computer for presentations. Richard reminded members that if they wanted to pay subs by bank transfer it was important to give their names as reference.

Richard gave Sue (the chair) a big thank you from everyone in the club for her tireless efforts in keeping the club running and growing in the right direction.

### **COUNTY REPORT: Paul Wokes**

Paul introduced himself for the benefit of the newest members and described his role as being the representative of Boston bridge Club at County level. He attends 4 Lincolnshire County meetings and the Lincolnshire AGM each year. He disseminates EBU rules and promotes County and National competitions to encourage BBC members to take part. He said that Boston members are eligible to take part in County and National games and that some events are geared around ordinary players when top players are not allowed to play with their normal partners. He said Boston club had done really well and congratulated Boston's players success in the national SIMS events. He said the County is trying to make themselves more approachable with visits to local clubs. The next County competition would be held on January 19<sup>th</sup> 2020 and is a Ladies and Mens pairs event.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

CHAIR.....	<b>SUE GRAY</b>	PROP.. S Manning	SECONDED... J Loomes
VICE CHAIR.....	<b>KATH YATES</b>	PROP.... J Tilley	SECONDED....S Manning
SECRETARY.....	<b>KATY LISHMAN</b>	PROP.... S Gray	SECONDED... A Cannon
TREASURER...	<b>R TUPPER</b>	PROP....K Lishman	SECONDED.... S Gray
Lincs County Rep...	<b>P WOKES</b>	PROP...S Gray	SECONDED....S Manning
COMPETITION SEC....	<b>S BRADLEY</b>	PROP.... R Tupper	SECONDED.....K.Lishman

COMMITTEE MEMBERS... **RUTH STREET, JOHN LOOMES, LINDA LOVELL** all elected unanimously.

## PRIZE GIVING - STEVE BRADLEY Congratulated the following:

Norah Carter Cup -	Rita Knaggs and Gill Reynolds Bob and Pat Don-Duncan
Barclay Cup -	Richard Tupper and Peter Sharman
Elsie Cammack Cup	Sally Hippisley and Chris Foster. John Loomes and Alan Taylor
Children in Need	Claire Rylott and Alison Casswell

Steve thanked Paul for making the boards for the SIMS and national events

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

**Allcomers open nights** - Proposal 1 that these are held on alternate Wednesday and Thursdays - proposed by S Manning, seconded by Lindy Mastenbroek-Andrew - votes 3 against 24 for, so carried.

Proposal 2 that they are held every 2 months - proposed by Sue Gray, seconded by Lindy Mastenbroek Andrew - carried unanimously.

**2020 Fund Raising** - Proposal that all funds raised in 2020 be put towards a dealing machine - proposed by Ruth Street, seconded by Steve Bradley - votes 1 against, 1 abstained, 25 for, so carried.

**Mobile phones/Etiquette** - Proposal by Sue Gray that mobile phones are switched off or on silent for all games - seconded by Sally Hippisley - carried unanimously. Sue informed the members that the rulings with regard to bidding boxes must be adhered to i.e. bidding boxes should not be used as an aide memoir, no fiddling with or touching bidding cards before they are taken from the box.

**Xmas Meal** - Kath said that she had been asked to request that the club has a xmas meal in 2020. The members were asked to vote on this and only 2 people were for this. A counter proposal was put forward in that we should have an annual meal to be held at a different time of year - this was agreed by 22 members with 5 abstaining and so the committee was asked to take this forward.

## GIFTS

Gifts were presented to the Directors and Scorers with thanks for their input through the year and to the Chair for running the club and the hard work in organising and presenting the improvers course in February.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT AGM - WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6TH 2021**