

BRAUNTON BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting May 12th 2021 @ 6.30pm on Zoom

In Attendance

Officers: Chair, Brenda Martin (BM); Secretary, Jacqui Munns (JM); Treasurer, Julie Rotchell (JRo). Committee Members: Diane Coulstock (DC), Steve Munns (SM), Nicky Sandom (NS).

Club Members, Elizabeth Nunn (EN), Ian Nunn (IN), Janet Redrup (JRe), Clive Redrup (CR), John Wintle (JW).

The meeting was declared quorate, having more than ten members present.

Apologies Apologies were received from Alison Pollok.

Minutes of the last AGM on 8th May 2019

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by EN and seconded by DC, there being no matters arising.

Statement in lieu of the 2020 AGM

The statement posted on the Braunton website in lieu of the 2020 AGM that did not take place due to the pandemic was reviewed. Acceptance of the statement was proposed by JRo & seconded by IN, there being no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

BM welcomed everyone to the AGM of the Braunton Bridge Club (BBC).

She stated that it had been a strange year and commented that it would have been hard to believe, back in March of 2020, that we would still not be playing Bridge face-to-face (F2F) almost 18 months later. She thanked JM for setting up the Wednesday afternoon online Bridge sessions for the benefit of players in North Devon.

She told the meeting that the Hall would be available for us once it was safe to return and that Sue, our tea lady, was also prepared to come back.

Secretary's Report

JM thanked the North Devon Section (NDS) for their support in setting up the Wednesday afternoon online sessions. The sessions have made a profit and will continue for the foreseeable future. Although the sessions are run by the NDS, as a result of EBU rules, the finances are run through the Braunton Bridge Club, and JM thanked JRo for managing the finances.

The North Devon Congress was also played online this year and JM expressed her gratitude to the two TDs, Tony Russ & Frank Coltman, and also to Neil Marsden, the NDS treasurer, for their help in making it a success.

While it is too early to know when we will be able to return to F2F Bridge, a decision regarding the outstanding Teams competition will be deferred until we are playing again.

As everyone knows, the pandemic put paid to our plans to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the club in April 2020. Commemorative mugs were ordered for members of the club but these were not delivered until after the start of the pandemic. However, with the help of Dawn Hodgkinson, the club has managed to distribute at least some of these to members already.

The BBC Committee recently decided to arrange a Christmas Party on Saturday 11th December and this will incorporate the 30th Anniversary Party. The venue will be Georgeham Village Hall, and we are waiting confirmation from our caterers.

Treasurer's Report

JRo talked through the accounts as presented. In the year to April 20, the club overspent by £761.28 due to the fact that we bought our own router and set of Bridgetabs, and the generous donation of £500 from the NDS towards the cost was acknowledged. Despite this, the closing balance was a healthy £2553.93.

In the year to April 2021, the club received no income from subscriptions or table money due to the pandemic. There remained some fixed costs of £240.25 including insurance and the website charge. As already mentioned, the money for the Wednesday afternoon sessions goes through the Braunton account but is then reimbursed by the NDS. Despite receiving no income for the year, the closing balance was a healthy £2443.83.

CR was thanked for acting as scrutineer for both sets of accounts.

Election of Officers

No nominations had been received, and all those in post were happy to continue. So, the following members will make up the Club Committee for the forthcoming year.

Chair - Brenda Martin

Secretary - Jacqui Munns

Treasurer - Julie Rotchell

Members - Steve Munns, Nicky Sandom, Diane Coulstock,

Election of Scrutineer

CR kindly agreed to continue as our scrutineer, and he was thanked for his previous work.

Adjustment to the Constitution

JM proposed that we make some minor changes to the Constitution in light of the pandemic and the fact that the phrase 'in person' should include gatherings on Zoom. She explained that the EBU had not given any guidance on this to date. This proposal was unanimously agreed and JM will update the Constitution and post the new edition on the website.

Any Other Business

1. BM asked NS about the caterers for the Christmas Party. NS explained that we would know whether our usual caterers were available by the end of June. There was a short discussion on other possible options. It was then agreed to wait until June and make a decision then.
2. EN reminded everyone that the NDS AGM is to be held on Wednesday 9th June 2021 @ 5pm on Zoom. This meeting will include a discussion on the results of the survey of Bridge in North Devon. More details are on the NDS website at www.bridgewebs.com/northdevon/
3. NS asked us to acknowledge the contribution that Sally has made to Bridge in North Devon during the pandemic through the online sessions and the teaching that she has organised. This was agreed by all present.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 7pm.

Jacqui Munns

Secretary, Braunton Bridge Club