

CASTLE MORPETH BRIDGE CLUB

COMMITTEE AND TRUSTEES MEETING

Held at Trinity Church Bedlington Small Hall.
At 2pm on 5th October 2023

In Attendance: Paul Ingoe (Chairman), Ken Reed (Treasurer), Freda Simpkin, Viv Heskett (Secretary), Mike Craig.

1. Apologies: Dan Benison.

2. Minutes Of Last Meeting:

Read and passed.

3. Matters Arising:

The Application to the Charities Commission was redrafted and submitted on 13.06.23. The Application was accepted and registered with the Charities Commission on 20.06.23.

4. Treasurers Report:

Ken produced a summary of expenditure for Castle Morpeth Bridge Club from April to September 2023. Income/expenditure from Face to Face playing loses money whereas BBO income/expenditure results in a small profit. Overall the club's monthly balance breaks even.

5. Barclays Bank Account:

As Barclays do not offer free banking to a charity with more than three trustees, it was agreed to look for an alternative bank. Mike will start by making an application to Lloyds Bank. It was agreed that the bank mandate would have three names who could access the account: Chairman Paul, Treasurer Ken and Mike. Transactions could be made by one person.

6. Internal Financial Controls:

A check list of internal financial controls extracted from the Charity Commission's good practice recommendations had been circulated for discussion. The list was reviewed and the controls for a small charity noted. The list will be updated and re-circulated. Action Mike.

7. NEBA Teams of 8:

Freda has kindly organised two teams ready to play competitions.

8. Swan Trophy:

The Swan Trophy tournament has been arranged for Sunday January 28th at Hepscott Bridge Club. Teams invited to play are Collingwood, Castle Morpeth, Morpeth and Hepscott. We are awaiting these club's confirmation to participate.

9. Trophies:

Bridge club members will compete for the following trophies/competitions during the year 2024:

1. Handicapped Pairs.
2. Mens/Ladies pairs.
3. Mixed pairs (February).
4. Club Champion. Pairs with the highest average score over the year. Minimum of 18 events played.
5. Slam Champion: Scores are taken for points accrued for slams/grand slams over the year. A voucher will be given as a prize.
6. Individual Shield: This will be presented to the pair with the highest percentage over the year.
7. BBO Top Pairs: Presented to the pair with the highest average score over 10 events during the year. A voucher will be given as a prize.

10. Role of Honour:

Paul has proposed that Castle Morpeth Bridge Club should have a Role of Honour for trophy winners. This should be displayed on the webpage and updated yearly. Photographs will be taken at the AGM Meeting and also displayed on webpage. Proposal passed. Action Paul.

11. Charities Commission Administration:

This was changed in July when Castle Morpeth Bridge Club's application was accepted by the Charities Commission. Everything related to this on the club's website is correct and it now has a new password.

12. Defibrillator:

The purchase and installation of a defibrillator for St. James Hall was discussed with a Town Hall representative. The representative indicated that due to fact that there were already a number of defibrillators in Morpeth e.g. Outside the Conservative Club (150 yards away), Hayes Travel, Morpeth bus station etc. they were not interested in contributing towards the purchase of another. After discussion, the Committee decided not to pursue the purchase of a defibrillator any further, as the expense would be too great.

A sign will be put on the club notice board indicating to members where the nearest defibrillator can be found.

13. Christmas Party:

The Christmas Party will be held at St James Hall on the 12th December. Members will be asked to arrive at 6.30 p.m. for a 7.00 p.m. start. There will be a normal bridge night with Christmas food and drink. Action Freda.

14. Holidays:

Paul will be on holiday and therefore not available from the 16th January to the 19th March 2024. Please contact other committee members if you have any problems/queries during this period.

15. A.O.B:

a. Contributions to Children in Need: In the past club members have donated all table money on the night of Children In Need with the club paying for that night's hall fees. This will continue and members will be requested to contribute a minimum donation of £5.00 towards the charity.

b. Freda will purchase new cards for the bidding boxes. She will put the new cards on the tables and ask members to replace the old ones at the end of the evening.

c. Next Trustees Meeting on Thursday 11th January 2.00 p.m. at Trinity Church Bedlington.