

CHELMSFORD BRIDGE CLUB

COMMITTEE MEETING

18th/19th August 2025 6.15pm via Zoom

MINUTES

Present

June Brown, Jill Collier, Jean Maker, Julie Payne, Colin Peden, Alan Rodger

1. Apologies

Cath Fox

2. Previous minutes to be agreed

The minutes for the previous Committee Meeting are available on the website. The minutes were agreed.

3. Matters arising

None

4. Future of Charity F2F sessions

Alan and Julie expressed concerns about the viability of the monthly face to face charity sessions. The most significant issue is the disappointingly low number of players attending regularly. The July event had to be cancelled due to the low turnout. Persistent low attendance creates a situation where players are reluctant to attend in future, and organisers and helpers are increasingly difficult to find. As things stand, if either Alan or Julie were unavailable, it would be challenging to run the session.

We have nominated charities for each event up to January 2026 (the New Year party), and will continue to hold the events up to then (numbers permitting). We will monitor the situation before committing to further events beyond January.

5. Borrowed tables for F2F sessions

For face-to-face sessions, we borrow tables with permission from other clubs depending on which room we use. Brevion owns the tables in the large hall. The ownership of the tables in the Park Room is unclear. We recognise that the tables require maintenance and replacement from time to time and believe that the Club should contribute to this. Colin will contact the other clubs to discuss this.

6. Changing character of RealBridge sessions

Colin had received informal comments from some members that recent Monday and Tuesday sessions had changed character with some new players attending who were not as sociable as longstanding regulars. Colin asked the committee if they had had similar experiences. It was stated that some of the newer players were less sociable, particularly in the first few games they played. However, there was no question of them behaving unethically, and it was healthy and encouraging that we were attracting new players. It was agreed that no action was necessary, but we should monitor the situation.

7. Simultaneous Pairs events

Colin noted that at the last Sim Pairs event in July there were no new players who had joined specifically for that event, and other members who had in the past joined specifically to enter sim events had not played this time. Considering this, it was agreed that no change was needed, but we would monitor attendance at future events

8. Review of Club Constitution

An initial review of the Constitution had identified a few areas where change may be necessary. The committee will continue to review prior to next year's AGM.

9. AOB

None

10. Date of next meeting

Monday 3rd November 2025 @ 6.15pm

Colin Peden