

Chepstow Archway Bridge Club

Minutes Committee Meeting

9th September 2025 on WhatsApp Call

Present: Richard Stevenson, Graham Eele, Ray Mardon, Paula Grobbelaar, Liz Klinkert, Sheila Montgomery.

1. Party.

The Current List is 48 playing guests, with 3 non playing helpers (photographer, Liz's husband doing taxi service and Mrs Stevenson helping on door) This means 12 full tables, which was deemed ideal.

We asked for ideas from members for any other guests. The staff of our venues, past and present, were suggested, and two other players were mentioned,

It was unanimously decided our current list was just the right number. Richard suggested having a reserve player, and will ask Anna Marie O'Brien.

Some players will need partnerships arranging. Richard, Sheila and Ray will meet soon to finalise, and ask Pat Davey for her input too.

The 50th Anniversary sub committee will meet the week before the party to finalise the logistics. 5th October was suggested, Sheila will co-ordinate.

2. CABC Teams League and BBO.

Richard reported that the majority of players favoured BBO over Real Bridge. BBO now only allow premium members to set up teams. We have 6 members who are premium members, who are willing to participate. There are 8 teams proposed for the winter league, and it was agreed that if necessary the Club could fund one months subscription of a player so they could set up a match. Richard proposed to try and run the League with no charge for the winter. This will be reviewed for the next league, and may be brought to the AGM.

Richard wanted to continue the teams in the current format, teaming up one more experienced pair with a less experienced pair.

Richard will liaise with Stewart Anderton to form the next set of teams.

The whole committee agreed.

3. Sims pairs.

It has been previously agreed to have 3 Sims events each year, so the Club can raise money for Charity and have a competitive bridge experience. Richard sought the committees' opinion about how popular this is. CIN is a regular and well supported sims event. Richard has checked the e cats web site and proposed a sims event in February. He suggested we should review this at the AGM and seek the members views.

Paula raised the issue of the free bridge evenings which originally attracted new players last year. It was agreed unanimously that the planned free evening which has already been advertised should go ahead then not plan any future event at the moment.

Graham said as our finances are buoyant we should consider how best to use the surplus. He was not in favour of lowering the table money, so charitable events and parties could be easily funded.

4. Financial Position post party.

Graham reported we have £4,200 in our account. He estimated the party will reduce that by about £1,500.

A.o.B.

Graham reported he is no longer receiving invoices for rent, but paying ahead quarterly, so he needs to know Club closure dates. It was decided to close only on 28th December over Christmas. Sheila will let Club and Stewart know.

Ray raised the question of whether we should review playing 24 boards instead of 27.

The Lydney members have not been coming so much, for various reasons, but this may change. Informally sounding out opinion was suggested, and it may be raised at the AGM.

Richard raised the issue of how to help to continue supporting newer players,

Liz reported that 2 new players are discussing hands with her, and they are happy with the situation. Richard has been suggesting further learning with another pair. He wants to promote learning through reading and will post on the WhatsApp group.

Date of Next Meeting.

Wednesday 21st October