



DORKING BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 20th August 2024 at Dorking Christian Centre

The meeting was convened at 7.15pm and chaired by Steve Hooker. A total of 14 members were present.

1. The Chair thanked members for attending and continuing to support face-to-face bridge at the club.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
The names of members who had apologised for absence were as follows: Sheena Bassett, Lyn Palmer, Phyllida Neal, Sue Peters, Matt Piper, Tim Reynoldson and Carolyn Smith.
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 9TH JANUARY 2024**
The Chair suggested that, unless there were any questions, the Minutes, which had been circulated to members by e-mail in advance of the Meeting, be formally adopted as giving a true and correct version of the matters then discussed. They were adopted unanimously.
4. **TREASURER'S REPORT**
The Treasurer had circulated a summary of income/expenditure for the year ending 31 July 2024. This showed a significant 'loss' over the period – largely reflecting the absence of income from table money. The position in this period was mitigated by income from on-line bridge which had now stopped. The Chair noted that the clubs funds would support the club on the current basis for around 3 years.
5. **2023/24 ACCOUNTS**
Accounts for the year to 31 March 2024 would be circulated to members for approval once they had been prepared and cleared by the Honorary Examiner.
6. **APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY EXAMINER.**
John Neal offered to continue in this role and his election as Hon. Examiner was approved unanimously.
7. **FUTURE OF THE CLUB**
Although table numbers were low, the Chair felt there was support for continuing as a social club with 3+ tables. There was no disagreement with this.
He noted that it would be very helpful if, when someone's regular partner was unavailable, they could find someone else to play with or let the Chair know they were available.
It was planned to run some special sessions (cheese and wine – non-alcoholic; individual; no fear) in the autumn as previously. Any other suggestions would be welcome.

8. **SUBSCRIPTIONS AND TABLE MONEY**

The Chair suggested that we should continue with the current arrangements - £10 annual membership and no table money. Members were happy with this.

9. **CHARITY STATUS**

The Chair noted that there had been some discussion amongst committee members about the Club's charity status, given our changed circumstances. Ending this status required a decision to be taken at an AGM/EGM with 75% of those voting in favour.

The Secretary explained that the admin requirements were not burdensome – submission of a simple annual report and the accounts we produced anyway.

Some concern was expressed that we were not doing anything in support of our charity status but it was agreed we would seek to end it at this point.

10. **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**

The Annual Report of the Trustees for the year to 31 March 2024 had been circulated to members by e-mail in advance of the Meeting and the Chair suggested that unless there were any questions it be formally approved. This resolution was adopted and approved unanimously.

11. **DIRECTOR TRAINING**

The Chair mentioned that the English Bridge Union was actively looking to expand the number of qualified directors and a number of courses were being run. He asked anyone interested to let him know.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

A question was raised on the absence of elections of committee members. The Secretary explained that elections (most recently in January) were for a three year period. He apologised if this had not been made clear previously. The Chair noted that additional members could be co-opted if anyone was interested.

Rosemary Saw proposed a vote of thanks for the work done by the Committee. This was passed unanimously.

No other business was raised.

There being no other business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.35 pm.