

# Durham Bridge Club

## Minutes of the AGM held at 12.00 noon on Tuesday 28th April 2026 at Framwellgate Moor Youth and Community Association.

**Present:** 19 members

Nick Deeming opened the meeting explaining that as Vice Chair he would be chairing the meeting in Jonathan's absence.

**Apologies for Absence:** Jonathan Lillycrop, Irene Hancock, Irina Hendrickx, Alison Young, Carol Tritton, Guy Tritton, Antony MacRow-Wood

**Minutes of the latest AGM:** The minutes were agreed and accepted.

### **Matters Arising:**

Monday evening sessions - it was agreed at a committee meeting that we would be flexible about giving advice to players at the session and that we would also encourage Monday players to attend Tuesday afternoon sessions. However it was suggested that as there was quite a lot of time allowed for boards to be played on Monday evenings, some players might be reluctant to come to Tuesday afternoon sessions where there were time-restricted boards and that reducing the time for board playing on Mondays might be useful. It was agreed that John Portwood would be approached to see if the board time could be limited.

WhatsApp group - Although a WhatsApp group had been set up for players to find partners on Tuesday afternoons it had been rarely used. Jonathan is responsible for the WhatsApp group so if anyone is interested in joining the group they should contact Jonathan.

### **Chair's Report**

The Vice Chair summarised the key points of the report with thanks to all those who contributed to the running of the club.

It was also reported that we had very sadly lost three longstanding members during the past year, Dave Thompson, Stuart Wigham and Rene McMahon and the important contributions they had all made to the club over the years were highlighted.

It was recognised that we had several new members thanks to Pat and Alan's teaching sessions and it was noted that we need to continue to encourage new members.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report had been previously circulated and the Treasurer gave thanks to Susan Penswick for her role as independent examiner of the report. He reported that the club was in good shape and there would be no need to increase the fees this year.

### **Team Captain's Report**

Jill Hancock summarised the Team Captain's Report in Irina's absence and highlighted the progress of the club in the Interclub Teams events over the past year with the A Team continuing to play in Division 1 and the B Team in Division 3. Leaflets were distributed for anyone interested in playing in the teams next year.

### **Election of Officers**

In the absence of any proposals for the four officer positions it was agreed that the current officers would be re-appointed.

### **Presentation of Trophies and Champion Winners.**

Summer Afternoon Pairs: Adrian Darnell & John Dobson  
Summer Evening Pairs: John Portwood & Peter Sykes  
Summer Master Points: Adrian Darnell

Sykes Cup (one off evening session): Rachel & Jonathan Lillycrop  
Cansino Trophy (first Tuesday of each month, afternoon & evening scores combined): John Portwood & Peter Sykes  
Durham City Trophy (awarded for winning the evening duplicate on the day of the AGM): John Dobson & Audrey Bainbridge and Adrian Darnell & Nigel Martin (tied)  
Winter Afternoon Pairs: Jill Hancock & Margaret Thompson  
Winter Afternoon Champion: Jill Hancock & Margaret Thompson  
Winter Evening Pairs: John Portwood & Peter Sykes  
Winter Evening Champion: John Portwood & Peter Sykes  
Master Point Club Champion (most Master Points in the calendar year): Adrian Darnell  
Summer Monday Evening Champion: Debbie Hills

### **AOB**

1. It was requested that the committee raise the state of the road to the back car park of FMYCC with the Centre. Peter Sykes updated the meeting. The road is unadopted but upkeep is the shared responsibility of Durham County Council and St. Aidan's care home. However DCC have agreed to do some repairs to the roadway.
2. Hosting. Ailsa thanked all those 10/12 people who were involved in hosting and made a request for more volunteers as the system works well for the club and at every session we may get two or three extra pairs playing. People can also offer to host once and dates can be flexible. If people are concerned about their NGS, this can be accommodated and the host can opt out if they notify John Portwood before the session.