

Minutes of 278th Farnborough Bridge Club Committee Meeting

6th August 2026

Present:

Chris Clegg (Chair), John Hunt (Hon. Treasurer), Kim Romanski (Hon. Secretary), and committee members Wendy Church, Claire Martin & Rodney Meredith.

1. Apologies for absence

All were present, so no apologies were needed.

2. Minutes of the 277th meeting

These were, and had been previously, circulated, and were accepted as a true record. Approved and seconded.

3. Matters arising

3.1 It was agreed and minuted at the previous Committee Meeting that a new dealing machine would be purchased. This has been actioned and the new machine is due for delivery at the end of August/beginning of September. Brian Hogg has also kindly agreed to help James Foster with dealing for Wednesdays and Fridays.

3.2 Following discussion regarding whether to continue with the Christmas Party, it has been agreed that this will be a normal duplicate bridge evening.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer provided an update on the Club's finances, which continue to be healthy, with the number of paid-up club members as of today standing at 183. Early bookings for our 75th Anniversary event, along with some advance table money, means 2025/2026 appears to have a huge increase over last year - but we haven't yet paid out for the 75th from the money received and so this will even out after the September event. The treasurer will give members a full report at the AGM.

Approved and seconded.

5. Committee Officers & Match Captain for 2026/2027

As minuted previously, the committee wished to co-opt a Secretary. Norman Inniss has agreed to take this role, along with the role of Match Captain. Chris Clegg (Chair) and John Hunt (Treasurer) will step down at the AGM. Kim Romanski has been nominated for Chair and Claire Martin nominated for Treasurer and Graham Clements has been nominated as a Committee Member. Wendy Church and Rodney Meredith will continue in their current positions – all of the nominations and remaining committee members will be seeking member approval at the AGM to complete the process.

6. 75th Anniversary event 5th September 2026 - update

Currently 92 players registered (out of a max of 50 pairs/100 players). Six buffet guests will join after bridge.

7. Competitions

7.1 **New ladder rules** will be on the website by the end of August. For 2026, the Ladder will be one division, based on the rules of Bromley North Bridge Club and start on the third Friday of September with 10 playing months ending in July (missing December). For 2027 onwards, the Ladder will start in August and run for 11 months (missing December).

7.2 A **blue pointed Swiss Pairs** competition was proposed to take place annually from September 2027 and all were keen. This was agreed in principal but will be confirmed at a later date.

8. AOB

8.1 **Bank** After a report from the Treasurer regarding the increasing difficulty in dealing with HSBC both by phone and face to face, it was unanimously agreed FBC should change banks. This will be done as soon as possible.

8.2 **Tone of member emails** It was noted that members should be aware of the tone and attitude of emails sent to the club. The committee will not deal with overly aggressive requests and demands, and if incoming emails contain 'body copy' text in capital letters (this is the equivalent of shouting) they will not be responded to.

8.3 **2027 Bridge Weekend** Several members have asked about another possible bridge weekend away. The committee suggested Spring next year as a possibility. An email will be sent to determine if there is enough interest from members.

8.4 **Extra dealing machine** It was noted that when the old dealing machine finally expires, we will need to replace it now that we have two dealers for Wednesdays and Fridays

9. Date of next (279th) meeting

Wednesday 11th or 18th November 2026 (tbc)

Members should email any queries to Kim Romanski (Hon. Secretary) at:
farnboroughbridge@gmail.com