

Minutes of 276th Farnborough Bridge Club Committee Meeting

11th February 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 275th meeting

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

3. Matters arising

New playing cards are now in use.

The Chair was disappointed with the registrations and turn out for the 2025 Christmas Party and it is wondered whether we should cancel the actual party section of the evening and simply make it a normal bridge night.

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 177. The new lessons, which started in October last year, have increased revenue along with growing numbers playing on Tuesdays and early bookings for the 75th Anniversary, however this also means costs have risen and a large expenditure so far this financial year has been the purchase of a full set of new playing cards.

Approved and seconded.

5. Committee Officers

The Chairman is keen to ensure the smooth running of the committee, so the following was agreed: After 3 outstanding years as Treasurer, John Hunt has decided to step down at the AGM and Claire Martin will seek member approval to replace him. Chris Clegg, Kim Romanski, Rodney Meredith and Wendy Church will continue, with member approval at the AGM, in their current positions to ensure continuity through the 75th Anniversary celebrations and other matters through the next financial year. At the 2027 AGM, Chris Clegg plans to step down and will propose that Kim Romanski succeeds him as Chair. The committee plans to co-opt a suitable member with a view to eventually taking over from Kim as Honorary Secretary.

6. 75th Anniversary event - 5th September 2026

Currently 29 pairs/58 members registered (out of a max of 50 pairs/100 players). Hon.Sec to email members with the 'early booking' rate deadline reminder. From 1st March other local bridge clubs will be invited to join us.

Approved and seconded.

7. Farnborough Village Hall

It was agreed that it is imperative the club continues to have a good relationship with FVH. Chris Clegg & Kim Romanski have joined Jenny Kerr as Trustees of FVH and Claire Martin will be dealing with their finances from April 2026.

8. Bank Holiday openings

A discussion took place regarding bank holiday bridge and it was agreed the club should open on any relevant Wednesdays & Fridays (including Good Friday) where there may be a national holiday. The exception being Christmas Day & Boxing Day when the club will be closed.

9. AOB

Digitisation of registrations

It was proposed, and agreed, that whilst the club will utilise the notice board for information and announcements, all registrations to events and matches will be online only. The notices will include the bridge club's email address and members can request the Hon.Sec to register for them if required. This was approved and seconded. The Hon.Sec will email all members on this subject.

Calendar items

1. Smith Cup date. It was proposed to move the Smith Cup to a date when the drama club is not utilising the stage to enable more than 15 tables.
Approved and seconded.
2. Burton Pryor. It was proposed to amend the website to say that the Burton Pryor Cup qualifier will take place on a Wednesday in April and the final on a Wednesday in May to avoid a specific week when it doesn't always fit with the remaining calendar for those months.
Approved and seconded.
3. Ladder. The committee has had various correspondence in favour of changing the ladder to one division. It was therefore proposed that the Ladder no longer runs with two divisions and that there will be only one division from the new financial year.
Approved and seconded.

Scorers

FBC needs more scorers. Hon.Sec to email those that did the previous course, yet are not currently scoring, to see if they could be added to the rota. There will also be an email asking if any members would be prepared to do the next course.

Bridge Holiday – UK Weekend break

Research and options for a mini bridge break has been undertaken following the previous committee meeting and three options were put forward. The general agreement based on costings and ease of travel was the Ardington Hotel in Worthing for 5th to 8th June. An email will go out to members following a site visit and once all information required is gathered.

10. Date of next (277th) meeting

Wednesday 20th May at 3pm

Members should email any queries to Kim Romanski (Hon. Secretary) at:

farnboroughbridge@gmail.com