

# **Minutes of 265th Farnborough Bridge Club Committee Meeting**

**9<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

## **1. Apologies for absence**

No apologies needed as Chairman Chris Clegg, Treasurer John Hunt and committee members Joan Chandler, Wendy Church and Rodney Meredith attended the meeting which began promptly at 1.30pm.

## **2. Minutes of the 264th committee meeting had been distributed to all.**

These were approved as a true record.

## **3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **4. Finance**

JH confirmed that he is authorised as a signatory on the bank mandate and now controls the monthly invoicing and account reconciliation. The club has 123 members and the recent increase in table money has resulted in a positive monthly cashflow.

He reported that the Christmas party made a small loss of £18.49 and Corbett/NICKO competition expenses of £760.00 had been settled. Should attendances continue at current levels and Tuesday daytime sessions prove popular, the club will be in a healthier financial position by year end and the need for another increase in table money, as proposed at the AGM, would be unwarranted.

## **5. Honorary Secretary**

The committee has tried to find a replacement for Jo Lightfoot with no success and no one has put themselves forward, so the secretarial duties will continue to be shared by the rest of the committee until further notice.

## **6. Subcommittee**

JC reported that 44 members had replied to the questionnaire and the overwhelming responses were positive. Three things dominated; 26 members considered the club to be warm, courteous, friendly and a comfortable place to play. 22 people commented on the good standard of play and considered it the best in the area. Just one person was mentioned in dispatches, by 25% of respondents, Wendy. Her refreshments are considered a great asset to the club.

Concerns were raised. 6 members were critical of bickering, rudeness and 'present-mortems', 5 were unhappy with early starting, 3 thought the pace of play slow, 3 disliked the host system and 3 were sorry that X-imp had been dropped. The committee discussed all above, particularly X-imps as the notion that it had been discarded from the calendar is untrue. So, it was agreed that members be asked if they want X-imps to remain on the 5<sup>th</sup> Wednesday and Friday of the month.

There were helpful suggestions about the website, competitions, and forthcoming Tuesday afternoon sessions. Half the replies offered no opinion on the constitution and the rest mostly thought it fit for purpose. 1 said the redraft was an improvement, 1 thought not having a Gen Secretary was unconstitutional, 1 thought the match captain should be on the committee and 1 thought the current version unfocused and lengthy.

## **7. Hall Rota**

The committee had an email from Graham Clements asking to be dropped from the hall rota, this was done, and Graham warmly thanked for his many years of service.

## **8. Christmas Party**

WC confirmed that the Christmas party had been well received and that this year's function will again feature the same caterers and be on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December!

## **9. Competitions and Club Matches**

RM confirmed that FKBC has entered 5 teams in the Corbett. The Smith Cup team event will be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February and the Burton-Prior will now be a one-night cut-in teams' competition on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April. JH then proposed a new ladder trophy which was agreed with much humour!

RM confirmed that there has been considerable enthusiasm for the forthcoming afternoon sessions starting on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January. After a discussion, it was agreed that the first three sessions on 16/23/30 January would **not** be EBU sanctioned or NGS rated, to enable the registration of visitors/guests/improvers and to arrange for hosts for single players needing a partner. From February, all sessions will be registered with the EBU as usual.

## **10. AOB**

There being no further business the meeting was closed, and Joan thanked for her delicious homemade cakes!

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 1.30pm** members can email questions/suggestions to [c.clegg@btinternet.com](mailto:c.clegg@btinternet.com).