

# **GLoucester Bridge Club**

## **Minutes of the Committee Meeting held at 1100 on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at Coffee House 43, Hucclecote**

### **1. Present**

Jon Nicholls (Chair), Elizabeth Bourne, Jeff Chaplin, Ken Morritt, Carol Neale, John Stirrup, Wynne Watts, Carol Wheeler. Apologies: Stewart Harrison,

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2025 were approved.

### **3. Matters Arising from the Previous Committee Meeting**

- a) Hannaford & Smyth – moved to today at request of Cheltenham.
- b) Third set of keys. Awaited from Community Association.
- c) Bridgemates from the closed Eckington Bridge Club – Eckington informed that we will donate £100 at next charity pairs (left in Minutes as a reminder).
- d) Trophy policy. Action on Jon from 15<sup>th</sup> July ongoing.
- e) Risks. Action on Jon to prepare instructions on the website for Jeff – ongoing.
- f) Bid & Natter – successful first session, 4 tables, held 28 October by Jon and John. Next session 9 December.
- g) Mentoring – Jon discussed with Alan, not to be pursued.
- h) Membership Renewal – Ken handed out list, 67 renewed to date, update at next meeting.
- i) Speed of play – not yet implemented. See also under Item 6 below.
- j) Bridge Results on Bridgemates – Stewart explained to members, closed.

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

- Ken handed out an account summary; small increase since last year, balance ~£3600.
- Move to online banking – set up, not yet used.
- Consider charitable status? Ken to draft a short briefing note – ongoing.

It was agreed that the Director should not be charged Table Money.

[Note for the record: We also do not charge those who (i) the Committee recognise as regularly attending to “make up the numbers” at Tuesday sessions; or (ii) make themselves available to be called in to “make up the numbers” at either session.]

### **5. Captain's Report**

Hannaford & Smyth being played this afternoon. [Post-Meeting Note: 24 Gloucester Members played in this friendly event at Cheltenham, both trophies being won by them. Well organised by Steve B for Cheltenham and John for us.]

John pointed out that the GCBA Everett Cup is being held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December.

### **6. Correspondence**

Jon summarised a video by Yorkshire CBA on use of tablets for scoring. Bridgemates III are 7" tablets replacing the current hand-held devices – cost ~£2600 for 10 tablet set, no ongoing

cost. Or can buy own 7" tablets for about £1000 for 10 tablets and supporting equipment, no ongoing costs (for the EBU supplied software option). Jon to circulate link to the video [Post-Meeting Note: Circulated November 26<sup>th</sup>.] One option on the tablets is to activate the clock option, which displays on each device - it seems more acceptable to have a device increasing speed of play rather than a Director! All agreed they would be clearer and easier to use, but noted that the current Bridgemates remain adequate. Would be useful to see tablets in action at a club. Can discuss further at next meeting. [Post-Meeting Note: John checked with Cheltenham, they have no current plans to go down the tablet route.]

## **7. Premises**

Nothing to report.

## **8. Any Other Business**

- a) Christmas/New Year Party Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026. Jon read out details from the email about the 2025 party – food and drink was brought by Member, then 9 tables played 15 boards. Carol W pointed out we had a lot of food left over and we would probably have more attendees this year. Catering was discussed in detail, and it was agreed that:
  - There would be no charge to Members (neither Table Money nor food and drink).
  - The Club would provide the food and drink – 50 attendees as an initial assumption.
  - Jeff would look at food and drink provided by the Club in previous years.
  - Jeff and Carol W would liaise over food.
  - Carol N would provide the drink, liaising with Ken, who will talk to the Community Association, noting that our Hire Agreement says “Alcoholic drinks are not permitted ... unless purchased from our [Community Association’s] licensed bar.”
  - Jon to email Members with arrangements at the appropriate time.
- b) Tuesday Session Start Time. Ken pointed out that players are generally ready to play by 1:30, so should we start at 1:30 and play 20 or 21 boards rather than 18? Generally supported by the Committee. All to consider further and discuss with Stewart or Jon.

## **9. Date and Time of Next Meetings**

- 11am on 20<sup>th</sup> January at Coffee House 43 (booked)
- 11am on 17<sup>th</sup> March at Coffee House 43 (to be booked, 24<sup>th</sup> as an alternative).

## **10. The meeting closed at 12:00**