

# GLOUCESTER BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the Committee Meeting  
held at 1100 on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at Coffee House 43, Hucclecote

## 1. Present

Jon Nicholls (Chair), Tim Burton, Jeff Chaplin, Stewart Harrison, Gill Hitchings, Ken Morrith, Carol Neale, John Stirrup, Wynne Watts, Carol Wheeler.

Gill and Tim were welcomed onto the Committee. Elizabeth was thanked for her service.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Committee meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 were approved.

## 3. Matters Arising from the Previous Committee Meeting

- a) Certificates for event winners. Issued.
- b) Website. Jeff and Jon to review the layout of the website and add any Club documentation – ongoing. Jon suggested a questionnaire to ask users what they wanted to see; John suggested there might be a page counter on the website, to show what was accessed. Stewart highlighted the importance of the website for potential players.
- c) GDPR policy update. Ongoing by Jeff; may be adequate as is.
- d) Dates for Cross-Imps. Stewart proposed to score pairs this summer via Cross-Imps if not a competition – agreed. Jon to send out a reminder about Cross-Imps v. MPs. Stewart will show results for both Cross-Imps and MPs.
- e) Thursday evening support. Item closed, see 8a below.

## 4. Treasurer's Report

- Move to online banking – Ken advised that more “users” with mobile phones are required; it was agreed that Carol N, Jeff, Jon, and Gill (as back-up) would be “signed up”.
- Charitable status – Ken, ongoing.
- Cabinets. Ken reported that Elmscroft had written about storage – moving our old cabinet from the office and paying for storage (which we haven't done to date). One option is for a  $\frac{2}{3}$  width cabinet alongside our existing new one; the cost of c. £250 was supported. Ken to reply to Elmscroft with the various options. We are likely to have to pay for storage in future.

## 5. Captain's Report

- Use of the Hand Timer. After a discussion, all supported the ongoing use of the timer, perhaps with a lower volume. In discussion, Tim pointed out that there was a flicker on the big screen and new players might be put off by the timer. Carol N suggested experienced players should support anyone that might find the clock daunting. Scores would only be shown on the big screen during the final round.
- Due to the good timekeeping engendered by the timer, Jon suggested that we might re-instate the scores on the Bridgemates for a trial period – Jon to write to Members.

## 6. Correspondence

None.

## 7. Premises

Nothing further – see 4 above about cabinets.

## 8. Any Other Business

a) Thursday Development. A long discussion, points included:

- separate table(s) with support, but might compromise limited players on Thursdays
- need to find out what the demand is - Jon
- could hold separate sessions on another evening
- unofficial bid and natter sessions do take place, including some players who do not play on Tuesdays or Thursdays
- need to consider both newly trained and developing players

It was agreed that all should consider options and let Jon know any ideas; Jon can liaise with Alan.

b) Summer Pairs. Stewart outlined potential options. It was agreed that it would be simple pairs (ie. no need for multiple partners) with 5 sessions to qualify. The competition would be “doubly” handicapped to ensure all have a chance to win.

c) 50 year Members. Carol W suggested that Enid, who has played at Gloucester for more than 50 years, and Malcolm, 50 years next year, should be recognised – perhaps at the party next year. This was agreed, all to pass ideas to Carol W.

d) Anti-Bullying Policy. In discussion, led by Gill, it was noted that:

- this included “micro-aggression” and speaking unnecessarily sharply
- bullying is a behaviour encompassed by our Constitution and Etiquette Guide
- any bullying should be immediately reported to the Director
- however, it is recognised that it may be challenging to raise the issue at the time
- if it was not possible to report immediately to the Director, the Chairman should be approached so that he can discuss this with those involved
- the aim should be to promote good behaviour
- Stewart and Jon will make regular announcements at the start of sessions (as Stewart had done at the AGM last week).

e) Taster Sessions. Carol N reported that Alan was considering evening Taster Sessions for potential players. It was agreed that Gloucester would strongly support this.

f) Tim suggested we add a "how did you find us" box to the Membership form – Jon to do.

g) Gill suggested we should put flyers around the area advertising our Club. Agreed. Jon to produce the flyers, and discuss with Alan.

## 9. Date and Time of Next Meetings

- 11am on 14<sup>th</sup> July at Coffee House 43 (booked).
- 11am on 15<sup>th</sup> September at Coffee House 43 (to be booked).

## 10. The meeting closed at 12:10