Minutes of 43rd Annual General Meeting of the Hunstanton Bridge Club

Monday 26th October 2026 – 4PM on Zoom

Present – Andrew Shaw, Charlotte Forbes-Robertson, Dawn Brooke, Kaz Burns, Laurent Bernard, Lyn Page, Malcolm Smith, Mary Williams, Robert Smith and Rosemary Engelmann were welcomed by the Chairman.

Apologies for Absence – Hazel Denslow, Henry Head, Jennie Foster, John Anchor, Margaret Doubleday, Pat Eckersall, Mike Oldham, Sarah Markillie and Sarah Wenden

Minutes – Minutes of the AGM held on 13th October 2025 were approved by all.

Matters Arising

None

Secretary's Report

Laurent presented the Secretary's Report by slideshow.

He reported that membership had continued to grow, reaching **221 members at 30 June 2026**, compared with 200 the previous year. Average attendance had also remained strong, with Monday averaging 10 tables, Thursday 7.5, Friday 12 and Sunday 8.

New developments during the year included the introduction of Monday sessions, Mini Swiss Pairs, new scoring tablets and BridgeTab scoring.

The Secretary also reported that the Club's Away Break at The Pheasant Hotel in November was fully booked, with 44 members attending.

Laurent also reported that the club had raised **£2,200 for charity events during 2025–26**.

He thanked members for their help with setting up and clearing away, and paid tribute to the committee for their enthusiasm, support and commitment to the club.

Finally, he thanked all members for their continuing support in keeping the club welcoming and friendly.

Comments

Trish thanked Andrew and Laurent for all their work for the Club. She said that the teaching programme had helped to keep the Club buoyant and that she had greatly enjoyed her two years as Chairman. She said she was very proud to have chaired the Club and thanked everyone for the hard work that had contributed to its success, despite some challenges. She also expressed pride in the Club's emphasis on maintaining a friendly and welcoming atmosphere.

Malcolm also congratulated Andrew and Laurent on their work for the Club, saying that they deserved recognition for all they had done.

Robert added his thanks to Andrew, Laurent and the Committee. He commented that other clubs were amazed that Hunstanton Bridge Club now had 221 members and said that, when asked what declining clubs could do to improve, he often pointed to Hunstanton as an example. He said the Club was a credit to everyone involved, particularly at a time when many other clubs were struggling.

Treasurer's Report

Henry reported a small loss of **£193.07.** Henry has provided his report in writing which was proposed by Laurent and seconded by Charlotte and all approved.

Election of Chairman

Henry Head was proposed by Laurent Bernard, seconded by Trish Bailey, and was elected.

Election of Officers

Mary Williams was proposed as Treasurer by Laurent Bernard and seconded by Mark Keightley and was elected.

Laurent Bernard was proposed as Secretary by Margaret Doubleday and seconded by Mark Keightley and was elected.

Committee Members

- **Andrew Shaw** was proposed by Margaret Doubleday, seconded by Henry Head
- **Charlotte Forbes-Robertson** was proposed by Trish Bailey, seconded by Laurent Bernard
- **Dawn Brooke** was proposed by Andrew Shaw, seconded by Mary Williams
- **Pat Eckersall** was proposed by Andrew Shaw, seconded by Mary Williams
- **Trish Bailey** was proposed by Mary Williams, seconded by Laurent Bernard

All five were elected

Subscription rates and table money

The Treasurer proposed that table money remain unchanged, but that the annual subscription be increased from £4 to £5 and is **due by 30th November 2026**. All approved.

Any Other Business

None

Date for the next committee meeting

Straight after the AGM.

Spin the wheel of names

Congratulations to Charlotte who won free table money for the whole month of October 2026!

Meeting ends at 4.20pm

Laurent Bernard
26.10.2026

HUNSTANTON BRIDGE CLUB

YEAR END ACCOUNTS JULY 2025 TO JUNE 2026

REPORT TO MEMBERS

SUMMARY

The financial position of your club is very satisfactory.

The accounts are attached with appropriate notes on individual headings.

Although the accounts show a small cash loss (£193.07) compared with the previous year , this has been incurred after exceptional expenditure on repair of the dealing machine (£740) and new tables and cloths (£1400) as well as the purchase of 2 new iPads (£400).

The ability to afford this expenditure has been made possible by the increase in income under all headings.

Therefore, your club's cash reserves have remained well above the minimum level of £4000 which your Committee maintains is the safe level to allow for emergencies such as were experienced this year (and indeed have occurred in July with the need to purchase new tablets for the computer system.)

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND CHARGES IN 2026/7

Because of the purchase of the new tablets(£1,500), the increase in rent and the fact that subscriptions have not changed since at least 2020, it is proposed that annual subscriptions should rise to £5 per year. This will come into force with immediate effect and will appear in your October debit.

There will be no change to any other regular charges; the charges for social events may have to take account of costs outside our control.

Henry Head

Hon Treasurer

HBC ACCOUNTS PERIOD 2025 TO 2026

		2024 - 2025		2025 - 2026	NOTE
Income					
Table Money	£	12,098.81	£	13,621.94	
Subscriptions	£	800.00	£	924.00	1
Bridge Courses / Books	£	982.98	£	1,809.50	1
Social Events	£	2,270.00	£	3,051.00	2
Total Income	**£**	**16,151.79**	**£**	**19,406.44**	
Expenditure					
Course Expenses / Books	£	769.69	£	761.16	
Donations / Charity	£	1,597.20	£	2,194.09	3
EBU fees / competitions / insurance	£	2,608.89	£	2,515.48	
Equipment	£	429.41	£	2,655.61	4
Printing/Stationery/Playing cards	£	291.11	£	272.49	
RealBridge Fees	£	896.64	£	680.64	
Refreshment / Social events	£	4,362.38	£	5,637.57	2
Rent	£	3,910.00	£	4,680.00	5
Website / Software	£	204.35	£	202.47	
Total Expenditure	**£**	**15,069.67**	**£**	**19,599.51**	
Surplus/Deficit	**£**	**1,082.12**	**-£**	**193.07**	

BALANCE SHEET		at 30th June 2025		30 Jun 2026
Previous accumulated Fund	£	3,977.31	£	5,059.43
Surplus/Deficit	£	1,082.12	-£	193.07
Accumulated Fund	**£**	**5,059.43**	**£**	**4,866.36**
Barclay's Balance	£	5,412.49	£	5,262.00
Cheques pending	£	-	£	-
Players' balance BridgeWebs	-£	353.06	-£	395.64
	£	**5,059.43**	**£**	**4,866.36**
			£	-

Approved By

MA Keogh 25/8/26

HUNSTANTON BRIDGE CLUB

YEAR END ACCOUNTS JULY 2025 TO JUNE 2026

NOTES ON THE ACCOUNTS

1. This shows a very healthy increase in membership from 200 to 221. The driver of this growth is the popular courses so well run by The Secretary and a vital ‘feeder’ to membership.

2. It is most pleasing that the social activities of the Club are well supported. It must be noted, however, that they are not profitable. In the light of the Club’s financial situation, this loss is sustainable.

3. Other than Children in Need, the charities supported are all local.

4. The higher equipment expenditure has been explained in the Summary.

5. Rent has increased by £2 per hour. Your Committee still considers this good value and the Village Hall Committee is very supportive.