

KINGSTON SEYMOUR BRIDGE CLUB

Notes of Annual General Meeting held on 28th January 2020

Present: Graham Daniel (Chair), Howard Davies, Joe Patrick, Pat Cartwright, John Cockram, Jill Ford, Daphne Patrick, Patti Craven-Wilkinson, John Pady, Martin Holcombe, Julie Holder, Shirley Ross, Jenny Gostlin, Mark Gostlin, Judith James, Tony Bowler, Ann Bawdon, Ken Bawdon, Tim Mather, Christine Weller, Andrew Weller, Liz Hale (22)

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Carolyn Waite, Terry Yearsley, Ann Yearsley, Glenda Horner, Sue Brice, Bryan Brice, Jo Hatcliffe, Patricia Ewing, Joan Roper, Sylvia Stokes, Sue Wilson, Roger Calderbank, Pauline Deal, John Deal, Brian Cherry, Derek Sutton, Norman Renfrew, Muriel Renfrew, David Sands (19)
2. **Minutes of Last Meeting** – Unanimously accepted by all present.
3. **Matters Arising** – None.
4. **Chairman's Report** – In the interests of time, a brief summary of the Chairman's report was read at the meeting, but the full version is attached.
5. **Treasurer's Report** – Financial Statement attached.
 - (i) Howard explained that both income and expenditure had increased slightly and went on to say that the surplus for the year had remained roughly the same at £842 but the balance at the end of 2019 had increased to approximately £1800 from £1001 last year which was a healthy sum. We had also earned a small amount of bank interest owing to the transfer of money into a deposit account the previous year.
Martin Holcombe asked why the Duplimate costs had increased this year. Howard explained that the costs for last year represented the cost for a part year because we'd only just started using Duplimate, but this year it represented a full year's service cost.
The treasurer's report was accepted, proposed by John Cockram, seconded by John Pady.
 - (ii) Howard explained that annual subscription had been increased two years ago to £10 in order to build up a reserve for equipment replacement and a buffer against unforeseen cost rises. He proposed that the annual subscription and table money remain the same this year, so that the club had enough of a surplus to replace ageing equipment in the future. This was unanimously accepted by all present.

6. **Election of Officers and Committee Members** –

- (i) Howard explained that Graham was the only nominee for the position of Chairman and that as he was willing to continue in this role he should be elected to do so.
- (ii) All the present committee members were willing to continue serving the club except John Cockram who wanted to step down so that he could concentrate on training. One new nomination had been received, Patricia Ewing, and no challenges to existing nominations had been received. The committee members were therefore re-elected as follows:

Graham Daniel, Chairman – proposed by Christine Weller, seconded by Andrew Weller
Howard Davies, Treasurer – proposed by Derek Sutton, seconded by Brian Cherry

Tim Mather, Secretary – proposed by Tony Bowler, seconded by Pat Cartwright
Daphne Patrick, President – proposed by Howard Davies, seconded by Sylvia Stokes
Liz Hale, Competition Secretary – proposed by Tricia Ewing, seconded by Daphne Patrick
Tony Bowler – proposed by Tim Mather, seconded by Sylvia Stokes
Carolyn Waite – proposed by Salma Daniel, seconded by Graham Daniel
Tricia Ewing – proposed by Ann Bawdon, seconded by Terry Yearsley

7. **Constitution** – Graham reminded everyone that he'd issued a note of the changes which the committee had proposed to make to the constitution and to incorporate changes which the EBU had made to its model constitution. He had not received any comments or questions from members. The changes were therefore unanimously accepted by the membership.
8. **Matters Raised by Members** – Liz Hale asked if we would need to increase the annual subscription if for instance the village hall put up the fee for renting the hall. Howard explained that the reason for keeping the annual subscription and table money at the same level was to enable the club to meet such unforeseen circumstances without the need to increase table money unexpectedly. He went on to say that it was most unlikely that an increase in table money would be required owing to the healthy financial position of the club. Graham added that, if ever such an event occurred, then an extraordinary general meeting would be called.

KINSGTON SEYMOUR BRIDGE CLUB – Chairman’s Report 2019

Good evening, thank you all for coming – to YOUR club’s annual general meeting.

This is my fourth chairman’s report; it’s been a year of consolidation, somewhat less frenetic than the previous two or three but, nonetheless, your committee has been busy on your behalf.

The electronic scoring system we invested funds and great effort in in 2017 is pretty stable now, with problems being very rare beyond scores needing to be corrected – and they’re more often than not down to what I call operator malfunction and easily put right. We had just one occasion when it took rather more effort and we do now, as you all know, insist on personal score cards being kept by at least one member of each pair – and that’s good practice anyway.

Andrew Weller has joined our scoring team – but we could still do with another one or two people to help out as well – and Jenny and Mark Gostlin continue to do a great job for us using the Clevedon & Portishead club’s dealing machine to deal our boards. I must, in particular, thank them for their efforts and always making sure we’re covered when they know they’re going to be away for a while.

Table numbers have continued to increase. Our average in 2016 was just 4.9 tables and that’s grown every year since to just over 8 last year. We had nine or more tables on 16 occasions in 2019, never more than ten but we’ve now geared up for twelve, with two more tablets, two new folding tables and more tablecloths and bidding boxes to go with them.

Our membership list is stable. We closed the year on 56 members; the same as last year but we must recognise the need to attract a few new ones to replace the inevitable losses we’ll suffer as we’re all getting older or people move away. The EBU and Somerset Association have initiatives to encourage more people into the game (and train them of course); there was a key meeting last week which John and I attended, and we’ve signalled our intention to be involved.

I should stress that we believe the club’s a comfortable size right now; we’re not anxious to grow much beyond where we are but certainly don’t want to shrink and don’t want to turn members away if more of them, and maybe a visitor or two, do turn up on the same evening!

Moving on, John and Martin ran six training sessions in 2019, with an average of more than 16 people attending them. John’s already run the first one this year (with a ‘back to basics’ theme and is working on the 2020 programme. There’s also the FREE seminar, funded by the SCBA and taught by Caroline Macpherson at the Claverham village hall on Sunday week, 9 February, and I’d urge you all to think about booking on that.

We’ve again fielded two teams in the SCBA County League, and both are doing well. The ‘A’ team, led by Tricia, have won their last four matches, are currently leading the division and, with just one match to play, are mathematically certain of promotion and almost certainly as champions. The ‘B’ team, which I lead, have won three of their last four matches – the other one being against our ‘A’ team! You might remember that my primary objective in forming the ‘B’ team was to give some of our less-experienced players the opportunity to put their toes in the water of playing outside the club and I’m delighted to say that Glenda, Carolyn, Howard, Christine and Andrew have now all experienced the pleasure of winning as well as the enjoyment of playing and representing the club!

We had a great turnout for our heat of the Children in Need simultaneous pairs event in November and contributed £180 to this very worthy charity. We’ll be doing it again next November and are playing next week in the Michael Coda event organised by the SCBA, this year in aid of Bibic, a charity based in Langport which helps children and young people with learning and behavioural difficulties

resulting from brain injury, autism, cerebral palsy, ADHD and a wide variety of other conditions. Please come along and give your support.

We've held regular handicap events, with the players who win now rewarded with a week free of table money.

In conclusion; I believe it's been another successful year and I must give thanks for their part in getting us there to all my colleagues on the committee, that's Daphne, Liz, Carolyn, John, Tim, Howard and Tony, who have all made important contributions.

Of specific note, thanks should go to Tony and Tim for helping me review and recommend changes to our constitution (more of that later) and to Howard for leading an exercise on defining more clearly the various committee roles – an exercise which will, I'm sure, make it much easier for the new blood I'm still hoping to see on the committee understand what they're responsible for. I must also thank John, who's decided to step down from the committee after a couple of years on it. John's done great work in running classes for us and, after we sponsored him to go on an EBU teacher training course last year, he came back so enthused that he's decided to focus his efforts on developing that role and, in so doing, helping us in developing our bridge skills. I am sorry to see John leave the committee but, if I can't have him doing both things, I genuinely believe what he's going to be doing is more valuable for the club than having him sat at the committee table.

I keep on emphasising that this is YOUR club, but the people I've just named all work hard to help you enjoy it, and I'd ask you please to show your gratitude to them in the usual way.

So, that's it from me and time to hand over to Howard for the Treasurer's report.

KINGSTON SEYMOUR BRIDGE CLUB

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31.12.2019

----- 2018 -----

----- 2019 -----

INCOME

Membership Fees	£532.00	Membership Fees	£540.00
Table Money	£3,190.00	Table Money	£2,962.00
Nailsea BC	£100.00	Table Money (Training)	£172.00
CiN	£195.00	Nailsea BC	£200.00
		Charity Collections	£296.00
		Donations	£30.00
		Bank Interest	£1.75
		Course Refund	£140.00
Total Income	<u>£4,017.00</u>		<u>£4,341.75</u>

EXPENDITURE

Hall Fees	£1,237.50	Hall Fees	£1,110.00
EBU Affiliation	£25.00	Hall Fees (Training)	£90.00
EBU P2P Fees	£567.48	EBU Affiliation	£26.00
EBU - Club Insurance	£74.70	EBU P2P Fees	£613.32
BridgeWebs Licence	£48.00	EBU - Club Insurance	£74.70
BridgeTabs Equipment		BridgeWebs Licence (2020)	£48.00
BridgeTabs Licence	£66.29	BridgeTabs Equipment	£153.73
ScoreBridge Licence	£36.00	BridgeTabs Licence	£84.39
Competition Entry	£80.00	ScoreBridge Licence	£31.00
Course Fees and Booklets	£6.25	Competition Costs	£88.00
Equipment & Stationery	£469.74	Course Fees and Booklets	£140.00
Charity Donations	£219.00	Equipment & Stationery	£229.66
Xmas Event	£69.36	Charity Donations	£320.00
Refreshments	£138.56	Xmas Event	£47.18
Duplicate costs	£140.00	Refreshments	£105.29
Miscellaneous Expenditure	£15.00	Duplicate costs	£250.00
		Misc.	£83.50
		Equipment & Stationery (Training)	£4.00
Total Expenditure	<u>£3,192.88</u>		<u>£3,498.77</u>

Surplus / Deficit for the year	<u>£824.12</u>		<u>£842.98</u>
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Accumulated Funds

Balance as at 31.12.2017	£176.88	Balance as at 31.12.2018	£1,001.00
Surplus / Deficit for the year	£824.12	Surplus / Deficit for the year	£842.98

Balance as at 31.12.2018	<u>£1,001.00</u>	Balance as at 31.12.2019	<u>£1,843.98</u>
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Represented by :-

Bank Account	£979.97	Bank Current Account	£338.32
Cash in Hand	£21.03	Bank Savings Account	£1,501.75
		Cash in Hand	£3.91

<u>£1,001.00</u>		<u>£1,843.98</u>
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