

KINGSTON SEYMOUR BRIDGE CLUB

Notes of Inaugural General Meeting held on Tuesday 15th December 2015 at Kingston Seymour Village Hall

Present: Jenny Gostlin, Mark Gostlin, Tim Mather, Josie Matthews, Joan Roper, Laurence Roper, Alicia Cash, Jo Hatcliffe, Joe Patrick, Daphne Patrick, Graham Daniel, Howard Davies, Tony Bowler, Sylvia Stokes, Liz Hale, Hugh Edwards, John Cockram, Patrick Cartwright, Chris Stokes, Rosie Knifton, Trish Ewing, Roger Calderbank, Carolyn Waite, Glenda Horner, Sue Wilson, Sylvia Fearon, Mike Fearon, Salma Daniel

Apologies: Jean Bills, Judith James, Pauline Wilding, Sandra Sharp, Anya Frizell, Garry Norman, Jill Ford

1. Introduction – the background to where we are and what we are trying to achieve

Howard introduced the meeting and explained that the need to become more formal in our structure, for example having a Constitution and committee, was prompted by the growth in our membership and need to have things like a bank account rather than by our EBU affiliation.

2. Club Constitution

Graham said that the only queries raised on the Constitution circulated a few weeks previously had both come from Tony. He explained that clause 12.5 gives authority for the committee to increase the fees if necessary during the year and that clause 12.6 allows us to charge for other organisations making use of our equipment if and when that ever became relevant.

Rosie queried whether the quorum definition in clause 9.9 would be adequate in the event of membership numbers significantly changing and it was agreed to change this to ten members or 20% of the membership, whichever is the lesser.

Graham then proposed that the Constitution be accepted with that change, this was and seconded by Howard and agreed by the members present.

3. Election of Officers

Howard stated that there was only one nomination for the post of Chairman and that Graham would therefore continue in that position.

Graham then stated that there was only one nomination for each of the other officers and that Daphne, Joe and Howard would therefore continue in the position of President, Secretary and Treasurers respectively.

Chairman – Graham, proposed by Trish seconded by Daphne
President – Daphne, proposed by Joe and seconded by Trish
Secretary – Joe, proposed by Salma and seconded by Graham
Treasurer – Howard, proposed by Joe and seconded by Trish

Graham stated that there were five nominations for the four committee member positions and proposed that, as the Constitution provided for co-opting two more, all five should be elected.

Committee members:

Sylvia – proposed by Howard and seconded by Chris Stokes

Trish – proposed by Joe and seconded by Daphne

Salma – proposed by Trish and seconded by Howard

Liz – proposed by Joe and seconded by Graham

Hugh – proposed by Howard and seconded by Graham

4. Financial considerations

Howard distributed an Income and Expenditure Account (01/06/2015 to current date) showing a balance of £391 but advised we would need to spend money in 2016 on things such as bidding boxes and cards. He proposed we maintain table money at £2 per week but guests to pay £3 and annual membership should be £5 per year. This was formally proposed by Howard and seconded by Graham.

Rosie referred to 12.5 of the Constitution and proposed that the committee should be authorised to raise fees during the year if necessary. Agreed.

Howard proposed that the officers of the club should be authorised to open a bank account and this was seconded by Joe. Agreed. Joan questioned how many signatories would be needed and Howard said there would be two from Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

5. Club etiquette

Graham stated that, as with the Constitution, the only comment on this document had come from Tony. It was agreed that the clause suggested by Tony, that cards should be left on the table at the end of a hand until the score had been agreed, would be added.

6. AOB

Graham proposed that, as provided by 5.5 of the Constitution, Daphne be appointed an Honorary Life Member of the Club. This was seconded by Howard and unanimously agreed by the membership present.

Graham stated that a club website was in development and gave thanks to Sue Wilson for her efforts on it, he also pointed out that in the meantime there was now a Club noticeboard which would be on display every week.

Tony questioned whether there should be 'No Fear' evenings, there was some discussion on this and it was agreed that the committee would come up with proposals on this after the next committee meeting.