

Minutes of Mountnessing Bridge Club AGM, 9th June 2022

1. Welcome

By John McCoy (Chair)

2. Apologies for Absence

Linda Fleet, Paul and Val Mollison, Dennis Valtisiaris.

3. Minutes of last AGM (2nd September 2021)

Have been on website and no queries have been raised.

Minutes accepted – Proposed Albert Kitchen, seconded George Vede

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Report by Chair

Since re-opening the club is just surviving but in recent weeks the numbers have been very low. Other Essex clubs are in a similar position.

6. Report by Treasurer

Roger Tattersfield covered this as the Treasurer (Linda Fleet) was unable to attend. There were only a few copies of the accounts due to administrative problems but John McCoy will email a copy to anyone who contacts him.

The period covered is 15 months to end March 2022.

Approximately £1000 loss during closure, further £200 to 31st March 2022.

Hall rent is £1012 per year but the club is grateful that the Mountnessing Hall

Committee did not charge during closure period.

Membership did not restart until Spring 2022.

Overall the Club is still losing money.

Accounts accepted – Proposed Robert Elliot, seconded Albert Kitchen

7. Appointment of Examiner for 2022-2023

Roger Tattersfield was appointed.

8. Election of Officers and Committee Members for 2022-2023

The following are willing to continue:

Chair John McCoy

Treasurer Linda Fleet

Committee Members Nick Hagan, Mike Harbour

There were no other nominations for these posts so the above will continue.

David Piper and Angela Fenton volunteered as Committee members, proposed Simon Moorman, seconded Graham Beeton.

There were no volunteers for the posts of Secretary and Webmaster so these positions remained unfilled.

9. Proposals

It is proposed that Billericay Mayflower Bridge Club and Mountnessing Bridge Club are merged to form one joint club. This is a joint proposal from the Committees of both clubs following a detailed assessment of the benefits and drawbacks. The report

of the Working Party is available on both websites.

David Piper:

- Against the merger, it would not significantly affect the finances or numbers playing.
- The Chair would not allow him to circulate a note re. Merger to members prior to AGM.
- Mountnessing has £4000 more in bank, what would happen to this?
- Mountnessing loses its independence and if decided to reduce playing nights to one per week this could be imposed.
- No information on how merger would work.
- Could be conflict of interests between the 2 clubs.

Simon Moorman:

- Proposal details says finances are one of merger reasons and if joint membership is less than the 2 clubs currently there will be less income.

John McCoy:

- Financial considerations minimal
- Decisions on membership, etc to be decided by new joint committee as detailed in proposal document
- A 75% vote would be required at an EGM to close a club night.
- At last AGM agreed to chair until next AGM to keep club running.
- Has many other commitments.

Alaric Cundy:

- Members need more details, a committee should prepare new constitution before vote.
- Ran club for many years, increasingly difficult to get people for all the necessary functions.
- Easier if one committee runs both clubs. *Robert Elliot* concurred.

Pat Johnson:

- Reduction in clubs affects Essex competition entries.

Graham Beeton:

- Happy to train as back-up scorer and possibly direct.

Cath Fox:

- EBU suggests merging smaller clubs results in a stronger club.

Vote

- *For 11* (inc.3 proxy votes) *Against 12* (inc.1 proxy vote)

Proposal Rejected

In view of result John McCoy will resign as Chair in 2 months and will cease attending and organising club nights. He proposed an EGM in 4 weeks to discuss the way forward, proposed Keith Nicholl, seconded Maureen Vede.

10. Trophy Presentation

Trophies elsewhere at the moment but congratulations to David Piper and Les Curtis for winning the Club Pairs, Mary Rodgers and Windmill Trophies.

Meeting close 7.50pm