

# NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

## COUNCIL

(Draft) Minutes of a meeting held at Kelvin & Malone on Monday September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, from 11.30am

Present: Diane Greenwood (Chair), Michael McFaul (Secretary), Anne Fitzpatrick (Treasurer), Helen Hall (Website and Match Manager), Heather Hill, Nuala Mooney, Liz Thomas, Toni Sproule, Lesley Agar, John Baker, John O'Neill.

### **1. Apologies**

Ian Hamilton (Masterpoints Secretary), Harold Curran (President), Anne Hassan (Competitions Secretary), Brian Mullan (Immediate Past Chair)

### **2. Minutes of the meeting held on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

Agreed on a proposal by Heather Hill and seconded by Helen Hall.

### **3. Matters Arising**

Item 3:7 No progress has been made on recruiting new TD's. MMcF to ask HC for progress report. HC also to contact Geraldine Jamison at Derryvolgie.

**Action: MMcF & HC.**

Item 9: It was confirmed that the U3A congress was proceeding. The number of U3A members taking advantage of free NIBU membership was not known.

### **4. Annual Subscription.**

Following discussion a vote was taken on whether members of more than one affiliated club should pay the NIBU element only once. The vote was 6-5 in favour of the change in policy. John O'Neill stated that the Constitution would need to be amended to reflect this change. It was confirmed that the affiliation charge would be £10 per member for the 2024-25 season subject to review next spring.

**Action: MMcF to review the relevant section of the Constitution**

### **5. Novice Membership**

It was agreed that those who had attended 'Beginners Bridge' recently would be invited to play in appropriate NIBU events without the need to join a club initially. It was hoped that this would generate a boost to the Novice section in events such as the Ciara Burns Pairs.

### **6. Leagues**

MMcF reminded members that the closing date for entries had been extended to September 11<sup>th</sup>. The Senior League had received a good response but the Intermediate League quota was disappointing.

**7. Charity event.**

DG referred to Harold Curran's email. It was agreed that the Union did not have the resources to support a charity event and that many clubs were already active in this area.

**8. Diaries**

AF agreed to collect 25 Bridge diaries for NIBU members on her visit to Dublin on September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**9. Date of next meeting.**

December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, at Kelvin & Malone from 11.30am

***Action: MMcF notify RK***

The meeting concluded at 1pm.

Michael McFaul  
Hon. Secretary.