

# NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

## COUNCIL

(Draft) Minutes of a meeting held at Kelvin & Malone on Monday December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, from 11.30am

Present: Harold Curran (President), Brian Mullan (Chairperson), Michael McFaul (Secretary), Anne Fitzpatrick (Treasurer), Ian Hamilton (Masterpoints Secretary), Anne Hassan (Competitions Secretary), Helen Hall (Webmaster/International Match Manager), Ian Lindsay, Toni Sproule, Michael Stevenson

**1. Apologies**

Diane Greenwood, Nuala Mooney, Heather Hill, Liz Thomas, Lesley Agar.

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

On a proposal by Ian Lindsay, seconded by Toni Sproule the Minutes were accepted.

**3. Matters Arising**

Item 2: It was confirmed that Diane Greenwood had collected hardware from Norman Lacey. It was agreed that Anne Hassan would test the printers and dump any that were of no use. MMcF to check if she had Norman Lacey's laptop.

***Action: MMcF***

Item 7: Masterpoints Harmonisation – A meeting with the CBAI had taken place. It was confirmed that the NIBU processes were ahead of the CBAI. It was suggested that full harmonisation with the CBAI/WBU and SBU would be advantageous. Ian Hamilton agreed to send MMcF the Masterpoints Access files.

***Action: IH***

Item 8: SWOT Analysis – Brian Mullan expressed disappointment at the response so far and said he would like to meet members in person in order to seek out their views on harmonisation with the CBAI. MMcF agreed to contact Dermot O'Brien in order to ascertain the official CBAI view on a possible merger.

***Action: MMcF***

**4. Financial Report**

Anne Fitzpatrick reported on the situation regarding payment of affiliation fees. MMcF agreed to issue reminders to those clubs that had not yet submitted payment or members' lists. It was agreed that clubs that had not renewed for 3 years should be archived.

**5. Honoraria for Officers**

This matter was discussed with officers having left the room. A proposal was agreed by remaining members but subsequently deferred for further action until the next meeting.

**6. Funding of International Representatives and Inter-Provincial teams.**

It was agreed to make no changes to the current arrangements.

**7. Tournament Committee Report**

Anne Hassan spoke of her plans to recruit members to the Committee. She agreed to contact the names of potential TDs in order to widen the personnel capable of directing NIBU competitions and trials.

***Action: AH to contact Sandie Millership.***

**8. Trophies**

Helen Hall said the collection could no longer be kept at her house and it was intended to see if they could be housed at La Mon or failing that, in a lockup.

***Action: HH***

**9. Youth Committee Report**

Agreement on a proposal by Harold Curran regarding the Junior Camrose & Peggy Bayer events was deferred until the March meeting.

**10. Procedure to elect the Vice-Chairperson.**

On a proposal by HC, seconded by AF it was agreed that in future, nominees would be considered by Council and elected via a secret ballot.

**11. Selection Committee**

Michael Stevenson referred to an unpleasant phone call he had received from an NIBU member regarding his membership of the committee. He went on to say that he was resigning from the said committee.

HC asked that Council discuss its right to oversee the workings of the Committee, at the next meeting.

**12. IBU Minutes**

It was confirmed that the IBU Minutes were not to be made available for public viewing on the NIBU website.

**13. Date of next meeting**

March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Michael McFaul  
Hon. Secretary