

NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

Annual General Meeting of the Executive Council

(Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Union held at Kelvin & Malone Bridge club on Sunday June 25th, 2023, from 2.00pm)

Present: (23 members)

Michael McFaul, Helen Hall, Anne Fitzpatrick, John Murchan, Brian Mullan, Mary Wolsey, Dorothy Bruce, Norma Irwin, Toni Sproule, Nuala Mooney, Diane Greenwood, Ian Lindsay, David Greenwood, Rosemary Kilpatrick, Sandie Millership, David Leeman, Stan Lowe, Elizabeth Thomas, Lesley Agar, Robin Burns, Michael Stevenson, Alan Hill, Heather Hill.

Brian Mullan took the Chair and welcomed members to the meeting.

1. Apologies

Ian Hamilton, Collette Carlin, Paul Tranmer, Christine Byrne, Harold Curran, Norman Lacey

2. Minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting

The Minutes were accepted on a proposal by Sandie Millership, seconded by Norma Irwin.

3. Matters Arising

Item 17: It was agreed that Helen Hall could dispose of the redundant laptops that had now been replaced.

4. Chairman's Report

Brian Mullan referred to his series of visits to affiliated clubs. Sandie Millership suggested his itinerary should include newly affiliated St. Colmcille's.

5. Secretary's report.

Michael McFaul referred to his recent meeting with Steve Carter, UK Bridge Advisor to U3A. It was hoped that closer links would result and that local U3A clubs would consider affiliating to the Union. He referred to Norman Lacey and Harold Curran who were unable to attend the meeting for health reasons and offered them the thoughts and support of those present.

6. Treasurer's report

Anne Fitzpatrick outlined the financial position of the Union. A deficit of £6,078 had been incurred for the year reducing reserves from £63,923 to £57,845.

BBO (£5,255 for the year) remained a substantial source of income with CBAI administering funds and remittance being received which in turn was distributed to the various clubs after an administration charge.

The most significant expense was on Junior Camrose and Peggy Bayer now that face to face competition had returned and it was anticipated this would continue with NIBU hosting these competitions in 2023/2024."

7. Masterpoints Secretary's report

As Ian Hamilton was not present, his report was noted. David Leeman inquired as to the Welsh Bridge Union's methodology in counting membership.

At this point David Leeman queried whether the meeting was quorate. It was confirmed that at least 25 members in attendance was necessary while only 23 members were present. However Ian Lindsay confirmed that business could be transacted subject to a recall of the AGM to immediately precede the next Council meeting at which the quorum of members attending would ratify the proceedings.

8. Annual Accounts

On a proposal by Helen Hall, seconded by Toni Sproule, the Accounts were accepted.

9. Election of President.

Following nomination by Derryvolgie and with the support of Council, Harold Curran was elected to serve for a period of 3 years on a proposal by Ian Lindsay, seconded by Nuala Mooney.

10. Outgoing President's Address

John Murchan spoke of his wish to see a return to face-to-face bridge and went on to pay tribute to the tireless efforts on behalf of the Union of his successor.

11. Election of Officers

Hon. Treasurer: Anne Fitzpatrick (Quoile), proposed by Nuala Mooney, Seconded by Toni Sproule

Hon. Secretary: Michael McFaul (Kelvin & Malone) proposed by Rosemary Kilpatrick, seconded by Diane Greenwood.

Ian Hamilton (Kelvin & Malone) proposed by Sandie Millership, Seconded by Norma Irwin

All were elected to serve for a period of 1 year.

12. Election of Competitions Secretary

Following the resignation of Norman Lacey, so far, a replacement had not been found.

13. Election of Councillors

In addition to the Officers, the following were elected to serve on Council:

Toni Sproule proposed by Sandie Millership, seconded by Anne Fitzpatrick

Lesley Agar proposed by Sandie Millership, seconded by Toni Sproule

Liz Thomas proposed by Sandie Millership, seconded by Toni Sproule

Ian Lindsay proposed by Heather Hill, seconded by Anne Fitzpatrick

Michael Stevenson proposed by Helen Hall, seconded by Heather Hill

Helen Hall and Nuala Mooney were both proposed by Derryvolgie club and accepted.

14. Election of Vice-Chairperson

Diane Greenwood was elected on a proposal by John Murchan, seconded by Nuala Mooney

15. Election of Examining Accountant

Peter Green was elected on a proposal by Ian Lindsay, seconded by Sandie Millership

16. Election of Trustees

John Murchan stated that he no longer wished to serve. On a proposal by Anne Fitzpatrick, seconded by Heather Hill to the following were elected: Harold Curran, Alan Hill, Ian Lindsay.

17. Presentation of Trophies

Helen Hall said she had up to 40 trophies in possession. The following trophies were presented:

Northern Ireland Teams to David Greenwood (Rex Anderson, Paul Tranmer and Wayne Somerville)

Provincial Mixed Pairs to Sandie Millership (Ian Hamilton)

Mr Monty Handicap Pairs to Helen Hall and Michael McFaul

18. Other Business:

a: Sandie Millership said she was prepared to do limited dealing of boards.

b: David Leeman asked for more details on sanctions imposed on players found to be cheating while playing online.

c: Ian Lindsay outlined the procedure to be followed following declaration of the meeting to be inquorate.

d: David Leeman asked for more details on the possible amalgamation of the Union with the CBAI. Brian Mullan said that discussions were at a very early stage and that members would be kept informed of developments, if any.

Following the presentation of trophies, the meeting ended at 3.05pm.

Michael McFaul

Hon. Secretary