



THE NOTTINGHAM BRIDGE CLUB

MINUTES OF TRUSTEE MEETING

Saturday 3rd October 2020 at 4.15pm (via Zoom)

Present:

Mark Goddard (President)
David Dunford (Chairman)
Phil Gross (Treasurer)

Marc Gaudart
Sue Hollins
Norma Keeton
Pauline Payne

Stefka Samus
Dave Treharne
Tony Ward

1. Apologies

Andrew Scott, Mel Shepherd and Cathy Turski.

2. Minutes of Meeting 15th August 2020

The minutes were agreed and approved for publication on the Club web site without redaction.

3. Matters Arising and not elsewhere on the Agenda

- a. Drinks going out of date – item not discussed
- b. David had supplied Mark with details of the Mailchimp account.

4. Refurbishment

Dave reported on progress:

- * The railings and the porch have been painted.
- * The side wall has been repointed and painted white
- * Waiting for bricks so that the far wall, replacing the wooden fence, can be built
- * Damp in the playing room is to be dealt with
- * A quote has been obtained for the new door
- * The new kitchen will be installed in the first two weeks in November

5. Flats

We have been required to license the flats with Nottingham Council. The Council charges £890 per flat for the licence which lasts five years. Northwood, our management agency, asked for £240 per flat to carry out the registration. However, when challenged, reduced this to £180.

The Committee is concerned about both the quality of the service, and the charges, from the agency.

Mel Shepherd has been the Club's link with the management agency (which changed hands a while ago) for some year, for which we are very grateful. Mel has asked for someone to shadow him in dealing with the agency and the Committee wish to thank Tony for volunteering to take on this role.

One tenant has handed in his notice but has recommended a friend to take on the flat. The agency propose to increase the rent.

6. Online Activities

There was discussion about who should be eligible to win the online competitions qualifying for trophies. It was agreed that this should be limited to those already registered to play in our online tournaments, together with any new members.

Handicap competitions. It was agreed that the Cullen Cup would run online, including tournaments held from August. David is to explore how the handicap system can be implemented. **Action: David**
RealBridge is expected to go live on 10 October. The Committee agreed to authorise the Officers to take what action they considered most appropriate in phasing in its use by the Club. **Action: Officers**

7. Charity Commission Updates

Cathy has updated the information on trustees.

Mark undertook to file the necessary returns by the due date of the end of October. **Action: Mark**

8. Re-opening the Club

In the midst of increasing rates of infection and increasing restrictions, the Committee were of the view that the club premises were unlikely to reopen before Easter. The two main considerations at the moment would be to comply with the Rule of Six and to provide adequate ventilation.

9. Treasurer's Report

Phil is continuing to press the Council for a response on reducing the car park charges. Consideration will be given to approaching a local Councillor if no response can be obtained.

Despite the refurbishment work, our reserves enjoy a healthy balance. Income from BBO tournaments has been increasing steadily.

It was agreed that new members, joining for the remainder of the year, would have their membership extended to the end of 2021 at no extra charge.

When the opportunity arises, for example with the introduction of RealBridge, the Committee will consider reducing table fees. (The current rate of 3 BB\$ is a minimum set by the EBU.)

For the Children in Need SIMS, it was agreed that the Club would donate £2.50 for each person that played.

10. Membership Secretary's Report

Membership continues to increase as a result of our online activity, now totalling 237. Beginners continue to enjoy a free introductory membership. However, it was agreed that everybody who was playing with us before 1 October 2020 would be asked to pay their subscription for 2021 to continue playing in the new year.

11. Player Development Sub-committee

The sub-committee is to discuss a proposal to develop a post-beginners programme of teaching and supervised play.

Following an approach by a local group of would-be beginners to learn online, Graham Brindley and Ian Dovey are in discussions to provide a suitable course.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held via Zoom at 4.15pm on Saturday, 5 December.

13. Any Other Business

It was agreed that the workers installing the kitchen could be given keys to the premises.

Mark and Phil agreed to organise the Christmas Party for 12 December.

A suggestion from Cathy that the Club send a Christmas Card to each member failed to receive sufficient support for it to be implemented.

The Meeting closed at 5:45 pm

Signed

Date