

Oxfordshire Bridge Association

71st Annual General Meeting

7.30 p.m. Tuesday 30 May 2017 at Oxford Bridge Club

Minutes

Present

Name (please print)	OBA Officer post (if any)	Club
Mike Robinson		Menagerie
Alan Wilson	Shareholder	Menagerie
Kathy Talbot	Joint TD	OBC
Shirley Rawlings		Wantage
John Gunn		Wantage
John Fleming		OBC
John Edwards		Wallingford
Mike Bennett		Wallingford
Joan Bennett	Chief Youth Organiser	Wallingford
Lawrence Haines		Menagerie
Claire MacDonagh	Treasurer	OBC, Banbury
Ken Langdon	Secretary	Kings Sutton
Sandra Nicolson	Shareholder/Honours and Trophies	Summertown
Diana Nettleton		OBC
Mary-Ann Sheehy		OBC
Robert Procter	Chairman	Menagerie
Christopher Whitehouse		Menagerie

Henny Rose		OBC
Holly Kilpatrick		Summertown
Alexander Bain		Witney
Annabel Wade	Social Team Leader	OBC/Abingdon/Summertown
Peter Briggs	Membership Secretary	OBC
Richard Sills		OBC

Name (please print)	OBA Officer post (if any)	Club
Malcolm Currie		Wallingford
Peter Litchfield		Abingdon
John Slater	Competitions Committee TL	Menagerie
Matthew Covill		OBC
David Thornton		Bicester
Denise Thornton		Bicester
Hazel Hobbs		OBC

1. Apologies for absence

David Patterson, Stephen Brown, Kenneth Snape, Peggy Manuel, Tony Hughes, Marian Day, Alison Nicolson, Denis Talbot, Debbie Robert, Angela Adams and Mike Weble

2. Matters Arising and Approval of Minutes of 70th AGM

The Acting Chair, John Slater, raised one matter arising and that was the appointment of Ken Langdon as Secretary. Ken was thanked for helping OBA out and for all his work during the year. The meeting concurred with the minutes and the Chair signed them off.

3. Acting Chair's report

He wished Robert Procter well in his recovery from illness and the meeting gave Robert a round of applause.

The Chair picked out as main points from his report:

The success of the Youth teams and he thanked Joan Bennett and Holly Kilpatrick for all their work

The movement from evening sessions to daytime sessions

The clubs that are doing well are the clubs that concern themselves with recruitment of beginners and teaching

Robert Procter was invited to talk about the Oxford Festival (OxFoB). Robert spoke about the email he had sent out to senior players suggesting that they might support the festival by encouraging other members and members of unaffiliated clubs to attend. Robert is looking for a fun event with a mixture of experienced and inexperienced players.

The Acting Chair emphasised the importance of the forthcoming year and especially the change in the role of the OBA towards encouraging more social bridge under its aegis and those of its clubs. This was in line with developments elsewhere.

Finally there would be a need to examine our Governance, the way the association manages itself, where we are out of line with other counties. We currently had a very large and unwieldy Management Committee

4. Treasurer's and Auditor's report and accounts for the year 2016/17 (for approval by AGM, including recommendation on County P2P amount for 2018/19):

The Treasurer pointed out that the Congress made money again, as did the competitions, although this was in part to do with the Duplimating service

She said that there was further scope to assist clubs with their efforts in marketing to new recruits

While the EBU was putting up Universal membership by 1p, she recommended that the OBA maintained its current levy of 6p

The Chair asked the meeting to approve the accounts subject to auditing. Richard Sills proposed and Alan Wilson seconded. The meeting approved

The meeting also approved Alison's recommendation on P2P, proposed by Robert Procter and seconded by Peter Briggs

Robert Procter thanked Claire for all her hard work over the years and the meeting gave her a hearty round of applause

5. Other reports:

EBU Shareholders report- Sandra

Sandra Nicholson wanted to add little to the written report. While the on-going finances of the EBU were a potential cause for concern, there was no immediate problem

County Team reports

Alan Wilson commented on the success of the County in reaching the finals of the Tollemache cup.

He appealed for more people to volunteer for selection. He knew that people had a concern that the same players were always in the team but attributed this to the lack of new volunteers

Competitions Committee report

From his report John Slater picked out some points:

Entrants had dropped by about 10%. We need therefore to think about different types of competition. The number of teams in the Wessex league was also down and we may have to rethink the number of divisions

Congress organiser

Michael Robinson did not want to add to his report except to say that people should enter for this year's congress now

Membership secretary report

Peter Briggs attributed the increase in number of members to the work of Robert Procter. The clubs are generating new members and Peter is fairly optimistic for the future. Robert said we should look at social events like Bridge and tea. Ken suggested that we could have bridge and lunch or "Brunch".

Education and Improvers report

Ken Langdon said that we distributed £2,500 to clubs in grants and would look for other club projects this year if other things did not intervene.

County Youth Organiser's report

Joan Bennett stated that we were the best performing County in the Country and we should demonstrate this on the Website. We are going to repeat the Gloucestershire/Oxon event. It attracted more than 100 entrants last year. Holly Kilpatrick wondered if the County could replace the EBU grant that they had been receiving until now

Website report

The website has become more responsive to change over the year.

6. Election of Officers and Appointment of Auditor

7. The meeting accepted en bloc the nominations for the County Officers for 2017/8, duly proposed and seconded (there was precisely one for every post)

OFFICE	NOMINEE	PROPOSER	SECONDER
Chair	Robert Procter	Alan Wilson	Michael Robinson
Vice-Chair including Membership secretary	Nigel Birks	Helen Lawton Smith	Anthony Harris
Secretary	Ken Langdon	Sandra Claridge	John Slater
Treasurer	Peter Litchfield	John Briggs	Claire MacDonagh
Auditor	Claire MacDonagh	Peter Litchfield	Anthony Harris
Chief Tournament Director	Kathy Talbot/ John Rowe	Michiel Cottaar	Christopher Whitehouse
Communications Officer including PR Officer	Lawrence Haines	Christopher Whitehouse	Ken Langdon
Tournament Secretary	Nigel Wilkes	Elizabeth Yearling	Keith Sadler
Wessex League Secretary	Nigel Wilkes	Keith Sadler	Elizabeth Yearling
Chester & President Cups Secretary	Sandra Claridge	Chris Wilson	Michael Robinson
Honours Boards and Trophies Secretary	Sandra Nicholson	Carol Benzie	Liza Furnival
Competitions Team leader	John Slater	Simon Harrison	Hugo Huggett
Education Team leader	Alison Nicolson	Lawrence Haines	Keith Sadler
County Team Liaison	Peter Litchfield	John Briggs	Christopher Whitehouse
Youth Team leader	Joan Bennett	Geoff Nicholas	Debbie Roberts
Social Team leader	Annabel Wade	John Slater	Ken Langdon
EBU Shareholders (3)	Alan Wilson Sandra Nicholson Sandra Claridge	Michael Robinson Carol Benzie Chris Wilson	Sandra Claridge Liza Furnival Helen Lawton Smith

8. Presentation of Prizes

Event	Players
Swiss Pairs	John Deech & Robert Procter
Men's Pairs	Malcolm Currie & John Slater

Ladies' Pairs	Emily Middleton & Diana Nettleton
Mixed Pairs	Debbie Roberts & Geoff Nicholas
County Pairs 1st	Nick Smith & Alan Wilson
County Pairs 2nd	Mike Webley & Nigel Wilkes
County Pairs 3rd	Michiel Cottaar & Peter Litchfield
Swiss Teams (Harwell Cup)	Gillian Lonsdale, Nigel Wilkes, Sandra Nicholson & Krys Kazmierczak
President's Cup	Ian Angus, Aleks Lishkov, Mary-Ann Sheehy & Christopher Whitehouse
Chester Cup 2016 -17	Matthew Covill, Diana Nettleton, Robert Procter, Mary-Ann Sheehy & Nick Smith
Tuesday Teams	All Tuesday events were now completed
Tuesday Swiss Pairs May-Jul	
Tuesday Swiss Pairs Aug-Nov	
Tuesday Pairs Ladder	
Seniors Pairs	Angela Adams & Mike Wenble
Premiership 1st	Nick Smith
Premiership 2nd	Nigel Wilkes
Premiership 3rd	Mary-Ann Sheehy
Wessex League Div 1	Oxford A
Wessex League Div 2	Oxford B
Wessex League Div 3	Aylesbury B
Wessex League Div 4	Wallingford C
Wessex League Div 5	Bicester B

Robert thanked all those who had completed their terms in officer and team leader roles: Claire MacDonagh (Treasurer), Peter Briggs (Membership Sec), Nigel Birks (Auditor), Barbara Jordan (Social Team leader), Ian Angus (Match secretary) and David Bygott (Publicity Officer).

There being no further business the meeting closed.