

OXFORD BRIDGE CLUB



Oxford Bridge Club CIO
Registered Charity 1155820

Chairman's Summary Trustee Meeting held on 27th April 2021

Attendees: Julie Anderson (JA), Mary Bennett (MB), Steven Bliss (SB), Steph Bliss (SJB), Ursula Bowler (UB) Minutes, Sue Burge (SMB) Chair, Sandra Devaney (SD), Susan Fletcher (SF), Liza Furnival (LF), Richard Sills (RS).

Committees' Reports

Bridge Committee: In addition to the minutes of the previous committee meeting, LF confirmed that the Friday evening bridge session has ceased through lack of support. Numbers were declining prior to Covid. Members wondered if Teams could be run on a Friday evening. Hosts for bridge sessions have come forward, Tuesday morning have hosts up until August.

Premises Committee: No meetings have been necessary. Pat Lewis and Tessa Goddard have stood down, so new members are required. Maintenance is up to date; the damp area has been sorted with a recommendation of keeping the air bricks clear of debris. The small wall in front of the building has been removed.

Communication and Conduct Committees had nothing to report.

Education Committee reported that the Summer term is starting this week. Year 2 are converting to RealBridge. The 2 over 1 Saturday seminars are going well.

Finance report

SB explained all the details were in the paper presented to the meeting. One condition of the mortgage was not achieved in 2019/20 and two conditions in 2020/21 (loss of income during covid was a major factor). The Charity Bank understand the position. LF reminded the group that the OBA are prepared to support clubs with finance if necessary. RealBridge generates more net income than BBO. Only two sessions remain on BBO, this may change in future. Opportunities to increase income were discussed. SMB suggested we may need to consider increasing Education charges, and SF undertook to see what information she could find about class charges made by other local clubs. Budgets for 2021/22 have been agreed with the appropriate committees. The proposed budget meets financial requirements but with no allowance for contingencies or unplanned expenditure. It was accepted by the trustees on the understanding it may need reviewing (a) if we return to the club and/or (b) if we find we need to generate more income.

Face to face bridge - COVID Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment document on the EBU website is out of date but may provide some guidance. Further discussion is required to consider if a return might be possible and to make plans. A working party consisting of JA, SD, SF, RS, LF and Martin Illingworth will take this forward. JA will chair the group. In the meantime, Education will send out their marketing material at the beginning of July keeping open the option of either on-line or FTF lessons, depending upon what materialises.

Strategy Meeting- Acton points

Diversification: SMB has been in touch with both the Oxford University Team and Nick Wedd. RS will contact Brookes University at the appropriate time.

SF will explore the possibility of reintroducing fast track learning.

Marketing: SMB will contact student members seeking help with marketing using social media

Refugee membership - MB will contact Asylum Welcome

Care Homes: not possible to offer bridge at the moment

SWOT and finances - Risk Register: Will be reviewed by SMB, SB and UB and presented at the next meeting.

Atmosphere of Club SMB has circulated a draft Introductory Welcome for website

Bridge committee has discussed softening communication from Directors

Lessons on Etiquette: to be taken forward by SF with Education committee

Documents for discussion

Terms of reference (ToR) for committees: Education and Premises Committee's ToR were reviewed; a slight adjustment is required to remove a conflict of interest in the Education document. A minor amendment is also being made to the Premises ToR. Both sets of ToR were approved by the trustees.

Safeguarding Policy was accepted and approved by the Trustees.

Room Hire rates were accepted and approved by the Trustees, a date will be added.

History of the club: Thanks were given to RS for the work updating this document.

Infrastructure Committee: LF and RS will review the ToR to ensure all tasks have been allocated to other committees.

Rules of the club: 4.2 and 4.3 can be removed as we are now a charity they no longer apply. 4.8 will be amended to say Alcohol will be served in line with the licensing agreement.

Governance

Conflict of interest policy and managing conflicts documents were agreed and approved by the Trustees.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th June 2021 at 7.00 pm.