

Minutes of the Scunthorpe and District Bridge Association Annual General Meeting
Held on 27 August 2024

1. Members Present: 37

2. Apologies 26

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 12 September 2023.

The minutes were distributed to those present and accepted as a true record.

Proposed by J Tong and seconded by Susan Cox.

4. Matters arising.

There were no matters arising.

5. President's Address.

This year has been both interesting and challenging in so many ways, what a roller-coaster ride it has been. Within three days we lost four valued members of the Committee, and I was due to go on holiday five days later. It was therefore, with the grateful help of Sue Keast, Malcolm Broughton and Mike Llewellyn that we were able to continue to run the evening sessions. Rod Williams and Wanda Kotowska ran the afternoon sessions.

During the first Committee meeting we co-opted Louise Lewis onto the Committee, and she took over as the Web Master and Wanda agreed to act as Secretary.

The biggest problem by far was the issue of the roof, but there were several other matters to be dealt with too. It became apparent that our Fire regulations needed a thorough overhaul. Dave Cooling has been tirelessly working to get the system up to date. We now have new fire extinguishers, lighting partly resolved and ongoing work to be completed shortly.

Steve Braithwaite, although not on the Committee, has kindly taken over most of the odd jobs around the place and has been instrumental in getting rid of years of accumulated junk. Neil Strutt and Rennie Bennington have done PAT on all the electrical appliances without payment, and I am so grateful to them both.

Jen Selby and Penny Couling have transformed the House Committee and sorted many problems enroute.

Irene Norman has done a wonderful job with the trophies and the Honours boards which will be updated shortly.

Special thanks to Sue, Bill and Lou our excellent teaching staff without whom we would not have the new members they encourage.

Thak you to Wanda and Lou for all their hard work they have done. It was difficult for them both as their predecessors were no longer available for guidance, but they had the total support of the Committee and I'm sure you'll agree have done a marvellous job.

Finally, I want to say a particular thank you to Dave Couling who has been so supportive and helpful taking over my role in January for three months and did such a good job nobody noticed my absence. Thank you Dave.

Things are settling down now and hopefully next year will be a little bit easier, membership is stable, and attendances are slightly up, with the afternoon sessions by far the most popular.

We have introduced a Friday Masterpoint session once a month, which is proving popular but unfortunately at the expense of the evening session, so we are not proposing to extend any more Master point sessions in the near future.

There are plans in the near future for refurbishing the kitchen and Lou is planning more Wednesday workshops and any so lots to look forward to.

Please continue to enjoy your bridge and any member of the committee is available if problems arise.

6. Secretary's Report.

The membership at the yearend stands at 136, including two Life Members.

Sadly, we have lost four of our members, Brenda Goodacre, such a stalwart of our Club over so many years, Lynn Drury, Dorothy Wells and John Walker so very recently. Our heartfelt condolences go to their families.

After a controversial year, the current year did not start auspiciously for the new Committee. Some elected committee members resigned and so I have found myself as your Secretary for this year.

It has been a bit of a baptism of fire.

The main item this year has been that we have now had the work on the roof finally completed. Val and Mike will be explaining matters more fully.

We have had a major clear-out of all the extraneous detritus, built up over many years, throughout this year. The club certainly looks a lot clearer than it did.

The existing cleaner retired and her deputy has taken over.

PAT has been done, free of charge, by two of our members Neil Strutt and Rennie Bennington.

We have produced policies for things like H & S, Safeguarding etc .

Tuesday PM sessions seem to go from strength to strength. Friday PM sessions are very well attended. We have averaged just, just under 10 tables on Tuesdays and nearly 7.5 tables on Fridays.

The downside to the increase on Friday afternoons has been the Friday evening sessions are not as well attended. However, the WhatsApp site has proved invaluable in getting a session organised. We thank those who are taking the lead to organise the evening session.

We are hosting an event sponsored by the EBU (IT'S A BIG DEAL) to support Cancer Research UK. Our event will be on Saturday, 14 September 2024. You can support this event by buying a ticket to play, buying raffle tickets and providing raffle prizes. Tickets are available from Committee members. The raffle tickets mainly from Jen & Pen. A box is provided in the office for you to leave your raffle prizes.

I will now hand you over to Mike to take you through the Accounts.

7. Treasure's Report.

Mike went through the accounts for the year ending 30 June 2024.

He started with the Income/Expenditure side.

The Bar is running OK. There was a slight increase in interest rates. There was a surplus from the Christmas party of £150.00.

Expenses remain stable but will increase as our energy contract expires in the coming year.

The Bridgemates were serviced during the year.

The surplus for the year is £3534.

Looking at the Balance sheet the total cost of the roof was £63,000. We managed to get two grants of £25,000. A part of the one of the grants was withheld.

Only part of the total was paid before the June yearend. The balance has been paid since.

Mike explained how he had accounted this.

He expressed his thanks to Keith Stewart for checking the accounts so promptly in view of the shorter time.

Mike asked if there were any questions and there were none.

Bill Keast proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer. All agreed.

The accounts were proposed by Bill Keast, seconded by Pat Donaldson, and accepted unanimously.

Bob Atkin added that he thought the Committee had done a great job this year.

8. Motions.

The President explained the reason for this motion from the Committee. The motion was to amend Section 12.7 to remove the limit on life members.

It was passed with one dissension.

9. Trustee.

The appointment of a new trustee has to be done at an AGM or EGM.

There was only one name put forward, Neil Strutt, and his appointment was accepted unanimously.

10. Election of Officers and Committee.

Wanda explained that election needed to take place the position of Vice President because there were two candidates. As one of the candidates had also been nominated for committee membership making eight candidates when only seven were required a vote was required for the Committee too. It would however depend on the outcome of the VP vote.

Bill Keast and Bill Brocklesby agreed to be scrutineers.

Following the vote Lawrie Chapman was duly elected as Vice President.

This meant that a vote needed to take place for Committee membership.

The new committee is Val Threadgould (President), Lawrie Chapman (Vice President), Mike Llewellyn (Treasurer) and Wanda Kotowska (Secretary), Penny Couling, Catherine Hornsey (Caldow), Louise Lewis, Jenny Selby, Christina Taylor, Rita Watson and Rod Williams.

11. Trophy Presentations.

These took place to those attendees who were winners whilst the votes for the second election were counted. See below.

1 – Autumn Pairs Chris Taylor & Catherine Caldow	2 – Autumn Pivot (Mitchell) Roy Brixton/Ken Thomas/Jane Brown/& Malcome Broughton	3 – Autumn Teams (Marshall) Neil Patchett/ Catherine Caldow Glynn Elwick/Peter Stackhouse/ Mike Llewellyn
4 – Championship Pairs Maurice Lynn & Jennifer Knowler	5 – Championship Pivot Roy Brixton/ Ken Thomas/ Bridgid Hughes/Rita Watson/ Malcolm Broughton/	6 – Championship Teams Roy Stewart & Roger Harrison Peter Singleton & Bob Atkin
7 – Poutney Teams Roy Brixton/ Ken Thomas/Jane Brown /Malcolm Broughton	8 – John Brears Malcolm Broughton	9 – All Nights Malcolm Broughton
10 – Monday A* Malcolm Broughton	11 – Wednesday A* Ken Thomas/Malcolm Broughton	12 – Friday A* Mike Llewellyn
13 – Monday A Malcolm Broughton	14 – Wednesday A Ken Thomas/Malcolm Broughton	15 – Friday A Malcolm Broughton
16 – Monday B Peter Singleton	17 – Wednesday B Roy Stewart	18 – Friday B Rita Watson
19 – Monday C Vaughan Hughes	20 – Wednesday C John Mainwaring	21 – Friday C Brian Camm & Jennifer Selby
22 – Individual Trophy Jeremy Wong	23	24 – Handicap Pairs David Raddish & Nettie Smith

The meeting closed at 19:55 and a free bridge session took place.