

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF SCUNTHORPE BRIDGE CLUB
HELD ON 26TH. AUGUST, 2025 AT 7PM.

PRESENT :- VAL THREADGOULD, LAWRIE CHAPMAN, WANDA KOTOWSKA,
MIKE LLEWELLYN, CATHERINE CALDOW, JENNY SELBY, RITA WATSON
AND ROD WILLIAMS.

Catherine C., originally proposed and seconded as a committee member, indicated that she was prepared to accept the position of Vice President should she be proposed and seconded, which duly happened. Thus all positions were filled and no election by voting would be necessary at the AGM.

- 1) APOLOGIES :- PENNY COULING AND LOU LEWIS.
- 2) The minutes of the meeting on 24/6/25 were accepted as a true record – proposed by Rod W. and seconded by Val T.
- 3) Under matters arising, it was reported that it had not been possible to reach agreement with the Scunthorpe Chess Club regarding their use of our premises.
- 4) PRESIDENT'S REPORT. Val T. thanked the other officers and the committee members for their help and support, which had been especially welcome during her recent period of poor health. She also mentioned that there would be a further delay of 12 weeks before we received the decision regarding the possible Lottery funding to cover the cost of the kitchen refurbishment. It was mentioned that other sources of funding were unlikely because a common requirement was to be a REGISTERED charity.. It was pointed out that we probably did qualify to be registered as a charity but much work might be involved in seeking this status. Registered charitable status has been acquired by bodies which would not normally be thought of as charities.
- 5) SECRETARY'S REPORT. Wanda. K. reported that she had continued to make progress in acquiring new boards and inserts for the bidding boxes. Progress was also being made regarding the production of posters for the teaching sessions. Wanda K. was also working on establishing good practice with regard to security. Also, she was working on producing plans showing the location of meters and stop taps for water and gas and the equivalent for electricity.

- 6) TREASURER'S REPORT. Mike L. provided a financial report for the year ending 30/6/2025. The club remained solvent and clearly so – although a loss of £1824 was reported for the year. This loss could properly be associated with the substantial electrical work done during the year, however, it was noted that under all headings, table fees for the year were down compared with the previous year. The membership currently numbers 133.
- 7) BUILDING. Lawrie C. reported that he had found great difficulty in finding plumbers who were prepared to quote for a full refurbishment of the three toilets and to give a figure for each type separately. Several had shown no interest or indicated that they would not be available until much later. Lawrie arranged for four plumbers to attend and size the job up, but only one of these actually submitted a quotation. This was obviously not ideal but with time being of the essence, Lawrie proposed that the job of refurbishing the gents be given to Bawtry Heat at a cost of £3804 including VAT. For sanitary and aesthetic reasons this dire problem needed solving urgently. This proposal was rejected by the committee and it was decided that a tradesperson respected by the President be approached to give an estimate for doing essential but basic work and Rod W. who has some relevant knowledge agreed to supervise the estimation and advise the committee. Rod specifically referred to the need to replace the pipe work under the urinals and the installation of double syphons in the cisterns. Although seeing the obvious merits of this course of action, Lawrie C. was disappointed that we did not take the opportunity to push ahead with major refurbishment in this key area. We need to maintain standards which increase with each passing decade and remember that £3 table money does not normally cover the cost of a cup of coffee.
- 8) House/bar. Jenny S. referred to the delay in progressing the kitchen refurbishment and assured us that an adequate supply of air fresheners would be made available.
- 9) County matters. Mike L. reported that all positions in the County organization had been filled at the recent AGM and that he would continue to serve as County Treasurer.
- 10) Teaching. The courses would not start until October as previously agreed although this was no longer a necessity.

11) "Postal" voting for positions at our AGM's. This is not fully covered in our constitution. However, the committee were of a mind to allow voting in absentia in principle. So as to stick to correct procedure, an appropriate motion would be advertised in good time and then considered at our AGM in 2026. Absentia voting will not be possible in this year of 2025, nor next year 2026 but will be considered by the members actually present at the 2026 AGM. This issue will have no relevance at this year's AGM because the exact number of members have been proposed and seconded and have agreed to serve. Hence in 2025 no voting for officers and committee members is necessary or possible.

12) ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- A) Rod W. again indicated that he was not pleased about the afternoon bridge sessions sometimes being referred to as "relaxed" bridge, but he was content to let the matter rest.
- B) Some members have raised issues regarding the availability of particular types of chair in the main playing area. The committee felt that they could do no more in this regard, because the cleaners often had to move the chairs in the course of their work. All officers and committee members work day and night to ensure that all is well but on rare occasions have to admit defeat.
- C) Rod W. reported that he was continuing to make little progress regarding the provision by the EBU of a LOCAL director training course. Rod detailed his difficulty in dealing with the EBU, naming his contact as Clive Turner. It may well be that there is just too little demand in our area.
- D) As of now, the match against the Scarborough Club will go ahead.

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.32PM.