

SEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 11th September 2023 at 59 Sutton Drove, Seaford

Present: Pam Pelling (Chair), Leslie Fowle, John Gillespie, Ruth Skinner, Jean Judson, John Hughes and Francoise Basden-Smith

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 26th May 2023 were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

- Sausage Solstice - June 21st

Noted:

The event had been very successful.

Agreed:

To repeat next Summer.

- Partner Finder

Reported:

The new online system is working with several club members using it.

- Online Bridge with Eastbourne Bridge Club

Noted:

There was some negative feedback from members. On the positive side Seaford directors now didn't have to direct so often.

Agreed:

To continue the combined Friday evening session with Eastbourne BC.

4. Correspondence

No correspondence had been received

5. Treasurer's Report

Received:

A report from the Treasurer in which he advised that the balance at the bank was £6198.98.

6. Membership Report

Noted:

- (i) Club membership now stands at 90.
- (ii) The sad loss of David Thomson as a member.
- (iii) A new member - William Gardner from Deal in Kent - wished to join for online bridge.

7. Welfare Report

Reported:

- (i) A card had been sent to David Thomson's family following his recent death.
- (ii) A card had been sent to Maggie New following her recent operation..

8. Christmas Party 2023

Reported:

- (i) A provisional date (20.12.23) date had already been set and Beth's Kitchen booked as caterers.
- (ii) alcoholic refreshments and soft drinks were already available.

Agreed:

- (i) To confirm the provisional arrangements already made.
- (ii) To keep the evening's bridge 'simple'.
- (iii) To limit numbers to a maximum of 60.
- (iv) To have a quiz.

9. 2023 Annual General Meeting

Agreed:

To hold the 2023 Annual General Meeting at 1.30pm on Wednesday January 22nd, 2024 in St Thomas More Hall.

10. Changes to the Hall Arrangements at St Thomas More

Reported:

- (i) St Thomas More Church was making some changes to the Hall layout in order to accommodate the daily evening prayer service during colder weather.
- (ii) On colder evenings in the Winter the prayer service would relocate to the west end of the Hall where the bridge techie was normally located.
- (iii) This area would be partitioned off so that there would be no conflict between prayers and bridge. The two events would only overlap by 15 minutes
- (iv) Access to the prayer service would be via a door, not currently in use, which would give direct access to the prayer area without impacting on the bridge session.
- (v) On such occasions when the prayer service moved into this area the space available to the bridge club would be smaller and it would prove necessary to locate the Techie elsewhere in the Hall.
- (vi) The Club's storage cupboards would be re-sited on the opposite wall to where they are currently located.
- (vii) The works to implement these changes were currently taking place

Agreed:

- (i) The Club had little option other than to agree with the changes and the impact, if any, would be minor.
- (ii) Some issues, such as location of tables, chairs etc. required resolution.
- (iii) To introduce hall entry time limits for members so that no member is allowed admittance to the bridge room before 1.00 on Monday afternoons and 6.00 on Wednesday evenings.

11. Any Other Business

Soup and a Roll

Agreed:

To hold a 'soup and a roll' session to precede the Monday afternoon bridge session on January 29th, 2024.

Sit Outs

Agreed:

In future sit out locations would be fixed as Monday - East/West and Wednesday - North/South

New Boards

Agreed:

To purchase 8 new boards with labels (at an approximate cost of £60) to bring the complement of playing boards up to 36 for both the Monday and Wednesday sessions.

Bridge Lessons

Agreed:

Pam Pelling to restart bridge lessons in the Hall from October 2023 provided there is sufficient support from the members.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday November 28th (11.00pm) at Francoise's.