

SEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the third Committee Meeting of 2025 held on Thursday 5th June 2025 at The Corner House, Firle Road, Seaford

Present: Pam Pelling (Chair), Leslie Fowle, John Gillespie, Chris Robbins and Jean Judson

1. Apologies for Absence

Noted:

Apologies were received from Paul Gard and Jacquie Webber. Jacquie indicated that she would be stepping down from the committee but would continue to fulfill her welfare duties if required.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the committee meetings held on 10 April 2025 were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

(a) Alternative Competitions

Reported:

Several 'on-line' competitions, accessible via the bridge club website, had been set up. As yet there had not been a great deal of interest from the membership.

Agreed:

A draw, randomly pairing attendees, would be used for the 50th Birthday bridge session.

(b) Director Training

Reported:

Training for those who had volunteered would start once Paul Gard returned from holiday

(c) Director Responsibilities

Agreed:

To introduce a new list as follows:

(i) Check the front door is locked before play commences

(ii) Before leaving the hall, lock the bridge club store room, switch off the kitchen water heater, switch off all lights, check that all taps in the Ladies, Gents and Disabled toilets are firmly turned off, check the central heating is off, check and/or lock all doors including patio door to the garden

(d) Table Numbers

Noted:

New set of table numbers had now been purchased.

(e) Charitable Status

Noted:

After some effort in regard to negotiations with HMRC Eastbourne Bridge Club had now become a charity which enabled it to reclaim gift aid on annual subscriptions.

Agreed:

The committee was unable to reach unanimous agreement on whether this matter should be pursued further and agreed that any decision should be left to the new 2025 committee.

(f) Reconfiguring Bridgemate Handsets

Agreed:

To take advice from Nigel Lancaster of Bridgemate about whether the handset buttons could be replaced. If this is not possible then the handsets would have to be 'reconfigured' so that the least used handsets, i.e. 15, 14 etc became 1,2 etc.

4. Correspondence

Noted:

Other than the email from Jacquie Webber regarding her future as a committee member no other correspondence had been received.

Agreed:

- (i) To reluctantly accept Jacquie's decision to stand down.
- (ii) To record the committee's thanks for the contribution that Jacquie had made both as a committee member and as club Welfare Officer.
- (iii) To, for the remainder of this committee year, accept Jacquie's kind offer to make appropriate contacts with members suffering illness or hospitalisation.

5. Treasurer's Report

Received:

A report from the Treasurer in which it was advised that the balance at the bank was £5542 from which there would soon be a requirement to pay out £400 app. (birthday party). The next rental (£1320) was due in August.

Agreed:

To consider, once the club's financial position became clearer after the midpoint of the year, whether an increase in table money would be necessary.

6. Membership Report

Received:

A report submitted by the Membership Secretary confirming that club membership remained at 86.

Noted:

- (i) a prospective new member, Trevor Smart, would soon be attending a playing session.
- (ii) Pam Pelling is currently providing playing training to two persons. They had indicated an interest in observing a playing session but were some way off participating in play.

7. Welfare Report

Received:

A report from the Welfare Officer advising that a card had been sent to Françoise Basden-Smith following the recent death of her husband, and former member, Hugh.

8. 50th Anniversary Event

Noted:

- (i) This will be held before bridge on the evening of Wednesday June 25th. There will be no charge for the food and drink but table money will be charged on the evening.
- (ii) Food will be provided by The Old Boot Inn in Seaford and drinks (12 x Cremont; 12 x mixed wines, 5 litre box of red wine and soft drinks) by the Club..
- (iii) Shirley Wallas has agreed to provide a birthday cake
- (iv) Shirley will also bring along as a guest Patsy Sutcliffe the daughter of the founder members of the Club

Agreed:

- (i) Bridge will take the form of an experimental 'fun' session where pairings will be determined randomly.
- (ii) To hold a raffle (£1 a strip) in aid of St Wilfrid's Hospice with Club to provide three prizes (1 bottle of whisky, 1 bottle of wine and 1 box of chocolates) plus any other gifts from the membership.
- (iii) To procure paper plates, napkins, crisps, peanuts etc.

10. Any Other Business

- (a) Thursday Afternoon Session - *agreed* that in spite of some rumours there was no threat to the recently introduced Thursday afternoon session.
- (b) Committee Membership - three (possibly four) of the current committee do not intend to stand next year. It was *agreed* that the current committee should sound out potential new members sooner rather than later.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Agreed:

September 25th at The Corner House, Firle Road at 10.00.