

SEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Friday February 25th, 2022 at 14.00 at 41 Valley Drive, Seaford

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Received from: Ruth Skinner

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the committee meeting of 3 December 2021 were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

Noted:

- (i) The Christmas Party (attended by 36) had been a success and thanks were due to all those involved in the organisation. Francoise, however, felt that more helpers were needed if it were to be repeated in this format
- (ii) Tuesday afternoon online bridge remained viable although it was agreed that it should terminate for the summer at the end of March.
- (iii) Friday evening bridge movements continued to be set by the duty Director. No further action required.
- (iv) Although a new constitution had been adopted at the AGM further changes were required. Agreed to defer to a future meeting.

4. Correspondence

Received from:

Both from St James Trust and Seahaven Foodbank in respect of the Club's donations.

5. Treasurer's Report

Reported:

- (i) A bank balance of £4973.80 of which approximately £1000 was due to members in respect of BBO rebates.
- (ii) 90 members (inc. free over 90 renewals) had renewed their bridge club membership.

6. Membership Report

Noted:

- (i) John Hughes was stepping down as Membership Secretary with Jean Judson taking over.
- (ii) Carol Gillespie was handing over website maintenance and therefore maintenance of membership records to Jean.
- (iii) that Martin Almond, Hugh Basden-Smith, Pat and Derek Budd, Susan Emery, Jane Greenwood, Mary Guy-Jones, Elizabeth Hodgson, Julia Llewellyn, Diana Stevens, Margaret Thompson and Lyn Turner had not renewed their membership.

Agreed:

- (i) Thanks to John Hughes and Carol Gillespie for their past efforts
- (ii) In future John Hughes would take on a 'special projects' role.

7. Welfare Report

Noted:

Cards had been sent to Peter Parsons and Lionel Pelling and that Betty Sharp remains poorly.

8. Dealing Machine

Noted:

(i) The machine had been purchased and was now in use.

Reported:

(i) there had been some teething troubles which have now been resolved.

(ii) the full hand reports on Bridgeweb were still not working.

(iii) Jean Judson had been shown how to operate the equipment and Chris Robbins would act as a backup.

9. Alfriston Bridge

Reported:

Bridgemates had been introduced at the fortnightly Alfriston bridge sessions. There had been some early problems which had been resolved and all was now working well.

10. Timing of Friday Bridge Sessions

Noted:

Members were asked for their views on moving the Friday online bridge start time from 7.00 to 6.30pm. 33 members responded with 19 preferring no change; 6 wanting a change; and 8 having no preference.

Agreed:

To leave the start time unchanged.

11. Disposal of Redundant Equipment

Reported:

That the Club currently possessed 45 bridge cloths; 130 redundant boards; and a large number of redundant bidding boxes.

Agreed:

(i) to advertise for sale cloths (£2 each); sets of 4 boards with used playing cards (£5 a set); and sets of 4 bidding boxes with used bidding cards (£5 a set).

(ii) John Hughes to co-ordinate the advertising and sale.

(iii) to purchase new sets of bidding cards to provide for 16 tables.

12. Any Other Business

Director Announcements

Agreed:

To email Directors asking them to remind 'Norths' at the start of sessions to check the order and orientation of boards every time they are passed between tables and players to shuffle the cards before returning them to the board.

Morning Bridge Session

Received:

A request from a member that the introduction of a morning bridge session be considered.

Agreed:

With two online sessions (Tuesday afternoon and Friday evening); two face to face sessions (Monday afternoon and Wednesday evening) and a fortnightly face to face session at Alfriston (Thursday afternoon) there was no scope for introducing a further weekly session to be held in the morning. The Club would struggle to find Directors/Techies to support the session. Additionally there was no obvious session that could be considered for terminating in order to find room for a morning session.

Possible Change of Playing Venue

Reported:

The possibility existed for the Club to switch the Club's Wednesday evening playing session from the 60+ Club to St Thomas More.

Agreed:

(i) this was an opportunity to simplify the logistics associated with operating two playing venues and also offered a potentially better venue.

(ii) the membership should be consulted before going any further.

(iii) John Hughes to draft an email appraising the membership of the potential for a move.

'Cashless Society'

Reported:

The Treasurer had devised a system for recording playing attendance and that based on this members could be billed monthly in arrears to collect table money. This would go a long way to eliminating the use of both cash and payment vouchers.

Agreed:

To consider this in more detail once the issue of a possible change in playing venue had been resolved.

13. Date of Next Meeting

Friday April 22nd (10.00) at 1 The Corner House, Firle Road.