

Seaford Bridge Club

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 27th January, 2017, 59 Sutton Drove, Seaford.

Present Hugh Basden-Smith, Michele Conway, Carol Gillespie, John Gillespie,
Tony Thorpe (Chairman)

1. **Confirmation of appointment of Chairman following resignation** The Committee unanimously confirmed the appointment of Tony Thorpe as Chairman until the membership elect a new one at the AGM.
2. **Apologies for absence** Hugh Creamer.
3. **Minutes of the last meeting** held on 18th November 2016 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters Arising** Martin Haigh's continual visitor status (Minute 5. 18/11/16).
Agreed: to carry forward discussion of this to the next Committee meeting.
5. **Correspondence**
(i) *Received:* The Chairman circulated an email from Alan Hughes regarding future Christmas parties.
Noted: Alan has retired as party organiser. He also suggested asking the membership what format they would like for such events.
Agreed: To be further discussed under 8. Below.
(ii) *Received:* an email from Colin Graham-Hyde regarding a mobile phone app available for recording bridge scores.
Agreed: John to investigate and report findings to next Committee. JG
6. **Membership** One new application was received from Mrs. Maggie New whom the Committee have all met. The Committee approved the application.
Agreed: Secretary to write to Maggie notifying her of the Committee's decision and to welcome her to the Club. CG
7. **Welfare**
Noted: It was thought that owing to deteriorating health June Hill would be unlikely to renew her membership. A card with the members' good wishes had been sent to her. One member was now back home from hospital but feeling rather low.
8. **Post-Party thoughts.**
Agreed: The emphasis at the Christmas party should be on playing Bridge with perhaps one light-hearted quiz during the refreshment break.
Agreed: The Russian scoring system was most enjoyable; however it was thought that not all members of the Club fully understood the scoring.
Agreed: the 2017 Committee would determine the type of bridge to be played.
Agreed: Chairman would encourage members present at the AGM to contact the Secretary with their ideas/views on the type of food/refreshments to be provided. The Secretary would also place a similar notice on the website prior to the AGM; and/or, if possible, devise an interactive form to be used. TT/CG
9. **Treasurer's Report**
Received: a 2016 report; income and expenditure report; and 2017 budget.
(i) *Annual Report, unaudited*
Noted: Cash at bank of c. £2,883. This is £300 more than last year but in line with recent forecasts given to the Committee.

(ii) *Budget 2017*

Agreed: that we would not 'ringfence' money for a future project such as new technology, but the Treasurer will acknowledge at AGM why we have a relatively large sum in the bank.

(iii) *Annual sub and table fees*

The Treasurer expects a shortfall next year so recommends no change in rates for 2017.

Agreed : to recommend leaving subs and table fees unchanged.

(iv) *60+ Hall rent* Treasurer hasn't yet contacted Chairman of 60+ Club but confirmed that at the appropriate time he would offer a 1.9% increase in the rent as agreed at the previous Committee meeting. (Minute 7. (ii) 18/11/16)

10. AGM

(i) *Confirmation of Auditor* Treasurer informed the Committee that Brian Day, a member of Seaford Golf Club, had agreed to audit the accounts.

(ii) *Display of Notices*

Agreed: The Treasurer will display the audited accounts on both notice boards, and supply an electronic copy to the Secretary for the website, 14 days prior to the AGM as required by the Constitution. The Secretary will display the Agenda. **(NB So that Friday evening members have the required time to read the notices the accounts and Agenda should be displayed no later than Friday 10th February.)**

CG / HBS

Agreed: The Secretary will display the notice regarding the amendments to the Constitution four weeks prior to the AGM **(no later than Tuesday 31st January)**

CG

(iii) *Nominations*

Agreed: The nomination form must be displayed at both centres until the AGM.

(iv) *Noted:* Secretary to add year (2017) to AGM notice.

(v) *Noted:* The Chairman reminded the Committee that the Constitution requires a two-thirds majority approval by the membership at AGM for any amendment to its clauses.

Agreed: John Gillespie to act as Teller for 2017 AGM.

JG

11. Diary Dates

Next Competition Tuesday 21st March

12. Any Other Business

(i) *Question regarding previous Peter Parsons resignation that may arise at AGM.*

Agreed: In order to respond fully to any likely question from the floor of the meeting the Chairman would need to make reference to Peter's email to Committee members, dated 9th January 2017, in which he referred to his ambition to bring about a merger of the Seaford and Southdown Bridge Clubs and his proposed means of achieving it. It was to this latter point that the remaining Committee members had particular objection and which, it was understood, was the cause of Peter's resignation.

TT

13. (i) Keyholders

Agreed: Chairman to contact Peter for list of current keyholders.

TT

(ii) A vote of thanks was given to Michele for her many years service on the Committee. *Noted:* Michele will continue to support the Committee in anyway she can and has agreed to collect table money in the absence of François Basden-Smith. However, should Heather Hedges retire as Partner Finder, Michele does not wish to take on that responsibility.

14. Date and Venue of Next Meeting: Friday 31st March at 2.00, 7 Steyning Road, Seaford.