

SEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Friday 11th November 2022 at 18 Headland Avenue, Seaford

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

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 22 July 2022 were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

(i) Amendment to the constitution

Received:

An amended constitution prepared by Pam Pelling.

Agreed:

- (i) Not to apply the amendment relating to moving to cashless bridge.
- (ii) to accept the amendment requiring a person to have been a member of the Club for at least twelve months before qualifying for free membership on reaching ninety years of age.
- (iii) to put the amendment to the constitution on free membership for ninety year olds to the 2023 AGM.

4. Correspondence

Noted:

That the Club's insurance with Fidentia had been renewed for a further twelve months at an annual cost of £71.92.

5. Treasurer's Report

Received:

A report from the Treasurer in which he advised that all BridgeBase Online (BBO) refunds had now been made to those members due payments. With regard to this he recommended that future refunds should not be passed on to members but absorbed into Club funds. This because the amount of effort required to refund relatively small sums was no longer justified. This additional income might therefore enable 2023 subscriptions and table money to remain unchanged. In this connection he expects that the current rental charge of £10 per hour for using the St Thomas More Hall to increase at some point in 2023 and depending on the size of that increase it might be necessary to increase table money even with the BBO refunds.

Agreed:

To accept the Treasurer's recommendation that Subscriptions and table money should remain unchanged in 2023 and to put this proposal to the AGM.

6. Membership Report

Noted:

- (i) The membership applications from Paul and Mandy Gard, and Diane Gebbitt had now been accepted.
- (ii) Club membership now stands at 98.
- (iii) It is likely that several existing members, for various reasons, will not renew their memberships in 2023.

7. Welfare Report

Noted:

- (i) No cards had been sent to members since the last committee meeting.
- (ii) Betty Sharp might return to the bridge if a lift from Peacehaven with Jacquie Webber could be organised.

8. Christmas Party

Noted:

Wine had now been purchased.

Agreed:

- (i) To set an upper limit of 15 tables (60 persons).
- (ii) To approach M&S, Beth's Kitchen or a similar provider for the food catering.
- (iii) To use the STM wine glasses located in the kitchen
- (iv) To employ a simple bridge movement.
- (v) To ask Hugh Creamer if he could provide some music.
- (vi) John to provide a quiz.
- (vii) Francoise to provide tablecloths and napkins
- (viii) To encourage members to make a donation to charity rather than to send each other cards.

9. 2023 Annual General Meeting

Noted:

That all officers and committee members were prepared to stand again but that nominations from new blood should be encouraged.

Agreed:

- (i) that notice to members of the meeting could be effected electronically as well as by placing a notice on the board at St Thomas More.
- (ii) John to prepare nomination forms; the AGM notice; and guidance about the submission of Any Other Business.

10. Member Proposal

Received:

A proposal from Jo Green that the issue of who should set up and take down the equipment at bridge sessions could be resolved by employing the caretaker at St Thomas More. Jo felt that the Club was financially strong and could afford this additional outlay.

Noted:

That St Thomas More did not employ a caretaker and the only person engaged in 'maintaining' the hall was a part time cleaner who was unlikely to want to take on this task.

Agreed:

- (i) Not to take this proposal forward. At the moment the issue was not a cause for concern
- (ii) The Secretary to report back to Jo thanking her for her proposal and advising that at this stage the committee did not propose to take any further action.

11. Any Other Business

Noted:

A vote of thanks to Pam and Leslie for working so hard to make a success of the Dealing Machine.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Agreed:

Not to set a date for the next meeting. This could be set by the new committee after the 2023 AGM.