

SEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 28th November 2023 at 4 Crownhill, Seaford

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Received:

Apologies from Ruth Skinner and Jean Judson

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the committee meeting held on 11th September 2023 were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

- New Sit-out Arrangements

Reported:

One member had expressed concern about whether the Committee had the right to take a decision to fix sit-out arrangements, ie. East/West on Mondays and North/South on Wednesdays. Otherwise everybody seemed happy with the new arrangements.

Agreed:

To deal with this at the AGM should it be raised and, if necessary, put the matter to the vote.

- Purchase of new boards

Noted:

Eight new boards had been purchased at a cost of £39.80.

- Bridge Lessons

Noted:

These were on hold until improvement works are completed in the church hall.

- New Arrangements at St Thomas More Hall

Noted:

The alterations to the hall, discussed at the previous committee, were some way from being completed. A new cupboard for the bridge club had been installed and new lighting was now installed and working. However the remainder of the planned works had not been completed. No completion date had been advised.

Agreed:

To, at the Club's expense, add a new bottom shelf to the Club's cupboard.

4. Correspondence

Received:

A letter from Tates Garden Centres advising changes to the loyalty card scheme.

Noted:

Tates is re-launching its loyalty scheme from April 2024. Consequently the current scheme will be extended until 31.3.24.

Agreed:

To advise the membership in the next newsletter.

Received:

An email invitation from the EBU inviting the Club to participate in a charity SIMS pairs event in September 2024. The aim of the event was to raise funds for Cancer Research.

Agreed:

To enter the Club in the competition and alert members at the appropriate time.

5. Treasurer's Report

Received:

A report from the Treasurer in which he advised that the balance at the bank was £5951.94

6. Membership Report

Received:

A report from the Membership Secretary

Noted:

(i) Club membership now stands at 93.

(ii) This figure includes one deceased member; one who is no longer able to play; five who haven't played in the current year; and three who only play on-line.

7. Welfare Report

Reported:

There had been no activity since the last meeting.

Noted:

Two members - Kelvin Walton and Sue Hutchings - were about to undergo or had undergone hospital operations.

Agreed:

To ask the committee member responsible for welfare matters to send cards.

8. Christmas Party 2023

Reported:

At the time of the meeting 48 members had committed to attend the Party. More members were expected to attend.

Agreed:

(i) to opt for Menu 2 as offered by Beth's Kitchen but to ask if the fruit could be exchanged for an alternative.

(ii) to commence at 6.00 with mulled wine and nibbles to be followed with hot food at 6.30. Bridge to commence at approximately 7.30.

- (iii) the committee to attend for 5.00 to set up the hall.
- (iv) to ask Hugh Ctremer if he could provide a musical offering.
- (v) John to prepare a quiz.

9. 2023 Annual General Meeting

Noted:

- (i) that Francoise, John and, probably, Ruth would not be standing again as committee members.
- (ii) that Pam, John and Leslie would be willing to stand again respectively as Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Agreed:

- (i) to approach Chris Robbins, Mandy and Paul Gard, and Craig Sorrell as prospective new committee members.
- (ii) not to recommend increasing the annual subscription (£15) or table money (£2) for 2024.

10. Soup and a Roll Event - 29.1.24

There was a discussion which, given the absence of Ruth, it was difficult to reach any decisions. Subsequent to the meeting it was agreed not to publicise the event further pending more consideration.

11. Any Other Business

Bridgemate upgrade

Reported:

That Bridgemate had been updated to accept a file from the Dealing Machine which would ensure that when entering a contract it would not be possible to enter the incorrect orientation. If this happened the software would inhibit East from 'accepting' the contract result and would then require North to re-enter the contract.

Agreed:

To purchase two new memory sticks to facilitate the transfer of deals data from the dealing machine to Bridgemate.

Christmas/New Year Session Dates

Agreed:

- (i) to play bridge on December 27th and January 3rd. To not play on December 25th (Christmas Day) and January 1st (New Year's Day).
- (ii) to offer any Christmas Party 'leftovers' to members playing at the session to be held on Monday January 8th.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Agreed:

To defer setting the date of the next committee meeting until after the date of the 2023 AGM.

