

## **SEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB**

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Friday October 1st, 2021 at 14.00 at 31 Valley Drive, Seaford

**Present:** Martin Auger, Christine Creamer (Co Chair), Leslie Fowle (Co Chair), John Gillespie, Pam Pelling and Ruth Skinner

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

*Received:* from Francoise Basden-Smith, John Hughes and Carol Gillespie

### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the committee meeting of 9 August 2021 were agreed and signed.

### **3. Matters Arising**

*Noted:*

- (i) Francoise Basden-Smith's email address had been corrected.
- (ii) Pam Pelling had set up a Seaford Bridge Club Facebook page.

### **4. Correspondence**

*Noted:*

- (i) a letter to 'distant' members withdrawing club membership. Both members had accepted the decision and offered to donate their subscription to the Raystede Animal Charity.
- (ii) a letter to two club members reminding them of the need to alert bids when playing online.

*Received:*

An insurance renewal letter from Fidentia Insurance with a revised premium of £71.92 effective from 1.11.21.

*Agreed:*

Leslie Fowle to compare this quotation with that available via the English Bridge Union.

### **5. Treasurer's Report**

*Reported:*

- (i) 43 members had purchased table money prepayment vouchers.
- (ii) the club currently had a bank balance of £10,028.10

*Noted:*

Almost £3000 of this balance was accounted for by rebates due to be repaid to members playing on line; income from advance payment vouchers and a sum due to be paid to the EBU.

*Agreed:*

- (i) to refund £2024 in respect of rebates to members representing the period 1.4.21 to 31.8.21.
- (ii) Martin Auger to provide some words for the upcoming newsletter on the refund process.

## **6. Welfare Report**

*Reported:*

- (i) Betty Sharp had suffered a fall and had broken her pelvis
- (ii) Barbara Harper had suffered a fall and broken a thumb.

*Agreed:*

Ruth to send a card to Betty but not to Barbara who did not want a fuss made.

## **7. Membership Report**

*Agreed:*

- (i) that no further 'distant' members with no connection with the club would be permitted to join. Any applicants that did not live in the immediate Seaford area would have to demonstrate a connection with the Club (e.g. be known to an existing member).
- (ii) to accept membership applications from Vyvian Smith, Jan Hales and Barry Hunt; and to reactivate the memberships of Nuala Farber and Sue Mitchell.
- (iii) any new 'online' members would not receive a table money rebate for the first three sessions played.

## **8. Review of the Re-introduction of Face to Face Bridge**

*Reported:*

That F2F Bridge had resumed on Monday afternoons (St Thomas More Church Hall) and Wednesday evenings (at the 60+ Club). There had been an average of 5 tables on Mondays and 6 tables on Wednesdays. Attendances had suffered recently owing to a number members being on holiday.

*Agreed:*

- (i) that this represented a successful resumption and should continue.
- (ii) the Club would purchase 10 tables (app. £30 per table) suitable for bridge for use at St Thomas More.
- (iii) Leslie Fowle to visit Wave Leisure to formally terminate our hire of Sutton Hall; seek a refund of hire fees paid in advance; and recover Club equipment from the Centre.
- (iv) Christine Creamer to update the Club Covid Guidelines to relax the requirements relating to the wearing of face masks and the need for East/West pairs to carry their boxes. Additionally the rules relating to payment in cash to be updated in the light of the successful introduction of prepayment vouchers.
- (v) that refreshments (not food) would now be permitted. Members to make their own drinks. John Gillespie to purchase tea and coffee (inc. decaffeinated), sugar cubes, coffeemate and squash.

## **9. 2022 Annual General Meeting**

*Agreed:*

To hold the 2022 AGM on Monday January 10th in St Thomas More Hall at 1.00 (before bridge).

*Noted:*

Leslie Fowle and Christine Creamer (Co-Chairs) and Martin Auger (Treasurer) would not seek reelection in those roles while John Gillespie was willing to serve a further year as Secretary.

*Agreed:*

To include an appeal for new Officers and committee members in the upcoming Newsletter

*Agreed:*

To recommend to the AGM that subscriptions (£15) and table money (£2 members; £4 guests) should remain unchanged for 2022.

*Agreed:*

Leslie and Christine to meet to review the club constitution. Amendments are required to reflect the change to the Club's headquarters and to clarify the role of co-opted committee members.

## **10. 2021 Christmas Party**

*Agreed:*

- (i) the Party will be held at the 60+ Club on Wednesday December 15th at 6.00.
- (ii) attendance will be restricted to 40 members (10 tables)
- (iii) food to restricted to a simple seasonal snack (e.g. wine, nibbles, sausage roll, mince pie)
- (iv) Hugh Creamer and Alan Hughes to be asked to organise a normal bridge playing evening.
- (v) attendance would be on a first come, first served basis with a list to be opened on 1.12.21.
- (vi) wine and nibbles etc would also be provided on Monday December 20th at St Thomas More.

*Noted:*

In past years attempts had been made to discourage members from sending each other Christmas Cards. The alternative to make a donation to charity. In 2020 the club had encouraged members, with some success, to include a Christmas greeting in the Club newsletter.

*Agreed:*

To once again encourage members to submit a Christmas greeting to the newsletter and at the same time make a donation to charity.

## **11. Dealing Machine**

*Noted:*

That the mandate for this committee to progress the procurement of a dealing machine would expire at the end of 2021.

*Agreed:*

To immediately research availability, costs and training of a dealing machine with the aim of procurement before the end of 2021.

## **12. Any Other Business**

### **Annual Charitable Donations**

*Noted:*

Together with the £100 annual charitable donation made by the Club, additional funds (late Pauline Clarke estate) and a request from Anne Byrne to donate her BBO rebate to charity, meant £150 was now available for donation.

*Agreed:*

To donate £75 to Seahaven FoodBank and £75.00 to St James' Trust.

### **Online Bridge Sessions**

*Agreed:*

To reintroduce, for the winter period, the Tuesday afternoon online bridge session. Restart date to be Tuesday October 12th.

### **60+ Club Outside Lighting**

*Noted:*

Replacement of the missing light outside the entry door is in hand.

### **Directors and Techies**

*Agreed:*

To include an appeal in the upcoming newsletter for new directors and techies.

*Noted:*

John Nott had agreed to act as a director on Monday face to face for sessions.

### **Late Sign Ons Online**

*Agreed:*

That in future players must be registered by 6.30 and logged on ready to play by 6.45. Failure to do so risked being ejected from the session and being replaced by a robot.

## **13. Date Of Next Meeting**

Friday December 10th at Firle Grange at 14.00.

