

SEAFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of the fourth Committee Meeting of 2025 held on Thursday 24th September 2025 at The Corner House, Firle Road, Seaford

Present: Pam Pelling (Chair), John Gillespie, Chris Robbins, Jean Judson and Sue Hutchings

1. Apologies for Absence

Noted:

Apologies were received from Leslie Fowle (ill) and Paul Gard (on holiday)

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

The minutes of the committee meetings held on 5th June 2025 were agreed and signed.

3. Matters Arising

(a) Director Training

Reported:

Alan Hughes had conducted Director training. It had been very well received by Paul Gard, Chris Robbins, Leslie Fowle and Pam Pelling who were the attendees. Leslie had purchased a 'Yellow' Book from the EBU.

(b) 50th Birthday Party

Reported:

This had been a great success and enjoyed by all who had attended.

4. Correspondence

Received 1:

An anonymous letter from a member regarding inconsistent treatment of players arriving late for bridge.

Reported:

An email had been sent to all members clarifying the Club's position on players arriving late.

Received 2:

An email from Ruth Skinner regarding slow play.

Agreed:

Sue Hutchings to trial the use of a stopwatch at the session on 24.9.25 using a cut off time of 8 mins per board.

Received 3:

An invitation to participate in the SCCBA Charity SIMS Pairs Event in February 2026.

Agreed:

To enter again in 2026 and to also consider entering a similar ECATS event in support of Children In Need.

5. Treasurer's Report

Received:

A report from the Treasurer in which it was advised that the balance at the bank was £6305.99. The next rental (£3120 less £240 for bank holiday refunds) is due before the end of the year. Leslie provided a detailed analysis of anticipated income and expenditure for the remainder of the financial year.

Agreed:

- (i) that the Club's financial outlook remained healthy.
- (ii) to consider engaging the Old Boot rather than Beth's Kitchen to provide the food at the Christmas Party.

6. Membership Report

Received:

A report submitted by the Membership Secretary confirming that club membership has increased to 87.

Noted:

There was general concern that the membership was increasing in age and that new members were few and far between.

Agreed:

To task the incoming 2026 committee with initiating a membership drive. This might include more publicity in Seaford Scene and approaching Seaford U3A with the intention of providing bridge training. Beginners might be encouraged to attend club sessions playing supervised bridge on a separate table(s) to the main session.

7. Welfare Report

No report had been received.

Noted:

A card had been sent to Bernadette Raine and one other.

8. Co-option of an Additional Committee Member

Noted:

In view of Jacquie Webber stepping back from duties the committee was one person light

Agreed:

To co-opt Sue Hutchings on to the committee for the remainder of the committee year.

9. Date for the 2025 Christmas Party

Agreed:

The 2025 party will be held on Wednesday December 17th.

10. Date for the 2025 Annual General Meeting

Agreed:

The 2025 AGM will be held on Monday 12th January 2026.

11. Composition of the 2026 Committee

Noted:

Pam Pelling (Chair) and John Gillespie (Secretary) have indicated that they will not be standing for the 2026 Committee.

Reported:

- (i) Paul Gard would be willing to stand as Chair.
- (ii) Sue Hutchings would be willing to stand as Secretary.
- (iii) Alan Biggs would be willing to stand as a committee member.
- (iv) Alan Biggs might be willing to stand as Treasurer.

Agreed:

- (i) It was agreed to approach Ric Wiles to see if he would be willing to stand as Treasurer.

12. Any Other Business

Agreed:

To consider awarding prizes (a bottle of wine?) to the best placed pairs/individuals in the various competitions now promoted on the Club's website. It was also agreed to consider naming each competition after persons who had made a significant contribution to the bridge club. If adopted this process would commence from 2026.

11. Date of Next Meeting

Agreed:

November 27th at 3 High Beach House, Claremont Road at 10.00.