<u>THE BOGNOR CLUB</u>

Minutes of Committee Meeting on Thurs 3rd September 2026 10 am.

Apologies – Lesley Simmons . Pam Cook (attended remotely)
NB – Silvia (webmaster- attended part of the meeting)
Minutes of last meeting – the minutes were approved.
Matters arising –

- Teaching – Janice has organised this and intends to start the beginners lessons on 21st September running from 11a.m to 1p.m. There will be 6 sessions. So far there are 5 people who have signed up. Janice will start with an introduction to Bridge and there will be a quiz. There will be handouts and some practical set hands for practice. Janice would like volunteers for 1-2 hours to help out on specific topics, e.g. transfers / weak two's , after the lessons are finished. A flip chart will be provided. If the newcomers want to join the usual Monday session there will be a table fee. Kate suggested a supervised play table. After the initial lessons we will be looking for volunteers from November. Janice requested that the cost of her parking during these sessions could be paid by the Club and all agreed .

- New Chair – Ian would be available to take on this role but pointed out that he would not be available at all times , the AGM for instance ; so a vice chair is needed. He wished it to be known that he would only be prepared to step into this role if it was clear to all members that changes would be made and new ideas supported. Mark approved of this way forward although it would of course involve spending money. Ian suggested that we could employ someone to teach Bridge over a weekend – cost would probably be in the region of £1000. Janice supported this idea . Also Pete has agreed to introduce refresher training. The new Constitution is now in place and the Chair will be voted in at the next AGM.

- Chair Lift Annual Service. The Chair lift is used rarely and Mark has agreed to contact the Firm to check on this.

- Constitution – it was agreed that the new Constitution would be sent out with AGM papers. There are issues ,procedures, conflicts and terminations -some outside of Bridge- which have to be addressed. Mark pointed out that the disciplinary process has to be followed. Ian felt that the new members applying and joining should be recorded in the minutes and Mark suggested that this should be an agenda item. Ian suggested that It would be advisable to have a timetable of events at the beginning of the year.

- Woodham Cup . TBD.

- Directors Training . Kate felt that on-line training would be preferable for most people . The cost is £190 and Mark will let us know when the monthly EBU newsletter of events is published.

- Pauls update on taster sessions and ideas. – Val, Pete, Paul and Ian met to discuss this. The purpose of the taster sessions is to join our club and play. We need to encourage those who don't play at the club (although they are members) to play . Beginners who want to learn more, Refreshers who may be nervous, players who may not belong to a club - all need encouragement. It was agreed that we would have a hard copy introduction pack. Ian proposed informal taster sessions with cream tea. The participants could be split into groups. These sessions could be held on Mondays p.m. initially and then transition to Tues p.m. Members could be assigned to partner these new recruits. Paul could take the beginners, Pete the refreshers and Ian and Val the rest. Jennie suggested a supervised play table on Monday and Kate suggested a move to the Tuesday session asap. Pete has offered to help with the refreshers but does not want to fully commit. He suggested Ned Paul who trains everywhere and would do a weekend course – costing c £1000. Bognor Golf Club and Middleton Sports Club have agreed in principle to host taster sessions.7th October was suggested at the Golf Club but is unconfirmed as yet. It was also agreed that the upcoming Freshers week at Chichester the welcome week is 20th September to 27th September .Bognor Football Club was also suggested and Val has agreed to talk to them.

- Jennie agreed to write to Sally Brock who has agreed to be our patron. Can Kate, Paul and Sally organise an event . Possible weekend dates Dec 5th/6th, Jan 3rd/4th, or Feb. This would be at a high level and invitations issued. There could be printed systems to be adhered to – Kate will clarify this. Mark commented that Paul is keen to promote inter club local face to face games but it is difficult to get players to commit. Ian suggested that the Club could enter inter club competitions rather than have individuals enter. The club could pay the entry fee. We have missed the Sussex County League competition but could put it in the diary for next year. We could approach members face to face to make this happen.

- Secretary – no one has yet come forward for this position. Ian suggested that Lesley's role could be broken down, maybe one role could be facilities responsibilities and the other the more traditional role . This could be discussed with Lesley – what would she be prepared to do or suggest. Jennie could approach her later when she is better and have an ongoing conversation. Mark suggested creating a sub -committee to cover a services management role and an admin secretary. Ian suggested that other rep roles could be created on the committee with working groups.

Treasurers Report – The bank account is healthy at the moment but building insurance is due (approx. £2000). Our Current account remains in credit and there are membership fees to come. Water meter dispute is ongoing but the readings now show minimum usage. We are changing companies and the bills should be about £30 per month going forward.

Snooker – it was agreed that our snooker rep should approach us before the meeting in case there are any matters he would like discussed.

Refreshments- Janice has requested that someone else should take on this responsibility and Kate volunteered to take this on.

Correspondence - non have been received**.**

Webmaster matters – Silvia, who was present for part of this meeting, would like to take over the Membership secretary role if Allan retires from this post. Mark Garbitt also volunteered for this role but does not want to be on the committee. All voted in favour of Silvia and this will be ratified at the AGM.
Silvia also mentioned the Sim Pairs event which she intends to advertise on the website and also invite Chichester. Date and time to be decided after members have been asked their opinions.

Welfare – Ian asked if sending cards / flowers to members who were ill occurred – Jennie replied that this did happen .

Membership – new members. – Rose Clark, Naomi Van Der Berg, Anthony Blumenthal and Carole King.
It was decided that deceased members should also be mentioned in the minutes – Mike Miller, and Tony Reeves (snooker).

AOB – The Music Society . A request to build on to the existing stage has been received from Roger Clayden. It would be an extension of 10 feet and this was decided unanimously by the committee to be too large and intrusive. Although a compromise was offered this was refused . There would also possibly be a problem with planning permission as we are a grade 2 listed building.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 14th October at 10.00 a.m.