

Apologies

Apologies had been received from David King, Paul Hammond, Jimmy Ledger and Maureen Hannah.

Minutes Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting 25th February 2009 were adopted as accurate.

Proposed – Barbara Lee : Seconded – Lynn Jackson

There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report

The major change during the year being the move to the new venue. Mike felt we were still feeling our way; reminded members of the drinks arrangements and urged them to pre order. He hoped the new venue would prove a success.

Recent success for club members in Madeira. Dennis Loynes and Dick Rutter winning the Mens Pairs with Sue Evans and Marian Wilcox the Ladies Pairs. Club members were successful in Worcester, England and Abroad.

Mike thanked the Committee for their support during the year and in particular those members standing down Sue, Jimmy and Paul. Sue though will continue to prepare the club calendar which will be of great assistance.

Treasurer's Report

Lorna presented the accounts for the year. The main feature being a loss of £861.96. Attention was drawn to the reduction in interest earned resulting from the poor interest rates available and the additional costs of hosting the 20th anniversary of the club. Eric enquired about the reasons for the increase in Competition fees. Lorna would investigate and provide him with details.

Lorna thanked Ian and Jimmy for the accounts spreadsheet she had inherited, and Linda for collecting the table money each week.

The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Jane Rutter, seconded Ross Garratt and accepted by the membership.

Constitutional Change

The Committee proposal that the Headquarters of the club be changed to "The Royal British Legion Club, Claines" was agreed by the meeting with two members against.

EBU Universal Membership

The introduction of universal membership through Pay-to-Play required The Committee to apply for membership of the EBU on behalf of Worcester Bridge Club. The members endorsed the Committee decision with two members against.

Byelaws Amendment – Membership and Table Money.

Committee were proposing to increase Table Money by £0.50, to cover the cost of Pay to Play, £0.35p per person per session, with no discount for Hosts or Directors, and raise a little bit more to offset the deficit.

An amendment not to increase the table money for Juniors was received from Rufus.

A vote on the proposed amendment was carried by 25 votes for to 5 against

A vote was taken on the amended motion to increase Table money for Members and Guests by £0.50p. The motion was carried by 31 votes for to 2 against.

Garden Cities Teams

The committee had received complaints about the selection for the Garden Cities Teams. Sue Lane identified the current selection process:

A team of 8 members selected by a designated person on behalf of the Committee, and a team selected

on merit by being in the leadership positions of the pairs championship.

Such was not equitable to some members who finished in the top 4 pairs on merit but were not allowed to represent the club, as their partners were selected as part of the other team.

Sue proposed that all selection should be done by merit, success in the Championship Pairs Play-off or qualification by position on the Pairs Ladder.

A variety of other solutions were discussed such as taking account of performance in the Individual Championship and in the Championship Teams. There was some debate about the conflict between trying to select the best team and not upsetting individual players. It was suggested that there should be a fundamental principle that players be selected using objective criteria. At this point, it was proposed that the Chairman and the Committee should discuss and amend the bye-laws, in accordance with the Constitution and endeavouring to take the feelings of the membership into account.

The motion was put and carried by 25 in favor to 4 against.

Election of Officers and Committee members

The nominated members were elected with one vote against

Appointment of Auditor

Dennis offered to continue as Auditor and was reappointed

Presentation of Trophies

The Trophies were presented to their respective winners by Mike.

Any Other Business

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 7:50.