

WALLINGFORD BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of Committee Meeting of Thursday 18th January 2007 held at Wallingford Bridge Club

Present: Peter Baxter (Chairman), N. Gascoyne (Secretary), R Moore (Treasurer), J. Barton, L. Burwood-Smith, F. Glassborow, G. Weatherley, P. Welch.

1. Apologies for Absence

Kate Gould, J. Griffiths.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 28th September 2006 were passed.

3. Matters Arising not Covered by the Agenda.

None.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing to report. He will forward the cheque from the money raised at the Christmas party to Douglas House.

Action: P. Baxter

5. Treasurer's Report

The club has £37,467 in the bank.

The Treasurer will clarify the invoice for the Senior's and Pro-Am competitions with K. Saddler.

Action: R. Moore

6. O.B.A. Report

It was reported that there has been criticism that some of the Wessex League Fixtures have been held in people's houses and/or venues where the playing conditions were not ideal. It was suggested that teams who are unable to provide an adequate venue could pay a club for the use of their premises. It was agreed to write to the OBA requesting that all matches should be played at a suitable location and requesting the OBA to specify minimal playing conditions for all Wessex League Fixtures.

Action: N Gascoyne

7. Property

Repairs/adaptation

There is nothing to report on the floor.

Door Closures

The notice placed on the door seems to be adequate at present although it was noted that it has not been very cold since the notice was put up.

Windows

The window has now been replaced.

It was reported that the Thursday afternoon players' biscuits have been taken on more than one occasion. A new padlock will be purchased for the kitchen cupboard.

Action: G. Weatherley

The timber is still in the car park, taking up valuable parking places. It was decided that the Chairman will write to the Village Hall Committee and arrange a meeting to discuss the following: the timber in the car park, a post and latch to hold the gate open, light bulbs, fluorescent strip and a spare, spare hand towels, toilet rolls, soap in the gents, more cooperation with cleaning the hall. It would also be useful if the Village Hall Committee could specify whether it is necessary to move the chairs each time we clear or if they can be pushed to the side of the hall.

Action: P. Baxter

Sub-Committee

The Property Sub-Committee are still in discussions with the Donkey Sanctuary. A new development is being planned for elderly residents at Carmel College. The club will write and request if it is possible to consider us in these plans and whether we could have the use of one of the buildings at the site for an interim period.

Action: N. Gascoyne

8. New Members

A. Tulip has notified the Committee that H. Saysell is able to play on Wednesday/ Friday evenings and he recommended that she be an ordinary member. This was agreed.

Philippa Grierson and Helen Lawton-Smith had applied for membership. They were accepted and are welcomed to the Club.

It was reiterated that all members – new and existing - should be made to feel welcome by providing an atmosphere that is warm and pleasant.

The Committee are going to reconsider The Constitution and Rules in total and will submit a revised Constitution at the AGM.

Action: P. Baxter and F. Glassborow to reconsider the constitution and discuss with Committee members.

9. Handicap Review

The present handicap system was discussed and is to be given to the Tournament Committee to review. M. Brown no longer wishes to be involved. A. Tulip will be approached to join the Committee.

Action : N. Gascoyne to approach A. Tulip.

10. Suggestions Book

There were no new suggestions entered in the book.

11. Tournaments

Eligibility

It was agreed that tournament eligibility will be discussed and revised by the Tournament Committee and that any player moving up from Monday evening will be given a handicap of zero.

Lists of entries for the clubs' competitions will be placed on the notice board. It was agreed that competitors are able to enter up to the first six months of the year.

Action: G. Weatherley to prepare lists.

Teams

- i. **Scoring**
The scorer's job should be made as easy as possible.
- ii. **Individual**
The Team Individual Player award is to be discontinued. This will be shown on the honours board as "Discontinued in 2006". Updating the Honours Board is in hand.
- iii. **Starting Positions**
The mechanics of the Teams movement were agreed at the last Committee evening and will be discussed with the Director on the evening.

Mixed Pairs

The competition will be held on the 5th Wednesday in January, May, August and October in 2007. The best two results from the four fixtures will count.

Handicap Competition for all members

The Committee agreed to hold a new Handicap Competition in a Pro-Am style, with the intention that the two partners will be of significantly different handicaps. The competition will involve playing in four fixtures to be held on the following Fridays: 30th March, 29th June, 31st August and 30th November in 2007. A minimum of 12 'amateurs' is desirable. Computer generated hands and a printed handout could be used for the fixtures. This can be discussed with B. McCarthy.

Action: P Baxter will announce the competition on Monday 22nd January and G. Weatherley will provide a list for interested players on the notice board.

12. AGM

Officers

P. Baxter was persuaded to accept nomination as Chairman. R. Moore agreed to stand as Treasurer and G. Weatherley agreed to stand as Secretary. P. Baxter will approach J. Griffiths to see if she will continue as the Club Captain. All Committee Members present agreed to stand for another year.

Action: N. Gascoyne will post the Notice for the Nomination of the Club's officers.

Subscriptions

It was proposed to keep Subscriptions at the current rate of £5.00 per annum.

Table Money

It was proposed that the table money will remain unchanged at £2.00 for members and £2.50 for non-members.

13. Calendar

Penny Marris Trophy

It was agreed that the Penny Marris Trophy will be awarded to the winners of the new handicap competition.

Sim Pairs

A notice has been placed on the board asking if any Wednesday/Friday club members would like to take part in the OBA Sim Pairs event at the club rooms in Roke. This will be held as a separate section on a Monday evening if there is enough interest.

Action: A Committee Member is to announce the proposal on club evenings and ask interested members to write their name on the list on the notice board.

Charity Events

It was proposed and agreed to:

- i. remove the Pead Plate event from the Annual Teams Competition,
- ii. open up the Pead Plate to include all Club Members and make it our Charity night; giving all table monies and the raffle proceeds to the named Charity.

These changes will commence in 2008.

The Committee would like to consider recommendations from Members for charities the Club would like to support.

Mixer Evening

It was agreed to hold a 'Mixer Evening' on Thursday 22nd February. The intention of the evening is to enable potential participants in the new Penny Marris Handicap Competition, to meet and play with their potential partner. A list will be placed on the notice board for interested parties and the event will be announced on Monday 22nd January. A minimum of 12 pairs will be required.

Action: P. Baxter to announce the Mixer Evening to Monday players. G. W. to place a notice on the board.

Supervised Play

Supervised Play will recommence on 22nd January and will be held on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. It was noted that several supervisors failed to turn up when the sessions were last held.

Action: P. Baxter to organise a Rota and distribute to the Supervisors.

14. Any Other Business

Website

It was agreed that 12 months data should be available on the website including Minutes of Committee Meetings and Trumpit .

Action: F. Glassborow to discuss with R. Stammers.

It was agreed to refresh the bidding boxes.

Action: J. Barton

The state of the club rooms at the end of an evening was discussed. It was agreed that the Director or a Committee member would make an announcement reminding players to wash their cups/glasses, put any rubbish in the bins provided and push their chairs in; leaving the rooms tidy for the players at the next session.

F. Glassborow would like to discuss computer generated hands. It was agreed to add this to the Agenda for the next Committee Meeting.

There is to be a heat of the Chiltern League Elimination Pairs event on Wednesday 14th March. The final will be held on Wednesday 2nd May at Maiden Place Community Centre, 7-15 for 7-30 start. Winners receive £50 runners up £25.

It was agreed, in principle, that the Wallingford Rotary Club can hold a charity bridge event at the club rooms. The cost of this would be £40 for a 6 hour session, to include stationery. The Rotary Club would provide the catering. Preferred days to hold the event are Friday and Monday –although not the 2nd Monday in the month when the Seniors Competition is held.

Action: G. Weatherley to advise G. Rayner of the Committee's decision.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 10.10pm.

- 15. Date for next Committee Meeting: Thursday, 22nd March 2007 at 7.30pm.**
Please advise the secretary as soon as possible if you are unable to attend.