

Cambridge Bridge Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at St Andrew's Hall, Chesterton on Wednesday 25th April 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

The meeting was chaired by Roger Salmon and minutes were taken by Christine Phillips. 25 other members of Cambridge Bridge Club were present.

1. Welcome

Roger welcomed members to the AGM.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Joan Braganza, Alison Lloyd, Kathrin Peters, Paul Barden, Michael Bond

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 26 April 2017

Verity Joubert proposed that these minutes be adopted as a true and accurate record. Clive Stops seconded the proposal. There were no objections and Roger signed a copy of the minutes for the files.

4. Matters arising not otherwise on the agenda

There were no other matters arising.

5. Reports from Officers

Chairman

Fred will shortly be telling you about our very satisfactory membership numbers and financial position. All I would say now is that how delighted we are that the Monday morning sessions are so successful and have encouraged so many new members to join us. I would particularly like to thank Terry, who has driven this over several years.

A main job today is to thank a lot of people who have retired or are about to retire for their service to the club.

First up is Graham Dolan, who was secretary until last March and then agreed to stay on until June because of prior commitment of John Liebeschuetz. In the process he never got given the bottle of wine that we traditionally give to retiring committee members, so I would like now both to thank him for his consistent contributions as secretary and to give him the overdue bottle.

Second, I would like to thank Philip and Brenda Jones for their many years preparing boards for use here in Chesterton; and the consistency and reliability of their work. It has been greatly appreciated. I would like to give each of them a bottle of wine as a small recognition of their service.

Jon Cooke is retiring as Captain after three years in the role, during which members have performed remarkably in senior competitions. I note now the excellent lecture he gave us in Trumpington last year on hand valuation and I understand he is willing to give another lecture when we organise it. Jon: many thanks indeed.

Susan Hilken and Simon Stokes are both retiring as Trumpington Reps, after many years in that role. It is a largely thankless task, which everyone assumes will just get done, and which gets noticed only if there is no milk or no biscuits. Susan and Simon: many thanks for your extended service.

Fred Langford is retiring this year as Treasurer. Unfortunately his nominated successor is in Addenbrooke's hospital recovering from two broken ankles: Fred has very generously agreed to stay on temporarily. I note that this includes not only the work as Treasurer, but that Fred is also heavily involved in a temporary move that the Trumpington Tuesday evening session will have to make to the Chesterton Bowls Club while the Village Hall is re-roofed. Fred is also playing a major part in seeking to increase the involvement of members who play mainly on Mondays by making it easier for them to find an experienced partner for evening sessions. Mindful of the confusion last year with Graham, I would like to give him his wine now, to recognise his outstanding contributions.

Alex Green is retiring as vice-chair after many years as chair, vice-chair and Chesterton rep. Her services to the club have been invaluable and I hope that she will be willing to consider other roles in the future. Alex: many thanks.

Next I would like to thank the Club's directors, scorers and hosts for their work. Like venue reps, these are largely thankless tasks and, in the case of scorers, involve staying on after the end of the session while everyone else leaves. I regret that you do not even get a bottle of wine. Please though can we all appreciate their essential contributions that normally make our sessions work so smoothly. And in this connection a special set of thanks to Verity, who has organised the rota of directors and scorers, and to Jenny who has organised the rota of hosts.

And I would like to thank Christine Phillips for a special guest appearance as secretary of this meeting before she moves to Ilkley. Welcome Christine and may we wish you a great retirement.

I have just learnt that Jamie and Liam Fegarty have been chosen to be members of the U15 team to go to China for the world championships. This is a great achievement by them and by Paul and Catherine. Catherine points out that the EBU never expected four junior teams to qualify and that the cost is a major burden for the EBU. She and others have suggested that we should organise one or more special sessions from which table money would be directed to support EBU juniors; or that we might redirect some of our normal session table money for this purpose. I think decisions on this need to be made by the new committee, but it would be helpful to us to have some guidance from this meeting on whether you would welcome something like this. Before I ask for a show of hands on the subject, is there anyone else who would like to speak to it? In discussion Carina Negreanu said she would be willing to organise something to support the EBU Juniors. On a show of hands 19 were in favour of the Club taking action to support the EBU Juniors and one was against.

That is all I have to say for the moment. I now would like to hand over to Fred Langford.

Nadia asked about the proposed Bridge Centre. It had fallen through as the developers could not get planning permission.

Treasurer

CBC made a surplus of £892 in Financial Year 2017-18. A 4% increase in overall attendance and a 10.5% increase in membership were the main contributors to the surplus. CBC made capital purchases of £714 for 96 Duplimate Boards, 4 Bridgemates and a new Bridgemates case.

Membership

Current Membership is 199, which is 19 more than last year.

Attendance and Surplus/Loss per Session

Day	Current average no. of tables	TY v LY %	Surplus/(Loss) per session
Monday	10.80	20.7%	£26.06
Tuesday	7.93	-6.0%	(£.87)
Wednesday	6.98	-4.9%	(£22.68)
Total	25.71	4.0%	£4.25

Table Money and Members' Annual Subscription

The committee have decided to make no changes in the annual subscription and table money. Therefore, table money will remain at £2.50 for members, £3.50 for visitors, £1 for student members and £1.50 student visitors. The annual subscription will remain at £15 and £5 for students.

Fred thanked Peter Last for his detailed auditing of the accounts.

Adoption of the accounts was proposed by Julian Wightwick, seconded by Victor Milman and carried nem con.

Secretary

Membership numbers continue to hover around a healthy 200. However, we need to consider especially how to attract younger people to the club. As Fred notes, Tuesday and Wednesday attendance have become lower in recent years

We organised a full and varied program of club competitions again last year and although reasonable attendance was achieved for most competitions, the slight drop in Tuesday and Wednesday attendance has led to generally lower competition participation this year compared to recent years. An exception in this regard was our teams competition, the Collis Plate, where a policy of actively trying to put possible team mates together, led to a very good turnout on teams' nights. I take the opportunity, at this point, to note the sad and sudden death this year of Richard Collis, who of course originally donated the Collis Plate trophy.

Work will shortly begin on next year's Calendar. We don't anticipate many large scale changes to the events we run next year. However we always like to hear feedback on what events people like and what they don't like. There are two topics in particular that I'd like to obtain feedback on at this meeting. Firstly: A mixed pairs competition has not been on the calendar for a number of years. Would people like to see this make a return? Secondly we currently hold 6 simultaneous pairs events throughout the year and these often raise money for good causes such as Children in Need and English Bridge Education and Development. Do we a) hold too few, b) hold too many, c) get it about right? Alex said that the trophy for the Mixed Pairs event, which was originally donated by Cynthia Kirkby, had been missing for several years. However, a replacement could be acquired if necessary. A small majority was in favour of reviving the Mixed Pairs, but with many abstentions. Members were happy with 6 Sim pairs events.

One significant new competition is for the Oliver Hodgson Trophy which will be held on the first Monday of the month. It will run on Cradock lines with the best 6 performances with different partners counting towards the competition. Many members will remember Oliver Hodgson. He graciously bequeathed £200 to the club which we will make use of in purchasing the trophy.

A member noted that the Club Individual heat for the County Individual competition is very poorly attended (4 tables) and asked whether it should it be continued. Peter Last said that it should, as CBC is a major player in the County Individual. Penny confirmed that the County needs the Individual heat to go ahead. Maybe it could be held on a Monday? However, Julian thought Monday morning players wouldn't want to join in; also some club members who would want to participate in the Individual would be working on a Monday morning. Other members thought that the competition would be popular with the Monday

Players. The consensus was that, if the Monday players would like to have a heat on a Monday morning, this would be attractive. Roger will consult with Terry Otterman and the Monday players.

On 25th May 2018 the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will come into force. This requires organisations to take certain steps to make sure they handle their members' data correctly. Depending on the organization, these steps may differ as the legal basis on which the organisation stores and uses data is different. However, for CBC the legal basis on which we collect most of our data is likely to be that it is in the organisation's "legitimate interest" to do so.

Much of the work needed to achieve compliance, especially in regards to the website and the e-mail lists, has fallen on Colin Sills who is doing an excellent and thorough job. He will now tell you what he has been doing in this regard.

Club Captain

No report received

Chief Tournament Director

Paul Barden, who had been unable to attend as he was not well had submitted this brief report by email:

CBC bridge sessions have for the most part run smoothly this year. My thanks to all the directors and scorers, and especially to Verity for organising the rota. And thank you to all CBC members for your high standard of behaviour at the table.

As ever, our need is for volunteers. If you've ever thought of volunteering to direct or score, please do it this year - training is on offer. And if you're willing to take over the rota, I suspect Verity would be happy to let you have a turn

Information Officer

GDPR

To a great extent, GDPR is simply a strengthening of the existing Data Protection Act, both in scope and the level of penalties for failing to ensure compliance. The biggest changes are 'behind the scenes' ie they require the Committee to enhance the processes used to keep safe the personal data that we hold.

The effects on members are:

- A new Privacy Policy, available on our website, that we encourage all members to read and accept when renewing their membership. The new policy clearly states the rights that each member has in regard to our use of their information.
- Renewal of members' permission (or not) to publish their details on the club's Contacts List. No details will be published on the list unless explicit permission is given.
- In order to ensure that the data we currently hold is accurate, up to date, and matches members' preferences, a membership renewal form from each member will be needed.

The main effects of GDPR will be felt by the committee, including:

- A review and documentation of improved processes for collecting, storing and processing members' personal data
- For each committee role, guidance will be given on best practice / compliance with GDPR, including use of email and secure storage of data.
- Improved management of the club's email lists.

- A requirement to report to the Information Commissioner's Office any breaches (whether accidental or malicious) of personal data protection. Procedures for identifying and reporting such breaches are required.
- Improved procedures for passwords used by committee members (eg to access the club's EBU and BridgeWebs accounts).

In summary, the changes that we make will aim to cause minimum impact and work for all concerned, yet will provide improvements to our existing processes.

Website

The website continues to work well, with various aspects being commonly used including: information for prospective members, results, calendar and news. Suggestions from members for improvement to the site are, as always, invited.

It is believed that, according to EU law, a 'cookie policy' and on-site notification are required: these will be added to the site.

Email Lists

The club operates two main email lists for members, managed by Neil Matthews (for which we are very grateful). 'cbc-general' is open to all to join (via the website) and post messages. 'cbc-members' is a list for club officers to be able to send official announcements to CBC members. Both of these will be replaced with new lists managed from within our Google domain. Members will be notified about the change when it happens. Aside from improved ease of management by the committee, the main effect will be that emails received from either list will be from our cambridgebridgeclub.org address. The change will make it easier for the committee to maintain the list membership and comply with our GDPR obligations.

6. Table Money and Subscriptions

It was proposed by Peter Last, seconded by Abdelsalaam Abdel-Moneim and agreed nem con that these remain at their current levels. Therefore, table money will remain at £2.50 for members, £3.50 for visitors, £1 for student members and £1.50 student visitors. The annual subscription will remain at £15, and £5 for students. When put to a vote this was passed nem con.

7. Proposed changes to the Constitution:

- (i) That the Club Constitution be amended by deleting the present Paragraph 6.1 and substituting "6.1. Election to Club membership shall be made by the Committee."
- (ii) That the Club Constitution be amended by replacing the words in Paragraph 8 "and published on the Club notice boards at each venue at two Club bridge meetings" with the words "at least three weeks".

Both proposals were passed nem con.

8. Election of the Auditor

Peter Last was re-elected, proposed Roger Salmon, seconded Jenny Jacobsberg and agreed

9. Election of the Committee for 2017-18

Nominations for the various positions are as follows:

Chairman – Roger Salmon

Vice-Chairman – Carina Negreanu

Secretary – John Liebeschuetz

Treasurer – Michael Bond

Club Captain – Graham Hazel

Tournament Director – Paul Barden

Trumpington representatives – Andrew Martin

Chesterton representatives – Clive Stops

Monday Club representative – Terry Otterman

Roger proposed that the committee be elected en bloc. This was seconded by Nadia, and carried nem con.

10. Presentation of Trophies

The winners of the club trophies for the year are as follows:-

Individual Championship – Roy Cradock Bowl

Graham Hazel

Club Championship Pairs Trophy

Graham Hazel, Julian Wightwick

Cross IMP Pairs Championship – Jacobs Shield

Julian Wightwick, John Liebeschuetz

Swiss Pairs – Wraight Cup

Peter Jackson, Carole Parker

Summer Pairs – Abdelmoneim Trophy

Jonathan Mestel, Paul Barden

Teams of Four League – Collis Plate

Chris Larlham, David Kendrick, Paul Barden, Jon Cooke, Jonathan Mestel

Teams of Four – Marie Johnson Trophy

John Rallison, Michael Bond, Ken Riley, Penny Riley

Handicap Teams – May Pamplin Shield

John Rallison, Michael Bond, Ken Riley, Penny Riley

Equinox Handicap – Zakrzewska Plate

Autumn 2017

Freddie Wright, Anindya Sharma

Spring 2018

Peter Last, Bryan Last

11. Any other business

There was none

The Meeting closed at 7.45 pm