

PLYMOUTH BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of Committee Meeting held via Zoom on 10th August 2020

Attendees:	Steve Lacey	Chair	(SL)
	Charles Greenlees	Treasurer	(CG)
	Allan Simpson	Secretary	(AS)
	Robert Kilby	Committee	(RK)
	Mel Melville-Brown	Committee	(MMB)
	Diane McGregor	Committee	(DM ^c)
	Ailie Henry	Trustee	(AH)
	Jenny Young	Trustee	(JY)

1. Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies received from Richard Ayres (RA), Martin Berkien (MB) and Gill Seymour (GS) Committee and Andy Carpenter (AC) Trustee.

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting 15th June 2020

- 2.1 The minutes were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 Item 8.2 - Bruce Foster to assist the Competitions Committee whilst playing online bridge.

Actions Complete

- 3.2 Item 8.4 - See agenda item 6.

Actions Complete

- 3.3 Item 9.2 - See agenda item 7.

Actions Complete

- 3.4 Item 9.3 - See agenda item 7.

Actions Complete

4. Treasurer's Report

- 4.1 Charles Greenlees (CG) tabled a sheet of management figures to 30th June including comparisons to the last 4 years (see Annex A). Jenny Young (JY) enquired about the seemingly high catering costs especially as the club has been closed for over 4 months.
- 4.2 Both catering and cleaning costs were discussed and CG advised that whilst Clare, the club cleaner, was not being paid for any catering help she was being paid her normal cleaning pay. It was agreed that as Clare was in effect acting in a caretaker role, meeting an insurance requirement and an asset to the club this should continue and be reviewed at the next meeting.
- 4.3 The Chair (SL) stated that the club needs to be clear on what Clare is expected to do and for her to report any issues and asked CG to obtain from Clare a brief account of what is actually being done.

Action CG

Post Meeting Note: Since the meeting CG checked the figures presented and a slight amendment to the catering and cleaning figures made. Annex A includes the correct figures.

- 4.4 CG also informed the Committee that club member Jenny Northmore told him that a bowling club she belonged to obtained a grant through one of the Government's coronavirus financial support initiatives as they owned the club premises and that the bridge club might also qualify. CG reported that an application was made and the club received a grant of £10k and wished to thank Jenny Northmore for the information.

5. Membership Secretary's Report

- 7.1 Allan Simpson (AS) advised that currently 27 members had not renewed their club membership by the 31st July deadline.
- 7.2 AS also stated that normally membership would have been considered to have lapsed for these members but under the current situation and as not everyone maintains their contact details up to date he considered the membership for these 27 will not be deemed to have lapsed for the time being. This was agreed, however AS to try and contact these members.

6. Competitions Committee Report

- 6.1 The Chair (SL) read out the following statement on behalf of the Competitions Committee.

- 6.2 Whilst we continue to play online bridge the normal club competitions will be suspended and instead they will be replaced by the following:

Mayflower Cup

Individual competition online on Tuesday and Friday evenings with at least 2 different partners. Best 8 out of a minimum of 13 sessions to count from 1st September to 30th November 2020.

Mayflower Tudor Cup

Individual competition online on Monday and Thursday afternoons with at least 2 different partners. Best 8 out of a minimum of 13 sessions to count from 1 September to 30 November 2020

Mayflower 400 Cup

Pairs competition online on Monday and Thursday afternoons with at least 2 different partners with NGS up to 6. Best 8 out of a minimum of 13 sessions to count from 1 September to 30 November 2020

7. Building Maintenance and Improvements

- 7.1 Discussions on actions required before re-opening the club will continue to be discussed under this standard agenda item.
- 7.2 Charles Greenlees (CG) tabled a list of potential actions and/or requirements which needed to be considered before the club could re-open. Everyone attending the Committee meeting agreed that at present there was far too much risk in opening for normal Face2Face bridge sessions. However, CG suggested that if Government guidelines still prevented re-opening in the autumn, there was a possibility to provide facilities for any member to play online bridge in the club house.
- 7.3 It was agreed that required actions should be developed further with the possibility of canvassing members in due course when there is a clearer idea on when re-opening would be possible.
- Action MMB/CG**
- 7.4 Ailie Henry (AH) informed the Committee that the annual inspection of the fire alarm system was due to be carried out w/c 17th August.

- 7.5 AH reminded the Committee that when the main bridge room was re-decorated last year the builders considered the ceiling would need some attention before too long. It was agreed that the Building Sub-Committee should convene a meeting to discuss further. Mel Melville-Brown (MMB) enquired if the club had an Asbestos report with regard to the existing ceiling material. This was not known but would be something the sub-committee would consider.

Action Building Sub-Committee

8. Online Bridge

- 8.1 The Chair (SL) stated that the club continues to play 2 afternoon and 2 evening sessions on Bridge Base Online (BBO) which are being well supported and working well. An intention of BBO to change its fee structure and an initiative by Bridge Club Live (BCL) to develop dedicated F2F Club Rooms prompted a club involvement in BCL trial sessions. The 1st trial session was cancelled due to an insufficient number of tables with the 2nd session due to be held on Wednesday 12th August.
- 8.2 However the EBU has since negotiated a deal with BBO where the club receives 70% of session registration fees which means there is less need to look elsewhere to play online bridge. However it was agreed that the club would continue with the BCL trial on Wednesday 12th August to leave options open.

Post Meeting Note: The trial session on the 12th August took place with 3 tables. BCL held a 3rd week of trials w/c 17th August and a club session was booked. However this session was subsequently cancelled due to an insufficient confirmed number of participants to meet the minimum table requirement.

- 8.3 Charles Greenlees (CG) informed the Committee that a third option was also being looked at by Andy Carpenter (AC). This was Stepbridge a Holland based online bridge website which has just recently launched Stepbridge UK.

9. Correspondence

- 9.1 There was no correspondence to discuss.

10. Any Other Urgent Business Notified to the Chair

- 10.1 Allan Simpson reported that there was a need for the club itself to register the plymouthbridge.co.uk domain name.

Action AS

11. Date of Next Meeting

- 11.1 The next Committee meeting was arranged for the 12th October 2020.

Allan Simpson
Secretary