

## PLYMOUTH BRIDGE CLUB

### Minutes of Committee Meeting held in the Club and via Zoom on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024

<b>Attendees:</b> Steve Lacey	Chair
Mel Melville Brown	Vice Chair
Allan Simpson	Treasurer
Charles Greenlees	Committee
Bruce Foster	Committee
Gill Seymour	Committee
Suzanne Cornish	Committee
Rachael Walters	Committee
Andy Carpenter	Trustee
Ailie Henry	Trustee

#### **1 Apologies**

1.1 Apologies received from Sue Gregory (Committee) and Diane McGregor (Committee).

#### **2 Minutes of Committee Meeting 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

2.1 The minutes of the above Committee meeting were accepted.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

3.1 Paragraph 11.2 of previous minutes was discussed under Agenda Item 6. There were no other matters arising.

#### **4 Treasurer's Report**

4.1 Allan Simpson (Treasurer) presented an Income and Expenditure summary up to 29th February 2024 showing total expenditure of £2,014.13 and total income of £3,539.21.

4.2 In response to a question from Andy Carpenter Allan stated that whilst we had insurance cover the 2024 insurance premium wasn't paid until the 1<sup>st</sup> March.

## **5 Membership Secretary's Report**

5.1 Allan Simpson (Membership Secretary) reported that membership currently stood at 118 members with 3 applications from previous members, Ivor Moore, Anne Worthington and Paul Martin along with an application from Fiona Sneyd being accepted since the last Committee meeting.

## **6 Charity Incorporated Organisation (CIO)**

6.1 There was discussion on a document (Annex A), circulated to the Committee prior to the meeting by Allan Simpson on the benefits of the club seeking registration with the Charity Commission to become a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

6.2 The Committee agreed that this would be of benefit to the club in both the short and long term and that it should be proposed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2024.

## **7. Beginner and Improver Bridge Lessons**

7.1 Steve Lacey (Chair) stated that it had previously been agreed that new courses for beginners and improvers would start on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024 on a Tuesday morning at the usual time of 10-15 to 12-15. Steve stated that he would confirm this with Sue Gregory who would be giving the improver lessons.

7.2 It was stated that this year the club would qualify for a free place on a teacher training course.

## **8 Sunday Bridge Sessions**

8.1 Allan Simpson reported that he had been in contact with Jenny Northmore who organised the previous Sunday event and as Jenny will be busy with the start of the outdoor bowls season, he will organise another Sunday bridge session which would be a 'Tea and Cake' and proposed the 14<sup>th</sup> April.

8.2 There was brief discussion on the best start time and agreed that the session would start at 1-30 pm until approx. 6-00 pm.

## **9 Bridge - It's a Big Deal**

9.1 Andy Carpenter outlined the EBU initiative Bridge - It's a Big Deal, a festival of bridge running from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024 and is being run in partnership with Cancer Research UK with the goal to raise £60,000.

9.2 There was some thoughts expressed on how the club could support this and agreed that we would tie this in with an Open Day proposed last year by Rachael Walters. Rachael agreed to work on arrangements with support from other committee members.

## 10 Building Maintenance and Sub Committee Report

10.1 Steve Lacey (Chair) stated that a quote from Gintaras for painting the outside of the clubhouse had still not been received and he would hasten. Ailie Henry commented that as the painting would be best done during the summer, the quote was becoming quite urgent.

## 11 Preparations for the AGM

### 11.1 - 2023 Accounts

11.1.1 - Allan Simpson (Treasurer) tabled provisional 2023 accounts for information and/or comment.

11.1.2 - Allan stated that comparing gas & electricity costs for the period Nov & Dec 2022 and Jan & Feb 2023 with Nov & Dec 23 and Jan & Feb 24 there's been a significant increase of approximately 40%. This prompted discussion on the need to increase subscriptions and fees.

11.1.3 - It was agreed that an appropriate increase in both subscription and session table money should be proposed at the AGM.

### 11.2 - Nominations for Committee

11.2.1 - Nominations received for the 2024/25 Committee were:

**Chair** - Steve Lacey

**Vice Chair** - Mel Melville-Brown

**Treasurer** - Allan Simpson

**Secretary** - Vacant

**Committee** - Charles Greenlees, Diane McGregor, Gill Seymour, Bruce Foster, Suzanne Cornish, Rachael Walters and Sue Gregory.

### 11.3 - Proposals for Discussion

11.3.1 - There had been no proposals for discussion raised by members and it was agreed that the following should be proposed at the AGM:

- Registration of Plymouth Bridge Club as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
- Increases in annual membership subscriptions and table money.

**12 Correspondence**

12.1 None

**13 Any Other Business**

13.1 None.

**14 Date of next Meeting**

14.1 The date of the next meeting will be agreed with the new Committee following the AGM.