

PLYMOUTH BRIDGE CLUB

Minutes of Committee Meeting held via Zoom on 18th October 2021

Attendees:	Steve Lacey	Chair	(SL)
	Charles Greenlees	Treasurer	(CG)
	Allan Simpson	Secretary	(AS)
	Diane McGregor	Committee	(DM ^c)
	Bruce Foster	Committee	(BF)
	Martin Berkien	Committee	(MB)
	Toni Fairhead	Committee	(TF)
	Karen Murphy	Committee	(KM)
	Andy Carpenter	Trustee	(AC)

1. Apologies

- 1.1 Apologies received from Mel Melville-Brown (Vice Chair) and Gill Seymour (Committee).

2. Minutes of Committee Meeting 13th September 2021

- 2.1 The minutes were accepted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 Item 7.5 and 7.6 Complete.

Item 11.2 Ongoing.

4. Treasurer's Report

- 4.1 Charles Greenlees (CG) treasurer tabled management figures to the 30th September 2021, see Annex A, and reported that income from RealBridge and BBO is remaining consistent.

- 4.2 There were no questions on the figures presented.

5. Membership Secretary's Report

- 5.1 Allan Simpson (AS) informed the Committee that there had been no new applications for membership and the current membership stands at 129.

6. Competitions Committee Report

- 6.1 Andy Carpenter (AC) reported that the handicapped teams' competition had started with all September matches being completed. Substitutes had now been allowed but arranging October matches is still proving problematic.
- 6.2 AC also stated that the club would be taking part in the Children in Need charity pair's event on Thursday 11th November with table money at £5.
- 6.3 A teams of 4 return match with Tyler Hill is being played on the 10th November.

7. F2F Bridge Sessions

- 7.1 Steve Lacey (SL) Chair stated that the question now that we have started F2F sessions with social bridge on Tuesdays is what we do about opening other sessions.
- 7.2 Andy Carpenter (AC) reported that Friday evening players had been canvassed and that there wasn't a large enough core of players to open Friday evenings at the moment. Therefore 2 taster sessions have been arranged for 19th November and the 3rd December with a confirmed 4 tables for both sessions. Within these confirmed attendees were a couple of players whose membership had lapsed and it was agreed that they could play as visitors without having to renew membership at this time.
- 7.3 AC also commented that with other Plymouth clubs struggling to attract sufficient numbers for F2F there needs to be at least one club in Plymouth providing an evening session for those who worked.
- 7.4 SL enquired if the Friday evening online session would run in parallel. AC responded that the Friday evening BBO sessions usually attracted enough non club members for both sessions to be held as separate events.

- 7.5 SL remarked that that left what to do with the afternoon sessions. SL reported that he had conducted a straw poll in the afternoon session and many members are hesitant about going into the club. SL also remarked that Covid-19 cases in Devon and Cornwall are still high and increasing. Bruce Foster (BF) had produced a spreadsheet on the current situation with other local clubs and summarised that it would appear people are hesitant about F2F and a bit too early to say that F2F was being preferred.
- 7.6 SL asked other Committee members for their thoughts. Ailie Henry (AH) thought it would probably be wise to wait another month and Martin Berkien (MB) considered that many have accepted online bridge and travelling would be in inconvenience and many members are still concerned about safety.
- 7.7 SL summarised the current situation with the club as to continue with F2F social bridge on Tuesdays, 2 trial Friday evening F2F sessions and continue online with Monday and Thursday afternoon sessions at least until after the November Committee meeting and maybe until the New Year. This was agreed by the Committee.
- 7.8 The possible use of hybrid sessions combining F2F and online sessions into one event was discussed with Bruce Foster (BF) drawing attention to an article in the EBU magazine on the options. SL suggested that AC, CG, BF and AS look into the practicalities of adopting hybrid sessions when afternoon sessions open for F2F.

Action AC, CG, BF, AS

- 7.9 Toni Fairhead (TF) suggested that it might be worth holding a small trial to test a hybrid session.
- 7.10 Charles Greenlees (CG) raised the question of needing a Director online and a Director at the F2F session. Andy Carpenter considered that there would be a need for separate Directors for F2F and online particularly if either or both were playing in the F2F or online session.
- 7.11 Allan Simpson (AS) was asked by SL to send an e-mail seeking online Director volunteers. Karen Murphy (KM) offered her services.

Action AS

8. Bridge Lessons

- 8.1 Charles Greenlees (CG) reported that intermediate lessons had started that morning (18th Oct) with just a 1 hour lesson and was well attended, potentially allowing those attending to play in the afternoon online session.

8.2 Steve Lacey (SL) Chair stated that Richard Ayres had agreed to assist him in running a beginners course F2F in the club in the New Year and probably on a Tuesday morning. This was agreed by the Committee.

9. Building Maintenance and Improvements

9.1 Nothing to report.

9.2 Toni Fairhead suggested that it could be worth looking into improving air quality in the bridge room by fitting air purification unit(s) with hepa filters.

9.3 Steve Lacey (SL) Chair asked TF to investigate and provide details and costs.

Action TF

10. Correspondence

10.1 There was no correspondence to discuss.

11. Any Other Urgent Business Notified to the Chair

11.1 Nil

12. Date of Next Meeting

12.1 The next Committee was arranged for Monday 22nd November at 17-00 hrs.

Allan Simpson
Secretary