

# Bagworth Whistlestop Bridge

## 4th Annual General Meeting Notes

June 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022

1. The meeting took place at Bagworth Community Centre and was chaired by Carol Stephens and attended by 24 members. Before and during the meeting members participation drink and some light accompaniments. Apologies were received from Mary Weeks, Simon Learoyd, Betty Vos, Averil Bemment, Terry Herrett, Pat Perry and Janet Scarratt.
2. The notes from the previous AGM which were held via zoom were approved as a correct record...proposed by Carolyn Owen and seconded by John Morris.
3. Carol welcomed members to the meeting and said she would not be going through the Chair's and annual report in detail as members had already been circulated with it and would take any questions or issues arising from it. However, as her last year as Chair she wanted to thank the very strong, highly motivated, and hard-working committee for their support and guidance at all stages in the development of the club. She also thanked members for their role in moving the group on and for their warmth and friendliness. Shelagh reviewed the plans from the 21/22 year which had essentially been about keeping going through the adversity of covid. However, the chief task for the committee had been about ensuring a sound financial base after the purchase of the dealing machine which had left the group's finances in a much weaker situation at the beginning of 21/22. This had been achieved very well.
4. Financial report. Carol introduced this by apologising for the administrative errors in the annual report which had presented John, the treasurer with extra problems when the accounts were absolutely fine as in the treasurer's report which had been subsequently presented. She then handed over to John who stated that the finances were now in a strong position with some £1300 to carry forward into the new year. He thanked people for paying online and that the invoicing system worked well. He noted that we were £1.00 to the good in the bank statement but could not trace why this had occurred. He said we were in a strong position to meet all our commitments for 2022/3. The financial report was unanimously approved and proposed by Anne Gurd and seconded by Steve Fieldhouse.
5. Fees for 22/3 were approved as table monies remaining the same at £2.00 per session and annual subscription rates to be reduced to £5.00 p.a in view of the more secure financial situation.
6. English Bridge Union affiliation – the advantages of joining the EBU were outlined by Carol as the gathering of master points, magazine, diary, training for directors and competitions. The disadvantage was the 'Pay to Play' cost which was in the region of 60p per person per session. Given that all but two members attending were already members of the EBU, it was felt that this would add little to the benefit of the group and non-affiliation was unanimously accepted.

7. Annual Plans: Shelagh outlined the proposals for 22/23 which revolved around bringing in new members both through regular press releases and publicity and with the introduction of a new beginner's course in the autumn. She felt it was all too easy for a club to drift without a sound plan each year. The group's strong financial position would enable sufficient resources to be purchased as and when the group numbers increased. The committee were currently reviewing the Bridgetab scoring system which had seemed a little unpredictable and were going to trial the Bridgepal system at the duplicate session the following week.
8. Election of officers: Carol proposed an 'on block' vote on the committee members as there were no contested positions. Anne Gurd had been proposed as the new chairperson and Mary Danaher as committee member for refreshments and social events. Carol would remain on the committee after the end of her term as Chair, John Morris had agreed to stay as Treasurer, Shelagh as Secretary and Communications, and Roger Horsgood with special responsibility for health and Safety. All the nominations were approved unanimously. Anne Gurd took on the responsibility as Chair.
9. Anne thanked members for their nomination and support and outlined her first task was a pleasurable one in presenting the Jubilee Cup to John Baker and Dave Wenham as winners of the 'random pairs' competition. She then thanked Carol for all her hard work in establishing the club along with Shelagh and for her dedication for her work as Chair and presented her with a bridge cloth in recognition of this. Members gave a round of applause.
10. Members were invited to make any comments or issues to be considered. Ann Brooks thanked the group saying that she belonged to three bridge clubs and that Bagworth was her favourite and most friendly. With that the meeting closed at 1.30 and the duplicate session began.