



BAGWORTH WHISTLESTOP
BRIDGE GROUP

6th Annual General Meeting

Thursday June 20th

Meeting Notes

Present: 28 members

Apologies for absence were received from: Diana Light, Carolyn Owen, Anne Gurd, Carol Stephens, Averil Bemment, Pat Perry, Terry Herrot, Robert Missenden, Philip Price and Janet Kirkland

1. After a few table snacks and drinks, George opened the AGM at 1.00 welcoming all members to the meeting and outlined the plan for the afternoon. Relevant papers had been circulated to members before the AGM and a copy of each was available on each table.
2. Apologies were given as outlined above.
3. The notes from the 5th AGM were approved as a correct record proposed by Steve Fieldhouse and seconded by Janel Scarratt. Mary Danaher noted them as very comprehensive.
4. George Strang, the chair, reminded members that they had had copies of the Annual Report but that he did not propose reading through it all but wished to highlight some of the areas. He noted that the club had had three new competitions – The simultaneous Pairs, a teams match with Market Bosworth and an award for the most improved player. Bagworth, George said, was a growing club with a 20% increase in members which was due both to its interclub liaison and the teaching programmes. These had been run by Carol, Neil and Shelagh and there had been four during the year. He noted the success of the visit to Stamford and the Stamford bridge club and the Swiss Teams event, which was very challenging to organise, and which no other Leicestershire club had offered. He also noted the clubs fund raising efforts with the Swiss teams raising £200 for the Forever Savvy group in June 2023 and £300 for Cancer research in 2024. The club had supported Gosia in her marathon walk for Alzheimers UK and a further £100 through the SIMs pairs charity raising event.
5. Financial Report – John Morris, the treasurer outlined the details incorporated in the Annual Report. Having taken up the role he was retiring after five years and thanked members for their co-operation and prompt payments via the invoicing system. He thought the group's finances were in a healthy state and thanked Marilyn for all her hard work in supporting him in the role. He suggested therefore that the table fees and membership subscriptions remained the same for the coming year. This was proposed by Marilyn Morris and seconded by Margaret Fieldhouse and agreed. John received a round of applause for his work.

6. Committee – George thanked the members who increasingly supported the group’s work in different ways... Neil who looked after the web site, Mary Weeks for the membership secretary, Mary Danaher for her work to organise refreshments, Shelagh and Carol who acted as hosts, Steve for organising the Knockout, Roger for organising the deals and Carol, Shelagh, Andy and Simon for directing and Shelagh, Carol and Neil for their work in the teaching.
7. Nominations had been received with proposers and seconders for the committee and as there were no contested roles, the chair suggested they were all duly elected – these were: George Strang - Chair, Derek Lambourne – treasurer; Shelagh Rumbelow – secretary; Roger Horsgood – committee member; Mandy Bearne- Committee member. Richard Chantler had also agreed to continue as auditor. George also took the opportunity to thank John for his role as treasurer and presented John and Marilyn with gifts – a bottle of brandy and some flowers.
8. George outlined the plans for the following year some of which were steady state and some new initiatives centred around raising standards. These included developing a resource base and a regular ‘Tip of the Week’. It was also hoped to initiate a Swiss Pairs event on RealBridge. George also said that he would be consulting with members via a questionnaire regarding the ways in which the club might develop or where improvements could be made.
9. The following trophies were then presented by Nigel Brewster – President of the Market Bosworth Bridge Club:
 - The Jubilee Trophy for Random Pairs _ Mary Danaher and Neil Stokes
 - The Knockout Plate – Carol Stephens and Averil Bemment (accepted by Shelagh Rumbelow in their absence).
 - The Stephens Trophy for the most improved player – a new award to Janet Scarratt.
10. The meeting closed at 1.45 and was followed by 16 boards of duplicate bridge.