

**COUNTY BRIDGE CLUB**  
Registered Charity 1179979

**Draft Minutes for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of County Bridge Club CIO  
(62<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of County Bridge Club)**

**Wednesday 21 June 2023, 19.00 hrs**

**County Bridge Club, 67 St Oswald Road, Leicester, LE3 6RJ**

- 1. Present:** 33 members attended. With reference to the EBU Constitution, this number exceeds the number required for quorum, and hence the votes and subsequent decisions are valid. Mr Walkerdine (Chair) therefore confirmed attendance figures and constitutional quorum
  
- 2. Apologies:** 26
  
- 3. Voting:** Jane Smith was invited by the Trustees and agreed to be examiner of all the votes. Voting included all entitled to vote in attendance at this AGM
  
- 4. Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General meeting of County Bridge Club CIO, 25 June 2022**  
Any amendments: Nil  
Any matters arising: Nil  
The motion was that this meeting confirms and approves these minutes: 33 agreed with 0 abstaining and 0 against. The motion was carried
  
- 5. Annual Report County Bridge Club CIO 2023**  
Ian Walkerdine (Chair) advised that the Annual Report had been available on the club's website for 2 weeks prior to this AGM, and additionally, paper copies of all associated documents were provided at this meeting, so no further reference was made to the specific content. The Chair confirmed that after 8 years in office, he was now passing on this role to Anthea Byrne who is an existing Trustee and has been an excellent club treasurer for several years.  
Any questions or points of clarification: Nil  
Proposed by IW      Seconded by IC  
The motion is that this meeting confirms and approves this annual report: 33 agreed with 0 abstaining and 0 against. The motion was carried
  
- 6. County Bridge Club Financial Statement for year ending 31 March 2023**  
AB Treasurer presented the accounts drawing attention to the following points
  - In the present economic climate of rising energy prices, together with reduced face to face attendance at the club, a smaller intake of students for the teaching programme and no bridge holiday, the club is in fact running at a loss
  - For instance, table money is down approx. £8000pa. The club has 197 members of which only 118 actually play face to face at the club, with an

additional 24 visitors (mainly from Westcotes) who regularly play at the club. Rental income is down some £5000pa, and teaching income is down approx. £4000pa compared to 2019 pre-Covid figures

- Electricity costs are increasing from £2k to £6k and gas from £1k to £5k in this coming year
- This is in addition to losses across the investment portfolio. Our investments have suffered from the general market drop following Covid and the Ukraine war and stands about £20,000 below our original investment value. We wait for the markets to recover
- Continued losses to club income are forecast for the next 3 years
- To combat rising energy costs the club is always looking to find efficiencies such as using radiators instead of underfloor heating. Installing solar panels over the next year will require an outlay of approx. £30k, but will mean we can recoup these costs over some 3-4 years and sell back surplus energy
- The club has secured a reduced rateable value of the building from £2500 pa to £630 pa with a refund of £1100 which reflects the buildings usage as leisure not commercial
- Gift aid claim will generate £1500 including a back claim over 3 years, although none has been received as yet, but any gift aid that relates to fund-raising events such as the Ukraine donations will be transferred to the intended causes

Any questions or points of clarification:

A member sought clarification about the auditor of the accounts. Ireland and Co Finance are the independent examiner. The club requires this rather than an individual to audit its accounts in keeping with the requirements of the Charity Commission

Proposed by AB      Seconded by PA

The motion is that this meeting confirms and approves this report: 33 agreed with 0 abstaining and 0 against. The motion was carried

## 7. Election of Trustees

No new nominations were received from members. The following trustees have agreed to stand for re-election but with a change of office as indicated

Office	Name	Proposed	Seconded
Chair / trustee	Anthea Byrne (AB)	Ian Walkerdine	Isabel Crump
Treasurer / trustee	Peter Ablett (PA)	Anthea Byrne	Isabel Crump
Secretary / trustee	Isabel Crump (IC)	Ian Walkerdine	Anthea Byrne
Trustee	Charles Gurr (CG)	Ian Walkerdine	Isabel Crump
Trustee	Simon Stokes (SS)	Ian Walkerdine	Isabel Crump
Trustee	Ian Walkerdine (IW)	Anthea Byrne	Isabel Crump

All the above was declared and accepted unanimously

Anthea Byrne accepted the new role of Chair and presented some aspirations for the future of the club. In particular, as the club is running at a loss, with a focus on ways to maximise income as already described, but also to look at greater use of the building to draw in more rental income

As part of a refreshed marketing strategy, the club is currently supporting the design of a new website and internet presence to promote not only the club but the teaching program. This will sit alongside the current Bridgewebs site. Whilst this is currently in its early stages, the club would welcome help from members to write content for the website and provide photos and informative regular information

Finally, as a charity the club supports both members and students in financial difficulty with bursaries, so the game is open to all. It has hosted events free of charge for charitable purposes and is hosting the LCBA Charity Swiss Pairs free of charge this year. A Richard Smith memorial event is planned for September 2023, with proceeds to go to his nominated charity. Anthea welcomed other ideas to run other charity events and encouraged members to volunteer some of their time to support the club in general

#### **8. Resolution:**

**Proposal to update the CBC Articles of Association Rules to support the established processes already outlined in the EBU Constitution around the conduct and disciplinary procedures:**

- Trustees will allocate participants to the panels from an agreed list of willing participant members who have relevant experience/expertise
- Availability and any conflicts of interest will be taken into consideration at the time
- Any agreed sanctions imposed by CBC should align to those imposed by the EBU
- Any agreed sanctions imposed by CBC should consider any previous historical sanctions to maintain consistency
- Any agreed sanctions imposed by EBU/CBC will automatically also result in loss of membership from CBC
- Any agreed sanctions imposed must be communicated to membership by the CBC Chairman within 24 hours

Proposed: Isabel Crump      Seconded: Ian Walkerdine

Any questions or points of clarification: Nil

The motion is to accept this resolution: 33 agreed, 0 abstained, 0 against

The motion was carried

#### **9. Resolution:**

**Proposal to increase teaching revenue from start of autumn term 2023 as outlined**

- Lessons to increase from £6 per lesson to £8 per lesson to align with other local clubs, although a bursary remains available for students here at CBC in cases of hardship

- A discount will be applied for students who wish to pay for the whole year, reducing the annual cost by £20

Proposed: Anthea Byrne      Seconded: Simon Stokes

Any questions or points of clarification: One member sought clarity about the length of a teaching term. These comprise of 10-week blocks

The motion is to accept this resolution: 33 agreed, 0 abstained, 0 against

The motion was carried

#### 10. Resolution:

**Proposal to increase sessional income from BBO from \$3pp to \$4pp from 1 7 2023**

Any questions or points of clarification: Some members were concerned that this may drive away an already dwindling number of face-to-face players

Proposed: Anthea Byrne      Seconded: Ian Walkerdine

The motion is to accept this resolution: 29 agreed, 0 abstained 4 against

The motion was carried

#### 11. Resolution:

**Proposal to elect a financial examiner: Ireland and Co Finance**

Proposed: Anthea Byrne      Seconded: Isabel Crump

Any questions or points of clarification: nil

The motion is to accept this resolution: 33 agreed, 0 abstained, 0 against

The motion was carried

#### 12. Presentation of Awards

<b>Spring Bowl NGS 10+</b>	Winners:	Peter Halford/ Jim Cooil
<b>Spring Bowl NGS 9 and under</b>	Winners:	Frank Travers/Pat Keates
<b>Autumn Plate NGS 10+</b>	Winners:	Peter Halford/Jim Cooil
<b>Autumn Plate NGS 9 and under</b>	Winners:	Debbie Pullen /Graham Kendal
<b>Coltman Cup</b>	Winners:	Steve Hartshorn, Doug Hardy, Graham Kendal & Debbie Pullen
<b>Buckby Trophy</b>	Winners:	Ian Bruce, Simon Stokes, Lyn Hilton, Jonathan Hughes
<b>Hurwich Quaich</b>	Winners:	Lucy Pathan, Anne Morris, Muireall Sperrings, Chittaranjan Soni
<b>Woodier NGS 9</b>	Winners:	Kate Boulter, Jane Smith
<b>NG10+</b>	Winners:	Lucy Pathan and Dick Pathan

**AOB:**

One teacher was omitted from the list of teaching volunteers. This has now been rectified

A member raised a point about table configuration which at present allows hands to be viewed from other tables. It was agreed that this was a valid point, and the issue will be addressed. Any health and safety issues which could adversely impact on access/emergency exits will be considered in line with this

The air conditioning is not very effective in the tournament room at times. It is anticipated that this will improve when the energy is being sourced from solar panels. In the meantime, all to endeavour to close windows and doors when the air conditioning is on

A member asked when Alastair Lennox and Kiran Ganatra were due to return following their suspension. A more general discussion followed where it was clear that members had differing views on the matter. It was confirmed that their return to the CBC will align with the date of the EBU suspension being lifted

Judy Hill proposed a vote of thanks to the Trustees and Committee members and acknowledged the hard work and the amount of time they all volunteer. Much appreciated

**Thankyou**

The Trustees and Committee members presented Ian Walkerdine, outgoing Chair with a case of wine, and flowers for his wife to thank him for his considerable contribution to the club. He will continue to support the club as a committee member as webmaster and will lead on energy efficiencies

**Meeting closed 7.45pm**