

Minutes of the Cheltenham Bridge Club (Charitable Incorporated Organisation)
3rd Annual General Meeting
Held at 4 Tivoli Road on Saturday 13 May 2023 at 6pm

Alan Wearmouth, Chair of the Trustees, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and offering a few words of thanks (text attached)

1. Members present and apologies

There were 71 members in attendance and thus the quorum was established. Apologies had been received from Alison Nicolson, Beverley Graham-Jones, Penny Crowe, Steve Bunker, Mike Lewis, Helen Bryant, Andrea and Martin Pegler, David Colyer, Alison Sharpe, Becky Graveney, Patricia Fleming, Fiona Biddle, Louise Erskine, Deborah Wills, Caroline Kean, Sue Mostyn, Sandra Riggall, Lorraine Ratcliffe, Ian Pedder, Roz Elliott, Marilyn Burn, Sarah Taylor, Kate Neale, Tom Rowland, Roger Nicholls.

2. Moment of Reflection

Chris Healy asked those present to take a moment to remember those members who had died over the course of the last year: David Amery, Sheila Byers, Barbara Chadburn and Peter Davies.

3. Minutes of CBC CIO AGM held 28 April 2021

The minutes of the 2nd AGM, held on 9 April 2022, were accepted by a majority decision.

4. Reports*

Management Committee Chair's Report – Chris Healy's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. Chris wished to highlight a few points:

- the increasing numbers playing at the Club, with 15/16 tables at the most popular events
- the high level of volunteering – a great feature of the Club, helping to promote a sharing community; unlike some bridge clubs
- the quality of the teaching programme, providing new members on a yearly basis and a clear pathway to their becoming more experienced bridge players
- the expertise and talent on the Management Committee, with special thanks to Teresa Thomas, who was stepping down as Secretary.

Chair of Trustees' Report – there was no separate report, as this was included in the Trustees' Annual Report, previously circulated.

Annual Report of CBC CIO Trustees – the report was adopted. Proposed by Kanwar Rahim; seconded by Ian Sidgwick, agreed by a majority of those present.

Year on Year Comparison 2021/2022 – Chris asked if there were any questions. Philip Trewin asked if there were any costs ongoing with respect to meeting fire regulations. Peter Swales said there were not.

5. Election of Officers (Chair and Treasurer)

The following were proposed for election to the role of:

Treasurer – Jackie Saitch, proposed by Chris Healy, seconded by Toby Roberts, agreed by a majority

Secretary – Caroline Bristol, proposed by Chris Healy, seconded by Teresa Thomas, agreed by a majority

6. Election of Management Committee Members

The following were proposed for re-election to the Management Committee:

John Skjonnemand – Bridge Programme Manager

Peter Swales – Premises Manager

Patrick Shields – GCBA Link

Proposed: Chris Hickey; seconded Toby Roberts. All approved by a majority

7. Continuing Management Committee Members (for information)

Chris Healy – Chair

Toby Roberts – Vice Chair

Beverley Graham-Jones – Volunteers administrator

Treasurer – Jackie Saitch, proposed by Chris Healy, seconded by Toby Roberts, unanimously agreed

Secretary – Caroline Bristol, proposed by Chris Healy, seconded by Teresa Thomas, unanimously agreed

8. Election of New Charity Trustees

There are no current vacancies to be filled by election. There are seven trustees at present, which is the maximum number under the Club's Constitution: the elected trustees are Alan Wearmouth, Helen Bryant, Nigel Burton, Ashok Kwatra, Jim Simons. Chris Healy and Jackie Saitch are *ex officio* trustees.

9. Approval of Revised Rules*

The proposal to revise the Rules was:

Proposed by John Botting; seconded by Kanwar Rahim

10. Approval of Revised Constitution*

The proposal to revise the Constitution was:

Proposed by Ashok Kwatra; seconded by Kanwar Rahim

11. Any Other Business

- A member had requested that the Bridgemate settings be adjusted to show percentages. This was deemed not to be the business of the AGM; it would be discussed instead by the Management Committee at its next meeting on 30 May. *Post-meeting note: The decision taken at the meeting on 30 May was to stay with the current Bridgemate settings.*
- The meeting was invited to congratulate Daphne Smith on her 92 birthday; a rendition of 'Happy Birthday' ensued!

There being no other business, the Chair closed the meeting at 6.26 pm.

*Copies of all papers were made available to members prior to the AGM – further copies will be provided by request to the Club Secretary on secretary@cheltenhambridgeclub.com.

CBC CIO AGM May 13th 2023

Chair of Trustees Welcome

Welcome to all – do stay for Bridge – do feel free to ask me anything about the work of the Trustees, give me your thoughts, or opinions etc., at the end of the formal meeting or during the evening.

Trustees responsibilities are NOT to manage the day to day running of the building, bridge sessions etc; these are delegated to your excellent elected Management Committee (MC), chaired by Chris Healy. I shall hand over to him in a few minutes to lead you through the business of the meeting. Before I do that, may I take a moment to do two things. Firstly, I would like to explain what the responsibilities of the Trustees are. They can be explained as being in three areas – Risk Management, Governance and Strategy. All these are significant in meeting our obligations under Charity law but in general they don't lend themselves to discussion at MC meetings – the MC is far too busy running the Club! The Trustees, therefore, take an active interest in protecting the Club at present and for the future by ensuring that these areas are not allowed to slip into the background under the pressure of practical business. Much of what the Trustees do does happen in the background, and that's as it should be.

Secondly, I would like to express a few very important thanks to various people. Regarding the MC I shall leave expressions of gratitude to individuals to Chris, your Chair. I would like to thank my fellow Trustees, current and previous in 2022, with a special note of appreciation to Toby Roberts who has made a massive contribution to the Trustees in a short time as he stepped into a situation of urgent need; I am very grateful for his (usually) willing help and his (slightly less than willing at first) agreement to lead the next stage of the Strategy process. On behalf of the CIO I would like to thank all those individuals who were prepared to loan the Club money to pursue significant refurbishments and improvements; all debts have been cleared, as you will hear, and for their willingness to help I am very grateful. I would like to thank those individuals who have been prepared to offer their considerable professional expertise to assist the smooth running of CBC: in particular to Caroline Hartley, for acting as our Independent Examiner for 2022, and to Helen Bryant for her invaluable legal insight and clarity of thinking. To each and every one of our wonderful volunteers in whatever role I hope no-one ever underestimates the great value which you bring to our Club. To all my fellow Trustees I say thank you for all the time and effort you have put in to supporting the Club. Finally it is my great pleasure to thank your MC and in particular the Chair, Chris Healy, for everything which each and every one of them does, for no motive other than to help the Club keep going and to flourish into the future. Your work is appreciated by us all, most especially for the great efforts you put in with some notable success in steering us through Covid, through the advent of online play and into a position where we can look with confidence towards continuing success in meeting our charitable objectives and helping Bridge to flourish in the area.

Thank you for your patience, and I now invite the Chair of Cheltenham Bridge Club, Chris Healy, to lead the rest of the meeting.