

KINGSTON SEYMOUR BRIDGE CLUB

Notes of Annual General Meeting held on 4th February 2025 at the village hall

Present: Liz Hale (Chair), Tricia Ewing, Carolyn Waite, Daphne Patrick, Joe Patrick, Martyn Macdonald, Patti-Craven-Wilkinson, Sylvia Stokes, Ann Bawdon, Ken Bawdon, Tim Mather, Martyn Hale, David Sands, Gadi Davidowitz, Shirly Ross, Heather Spalding, Suzy Lovell, Terry Bayley, Michael Graham, Barbara Titmus, Carol Price, Richard Pryce, Howard Davies(23)

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Sue Wilson, Andrew Weller, Christine Weller, Sandra Jones, Michael Bird, Gillian Paxton, Graham Daniel, Salma Daniel, Terry Yearsly, Ann Yearsley, Mike Fearon, Sylvia Fearon, Sandra Sharp, Maurice Perl, Michael Whittaker, Christine Dean, Barry Cavell, Rodger Calderbank, Judy Holcombe, Martin Holcombe

2. **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Unanimously accepted by all present.

3. **Matters Arising** – None.

4. **Chairman's Report** – Liz started her address by welcoming everyone and then continued It has been another successful year for the club. We have a growing membership. We now have 91 members who enjoy playing on Tuesday club nights, Gentle Bridge sessions on Monday afternoons, and online RealBridge on Friday evenings. The RealBride continuing to run in collaboration with Clevedon and Portishead BC (CPBC).

Table numbers vary but on average we are getting 7-8 on Tuesdays, 4 on Mondays, and the RealBridge is as popular as ever with 9.

Thankyou to all my committee Tim, Tricia, Carolyn, Patti, Gadi, and Daphne. They all do a lot of work through out the year and the club could not function without them. I would also like to thank Graham and Tony for setting up, directing, and scoring the RealBridge sessions, Tricia for organising and scoring the Gentle bridge sessions, assisted by Gadi, Andrew and Christine. We hope that these sessions which are now weekly will encourage players to continue and progress.

We continue to enter 2 teams in the county league with mixed results! However it has been good to play against players from other clubs. It has helped increase the clubs profile in the county, especially as we are a relatively new club.

Several notable events were held during the year.

In November the club played in the National Charity Sims in aid of 'Children In Need'. Terry and Mike had an amazing night and came top not only in our club but in Britain on that night!

In April in conjunction with CPBC we organised our first charity Swiss Pairs. It was held in KS village hall and 48 people played. Afternoon tea was served and money was raised for local charities. As it all went so well and people seemed to have been enjoyed by everyone we are repeating the event this year on Sunday 13th April in aid of Western Hospic

The Xmas party rounded off 2024 and was great fun.

I hope everyone continues to enjoy their bridge

LIZ HALE [CHAIR KSBC)

5. Treasurer's Report – attached

Tricia issued her report on the evening of the meeting together with a detailed financial statement. Tricia then read the report to the members at the meeting briefly stating that the club remained in a strong financial position.

As a result the committee wanted to propose that the annual fees for existing members be reduced to a nominal £1 while any new members joining in 2025 would still have to pay a £10 fee. Table money would remain at £2 per session for members, £3 for guests and £1.50 for online RealBridge

Tricia Proposed the motion, Liz Hale seconded it and it was passed unanimously.

Please note:- that Tricia will deduct the £1 fee from the first payment members make to update their account in 2025. It would also be helpful for members to inform Tricia if they don't intend to rejoin the club

Ann Bawdon asked why the club was not entering the Michael Coda cup this year and she felt that as this was sponsored by Somerset Bridge this is something we should support bearing in mind that they had given us a lot of support over the past few years. Tricia explained that both she and Liz were away that week which made it difficult to arrange. In addition the club do contribute to local charities during the year and individual members make many private donations. The club support many of the SCBA competitions and as a club we have encouraged many to join and play bridge. Somerset did give us a donation to IT equipment several years ago.

Howard Davies wanted an explanation of how the charity donations were presented in the accounts which Tricia was able to give.

6. Election of Officers and Committee Members –

Tim explained that all the existing committee members were willing to stand again. There had been no new nominations and no volunteer requests on the night.

Tim went on to read out the list of Proposers and Seconders for committee nominations

Daphne Patrick, President – proposed by Patti-Craven-Wilkenson seconded by Patricia Ewing
Liz Hale, Chairman – proposed by Patti-Craven-Wilkenson seconded by Patricia Ewing
Tim Mather, Secretary – proposed by Gadi Davidowitz seconded by David Sands
Tricia Ewing, Treasurer – proposed by Gadi Davidowitz, seconded by Patti-Craven-Wilkinson
Patti Craven-Wilkinson, – proposed by Patricia Ewing seconded by Liz Hale
Carolyn Waite – proposed by Gadi Davidowitz seconded by Tim Mather
Gadi Davidowitz - proposed by Patricia Ewing, seconded by Tim Mather

The committee members were put in place by the membership unanimously.

7. Matters Raised by Members –

Sylvia Stokes wanted to thank the committee for their hard work over the year.

Tim Mather
KSBC Secretary

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Kingston Seymour Bridge Club - Treasurer's Report for 2024

Club finances remain very healthy with a surplus of £503.65 recorded for the year to 31 December 2024 (compared to £431.72 in 2023).

Playing costs were again more than matched by overall fees collected, with the growing popularity of our Monday "Gentle Bridge" sessions making a significant & positive contribution towards income and membership numbers (currently 91).

The club and its members also made very generous charity donations during the year of £586 (£436 via club, £150 directly), buoyed by our inaugural Swiss Pairs competition (held jointly with Clevedon & Portishead Bridge Club), which will again feature in 2025.

Turning to the Balance Sheet, our combined bank balances of just over £4000 at 31 December include approx £800 of members' playing fees received in advance (vs. £550 at 31.12.23), again shown as a Balance Sheet creditor.

Even after further year end debtor & creditor adjustments, this leaves an accumulated fund (total of all annual surpluses, less deficits) in excess of £3000 - allowing us to offer a benefit to existing members for the coming year (see below), whilst still maintaining a healthy "buffer" to cover unforeseen or "one off" expenditure arising in 2025 and beyond.

The committee have discussed the accounts and, subject to approval at the AGM, would like to recommend the following:

1. Reduce 2025 membership fees to a nominal £1 for existing members.

New members £10 as before.

2. Table monies to stay the same

[Club night: £2 members (£3 non-members), Gentle Bridge £2, Online: £1.50].

Patricia Ewing KSBC Treasurer