

Rodborough Bridge Club

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on at 6.20 pm

On Monday 5th February 2024

At the Cotswold Club, High Street, Minchinhampton

1. Apologies for Absence

Received from Sue and David Sturman, Judy Little, Gina Dean, Bruce Mackintosh, Ann Simpson, Robin Ewart, John Jutsum and David Mustarde.

2. Minutes of the A.G.M 13th February 2023

The Chair asked members if they had all read the Minutes, confirmed by all.

Proposed: Susie Layton

Seconded: Mandy Jutsum

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising. A respectful silence was held in remembrance of previous members namely Jenny May and Anne Sutton.

4. Membership resignations

Vesta Rock, Anne Sutton and Cynthia Whelan in addition to Anna McBean, Penny Taylor and Hilary Whittenbury.

5. Chairman's Report

Angela Newman thanked her Committee and members for their support over the past ten years as Chair. She stated we were now enjoying the new venue with a healthy membership of 43 and felt it was time for someone else to take over the Chairmanship reins.

Regarding the waiting list of four we do not have enough room to accommodate more members if everyone were to attend. There would be 11 tables and a sit out which is just about comfortable and the maximum. Our average is 9 tables which still seems pretty full. When we arrived at this venue the Club's aim was to reduce our membership to a workable number, which would probably be 40. Without the pool table 4 more players could be accommodated. At the moment if a member needs a partner, and no other members are available, they may ask anyone on the waiting list. A £3 levy is charged for waiting list members, to be deducted from their annual subscription upon joining.

On the Club's behalf the Chair thanked our tournament directors comprising David Mustarde, David Sturman, Robin Ewart and David Newman. She stated that it is disruptive for their own play so we appreciate their patience and dedication and we are very fortunate to have their help. Our thanks also go to Judith for her efforts in transcribing and publishing the weekly results so promptly.

The Chair hoped everyone who attended the Christmas Session enjoyed the evening and thanked the Committee for supplying the snacks.

Again Angela thanked all the volunteers on the table set up rota and to all those who help with the speedy clearing up at the end of the evening.

Finally, a gentle reminder in order to speed up play and give the declarer time to plan if you are on lead please lead prior to writing up your score card, also for those who can please vary your seating orientation as this varies the opposition.

6. Treasurer's Report

There were no questions relating to the report. The Treasurer hoped that the 2023 Accounts were straightforward and needed no explanation. He stated that we had agreed to make a deficit for a few years in order to reduce our level of net assets. We need to reduce this, two areas of which need to be modified, namely the annual subscription and subsidy for the Christmas function suggesting that we reduce the latter perhaps by members buying their own drinks from the venue, (The cost excluding drinks being £100).

The annual subscription recommended remains at £40 as included in the 2023 which is now due this year.

The treasurer thanked all for making his role relatively easy.

Proposed by: Hilary Adamson
Seconded by: Sue Black

Adoption of accounts: Proposed by Derek Norman
Seconded by Alan Roe

7. Election of officers and committee members

Resignation of Angela Newman as chair to be replaced by Kathy Hurst

Proposed: Angela Newman
Seconded: Susie Layton

Unanimous vote

Scorer: Judith Mancktelow to be replaced by Sue Parker in approximately six months

Secretary: Susie Layton

Robin Ewart

Judy Little

Resignation of Anne Antrobus as Committee member

Replaced by Frances Lewis

Proposed: Angela Newman

Seconded: Val Oldershaw

Unanimous vote

8. Any other business

Derek brought up his concern that we should invite the 4 people on the waiting list as he did not want our Club to be with a declining membership like other clubs in the area. Angela pointed out that there were at least 2 more tables of regular members who usually attended. These were on holiday or recovering from hospital treatments. She also pointed out that even with the 8 tables we had that evening it would need 12 more chairs lifted from the cupboard and with other regular members attending that would mean 20 chairs. A further 4 members from the waiting list would mean 1 more table opposite the bar and 2 more in the middle requiring 4 more chairs and we have very few able-bodied people.

A vote was taken to see the support for the proposal 17 for, 8 against and 7 abstaining. Derek then wanted to know about the frozen membership list. Angela said that the proposal would be discussed at the next Committee Meeting. Sue Parker said that if Derek wanted an official vote an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) would be necessary.

Kathy Hurst stated that she was happy to be in charge of partner allocation if the need arises.

9. Thanks to the Chair

Gerry Robbins thanked Angela Newman for her tireless work over the past decade with her organisational and efficiency skills, not to mention setting up rotas for tables and chairs, and the continued enjoyable and friendly atmosphere and wished the Club future happiness under the direction of Kathy Hurst and the rest of the Committee.

The meeting ended at 6.35 pm