

Bawburgh Bridge Club

Minutes of the AGM held on 24 April 2024

There were 83 members present with apologies for absence received from 7.

1. Chairman's address

The Chairman thanked the Directors, BridgeMate operators, people who helped behind the scenes, the committee members and any other members who assisted in the smooth running of the club. The club is working with the village hall committee and the Parish Council to try and expand the number of disabled car parking spaces. He reminded members to park responsibly. Finally the Chairman asked if anyone could help with the redesign of the club website.

2. The minutes of the AGM held on 27 April 2023 were approved.

3. Matters arising – none were raised.

4. Election of Officers

Of the current officers of

Chairman – Graham Hardman

Secretary – Paula Morton

Treasurer – Catherine Jeffries

Social Secretary – Gillian Newnes

Membership Secretary – Clive Turner

Competition Secretary – Graham Morton

Systems Administrator – Anne Plunkett

Training co-ordinator – Bet Davies

Clive Turner is standing down as Membership Secretary. A nomination for the position has been received for Shirley Giles and there being no other nominations she was unanimously elected. The remaining Committee Members were willing to stand again in their present positions, and there being no other nominations, were automatically re-elected.

5. Membership

There have been some changes in membership with 10 members having lapsed or resigned and 1 who had passed away. There were 18 new members who had joined and numbers have increased from 217 to 224.

There are 4 applications awaiting committee approval.

The name of Linny Bailey who had passed away was read out and a minute's silence was observed.

The Chairman presented the retiring Membership Secretary with a voucher in recognition of his work.

6. Financial Report

The club made a profit of £1464 this year and £1000 was given to charity so the funds are in a healthy position with more than £27000. For the first time since 2014 the rent for the village hall went up from 1 April by £3 per hour from £10 to £13. The situation will be monitored.

Given the high level of reserves club subscriptions remain at £5 per year, with table money at £2 per session for members and £3 for visitors.

The meeting accepted the accounts unanimously.

7. Social Calendar

Bridge Days have been well attended on both Wednesdays and Thursdays so will continue to alternate. The Social Secretary thanked everyone who helped on a regular basis.

8. Competitions

The Draw for Teams event proved popular and a second Teams event is being looked at. This will be a Handicap event where pairs can either team up or enter a random draw but will have their scores adjusted based on their EBU NGS level.

The 16 winners of the Championship Pairs and the Quarterly Ladders were announced and presented with their prizes.

9. Future of Thursday Sessions

In order to address the low numbers attending on Thursdays a survey had been held on members' views about Thursday sessions but the results were inconclusive.

Some people had said that the standard of play was too high but it was only one NGS point higher than on Wednesdays. Numbers had recently improved and so it was decided to take no further action.

10.AOB

Slow Play – The chairman said that we were a club with people of all standards but TDs would seek to identify persistently slow players and encourage them to speed up. He reminded people to arrive in time to be ready to play at 13.20. The committee would look at the practicality of using a bridge clock.

Mobile phones – TDs would remind people to switch off or mute their mobile phones at the start of bridge sessions.

Website design – the Chairman agreed to look at the possibility of employing a professional designer to redesign the club website.

AGM start time – it was agreed to start the AGM earlier next year to allow more time to play bridge.