

## **Minutes of the Berwick Bridge Club Committee meeting held at 5pm Monday, 25 July 2022 online on Zoom**

Present:	Peter Calder (PC)	President
	Paul Gipson (PG)	Honorary Secretary
	Tony Reed-Jones (TRJ)	Honorary Treasurer
	Louis Moore (LM)	Honorary Competitions Secretary
	Penny Davidson (PD)	Committee member
	Kitty Home Robertson (KHR)	Committee member
	Jean Mole (JM)	Committee member
	Chris Orchard (CO)	Committee member
	Linda Warcup (LW)	Committee member

Apologies: Canon Christopher Smith, Angela Hutchinson

### **President's welcome**

PC welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

#### *PCC update*

PC has been in contact with the Parochial Church Council (PCC) and he, LM and JM visited the Parish Centre to discuss the ventilation solution proposed by the PCC's electrician (unfortunately the electrician could not attend). The PCC expects the club to pay for most of the costs (approximately £2,000) for this solution, since no other group has made any complaints about the ventilation.

The following comments were made by the committee at the meeting and in email discussions:

- It is a concern that the perception of poor ventilation is subjective and there is no guarantee that the proposed solution will address the members' concerns.
- Is making a significant investment into a facility that we do not own a good use of the club's funds?
- We have no-one at the club who understands ventilation products and solutions.
- The alternative venues also have drawbacks.
- Is increased ventilation required if we have nine or fewer tables, given the increased spacing of the tables.
- Who will maintain the proposed solution after installation?
- Attendance during September will set the expectation for the season.

The committee is keen to make a decision but feels that there are still questions to be answered before committing any funds.

The committee decided that, in principle, it will invest significant funds for ventilation at the Parish Centre. This is dependent on:

- club attendance levels during September
- better understanding of the positive input ventilation (PIV) solution being proposed
- establishing an agreement with the PCC

PC will arrange a meeting with the PCC's electrician to better understand the solution and its applicability for the stale air mentioned by some members. He will also liaise with the PCC to establish an agreement. TRJ said that any investment in the Parish Centre is effectively a grant to the PCC and they would commission the installation and maintenance of any equipment at the Parish Centre and the PCC would retain ownership of it.

The committee expects to make a decision at the next meeting.

## **Bridge from September**

### *Location*

In light of the progress made by the PCC, the committee decided to remain at the Parish Centre for the coming season.

### *Calendar*

In the absence of any member comments, the draft calendar proposed by PG was agreed. PG will update the website, produce sign-up sheets for the Tom Woodman and Scott Cup teams.

### *Directors*

PG will advertise for BBO directors for the competitions and plans to do the Lindsay Individual and Tom Woodman teams himself.

LM reported the CO, LW and Stuart Breckons are attending the SBU Director course next month and they will be able to assist with directing on Thursdays at the club.

LM and PG are going to trial a new director sign-up system (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e48adae22a0fac25-berwick1>) that is also used by the Peebles and New Melville cubs. It is free and the trial will run to Christmas. There is a link to the system on the website.

## **50th anniversary and Christmas Party**

AH had reported that the cost of the marquee at Paxton House was prohibitively expensive.

JM suggested that we have a drinks reception with nibbles at the start of the season on Thursday, 1 September at the Parish Centre to celebrate the 50th anniversary and restarting the bridge season face to face.

It was agreed that we shall organise the event. JM will coordinate the food and PC is responsible for the drinks (he may ask Brian Griffiths for help). The event will start at 6pm and, if the weather is good, then we shall utilise the patio outside the Parish Centre.

PG will create a simple RSVP form to help judge numbers. PC will advertise the event in his President's letter for the new season.

PC has investigated options such as the Kings Arms and Marshall Meadows for a Christmas Party. The former was not suitable but Marshall Meadows appears a reasonable option: £25 for a three-course meal, excluding drinks, and it is currently available for the provisional date in the calendar.

### **SBU affiliation agreement**

The committee reviewed the agreement and agreed that PG would sign and return it to the SBU.

### **AOCB**

The restart committee will review the risk assessment for September at the Parish Centre. A meeting is scheduled for Monday, 8 August at 5pm on Zoom.

The meeting closed at 6pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, 26 September at 5pm on Zoom.