

BERWICK BRIDGE CLUB

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING

HELD TUESDAY 10TH MARCH 2020 in the Parish Room.

Present

Christine McCreath, Christopher Smith, Jane Smithson, Louis Moore, Trish Frew, Nicola Corbyn, Kate Mole, Len Hutton, Peter Calder, Jo Rowley, Jill Connor

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Matters Arising

The Christmas party had gone well, with very good food and fun bridge.

AGM

Jane Smithson is stepping down; Tony Reed-Jones has agreed to be nominated as treasurer.

Trish Frew is stepping down; Paul Gipson has agreed to be nominated as Secretary.

Two new committee members are required to replace Kate Mole and Nicola Corbyn who retire by rotation. Several suggestions were made and Christine will approach them to see if they would be willing to be nominated to become members of the committee

Summer Bridge

Louis has offered to run this. The hosting system worked well last summer, Trish will put a list on the notice board asking for volunteers. It is anticipated that Paul will run his popular 'Play and Learn' sessions as before.

Coronavirus Pandemic

After considerable discussion, the majority of the committee (9-2) were in favour of allowing bridge to continue as normal for the time being. Members will be asked not to attend should they have a cough, cold or feel at all unwell. This is obviously a developing situation and will be kept under close review, it was agreed that Club Officers be authorised to make an executive decision to close the club should government advice alter, or there is local development of the infection. An email will be sent to all members relaying this decision. Members must not be made to feel guilty should they decide not to continue playing, their decision is respected. Club sessions will continue to count towards competitions as long as there are a minimum of 4 tables.

If there is a premature end to the season a decision will need to be made whether to award trophies and prize money.

Christopher Smith stated that should the club be unable to hold an AGM in May, the club constitution states that the current office bearers and committee members must remain in position until such time as it is possible to hold an EGM.

It was felt unlikely that the Congress would be able to go ahead; a final decision will be made within 2 weeks of the date of this meeting.

League Teams

Garneth Ellis joined the meeting .There had been a limited response to the circular email which was sent around to all club members inviting new participants. It remains uncertain therefore, whether we will be able to run 2 league teams next season. A recruitment drive will be required. The League Secretary will need to be informed in early August should there be any change. Much discussion took place regarding different methods of allocating members to specific teams. A new team captain to replace Garneth Ellis, who is stepping down, will also be required. We hope to hold a meeting where all members interested in playing for a team are invited to attend. Following this a decision can be made as to the preferred way forward.

Note.

Since the meeting it has been agreed that trophies and prize money will not be awarded for this season.