

## **Minutes of the Committee meeting held at 5pm, Tuesday 29 September 2020 online on Zoom**

Present:	Reverend Canon Christopher Smith (CS)	President
	Christine McCreath (CC)	Past President
	Tony Reed-Jones (TRJ)	Honorary Treasurer
	Paul Gipson (PG)	Honorary Secretary
	Louis Moore (LM)	Honorary Competitions Secretary
	Peter Calder (PC)	Committee member
	Jill Connor (JC)	Committee member
	Len Hutton (LH)	Committee member
	Sue Price (SP)	Committee member
	Penny Davidson (PD)	Committee member

### Apologies:

#### 1. President's welcome

CS apologised for being late and welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported that Jo Rowley had decided to step down from the Committee as she reduced her (online) bridge commitments during the pandemic.

#### 2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

- Hall availability

CS reported that the Parish Hall remains closed to all public groups but the Parochial Church Council is keeping its options under review. The new lockdown restrictions in the county suggest that the situation will not change in the near future.

- Inclusivity

CS has spoken to our members that do not have email addresses registered. Two of the members are on email and their Pianola records have been updated. One club member does not have Internet access and CS will keep her informed about the club moving forward. All three members were pleased to have received an update on club activities and have renewed their membership for this season.

#### 3. Online bridge discussion

- Member survey

PG reported that 55 responses to the survey had been received and distributed a summary to the Committee prior to the meeting. Approximately 70% of the respondents expected to play online club bridge and the majority wanted to play in the evenings rather than the afternoons.

- Club directors

LM and PG received a very positive response to a call for directors on BBO. PG has started training and shared his plan for the next month.

PG and LM created a draft calendar for online club play through to May 2021. It largely replicates the traditional club calendar. PG answered a number of questions relating to the proposed events. The Committee will consider whether trophies and prizes are appropriate at a later date.

PG stressed that availability of SBU-approved tournament directors was critical to starting running pay tournaments on BBO.

The Committee will look to approve the commencement of the Berwick Virtual Club at its next meeting assuming everything is in place.

#### 4. SBU and club subscriptions update

TRJ reported that 78 members had paid their subscription and eight members had left the club for various reasons. There were 16 subscriptions outstanding and reminders had been sent.

#### 5. New committee member and librarian role

- Following Jo's resignation, the Committee was asked to propose potential new Committee members at the next meeting.
- The librarian role will be considered fully when face-to-face bridge commences.

#### 6. AOCB

- PG has written to Martins (printers), Peter Allan (congress caterer) and the Berwick Rugby Club explaining the club's current position and expectations for the coming season. To date, Peter and the rugby club have responded thanking us for the update.
- Although the SBU has an insurance policy that is supposed to cover clubs, it has been unable to produce the policy in the last three months so we will renew our existing policy at the same premium as last year (£70). The policy can be seen at the bottom of the [Committee webpage](#).
- CM asked whether a printed calendar would be produced for the online season. This was deferred to the next meeting.
- SP apologised for her connection problems during the meeting.

The meeting closed at 5.50pm.

The next committee meeting is on Monday 19 October at 5pm on Zoom.