

ABINGDON DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

**Minutes of a meeting of the committee held on Monday 2nd February 2009,
7.30pm at 6 Champs Close, Abingdon**

Present: David Walton (DW) (Chair); Clive Keep (CK) (Secretary); Jean Moore (JM), Brian Moore (BM)
Graham Simpson (GS), Ian Van Maanen (IVM), Andrew Speyer (AS).

1. Apologies for Absence: Keith Sadler (KS) had sent his appologies.

2. Minutes of 27th October 2008

The minutes for 27th October 2008 were agreed.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

All actions had been carried out. CK in consultation with AS had organised insurance for the bridge club, no matter where bridge was played, with 'Moore Stephens Insurance Brokers'. Cost £63.50 for the year (expires 31st October 2009). Activities other than bridge are not covered (e.g. golf, bowls).

4. Chairman's Report

Host System: DW tabled data that demonstrated that some people were making use of the system, but not being Hosts – and that we are not currently being able to fulfill our promise of 'guaranteeing' everyone that arrives a game. DW offered to take the odd person back home after bridge. There was considerable discussion about the lack of volunteers – it was agreed that the subject would be raised at the AGM and members present canvassed for their views.

Action: **DW**

Charges for Wessex League Matches: This topic was discussed, with suggested amounts varying from nothing to £3. A vote was taken and a fee of £1 agreed. AS said that he needed receipts for expenditure on biscuits, milk etc.

Action: **TCs**

Review of Premises: (a) Long Furlong: feedback had been very positive, with maybe a few problems with the car park (lack) of lighting and (lack) of line markings. There are some issues with space inside the centre if we exceed 12 tables. It was agreed that members should be reminded to wash up their cups properly and put them away.

Action: **DW**

(b) Hadland Road: Teams had received some complaints about the lack of adequate heating – DW reminded everyone that the four Fan heaters can and should be put on as early as possible in the evening. It was agreed that we would continue using the venue for the rest of the season and review in August. There was some discussion about the tables – maybe if we continue next season we look to buy our own cupboard – this must be bolted to the wall. DW stated that cupboards he had looked at would not accommodate our bridge supplies.

Review of Christmas Party: It was agreed that the food was good again this year – so changes are not likely for December 2009. At least there won't be any corkage to pay!

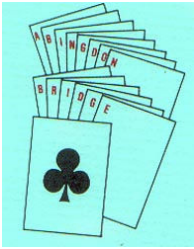
Life Members: Its was agreed that the committee would not recomend any members for life membership this year.

'Transfer of Power!': The procedure to follow following the AGM and election of officers/committee was discussed. CK reminded everyone of the constitution – in that the current committee's term of office did not end until the 1st of April, so there was not a problem. The only 'post' that the incoming committee need to 'appoint' before their first meeting is that of Membership Secretary. GC agreed to carry on in that role until that meeting.

5 Treasurer's report.

Hadland Road: AS raised the issue of lack of invoices with regard to Hadland Road. DW agreed to email the secretary.

Action: **DW**



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Draft 2008 accounts: AS presented a draft version of the 2008 accounts and associated notes. AS stated that:-

- (a) The apparent negative cash in hand at the year end (£646) resulted from an over-large transfer to the current account on 30/12/08.
- (b) In previous year's accounts the increment to the table fund had been represented as an expenditure – this is only an internal transfer and is represented as such in this year's accounts. This change will be discussed with the auditor.
- (c) The table money includes both club and Wessex League income. Since no league money has been received for the 2008/9 season an adjustment will need to be made in the 2009 accounts to allow for this.
- (d) Bank interest has progressively reduced to our current rate of 0.1%.
- (e) Christmas Party – food not included last year.
- (f) Len Salmon – no cost this year – about £129 next year.
- (g) Insurance this year (£63.50) for public liability cover.

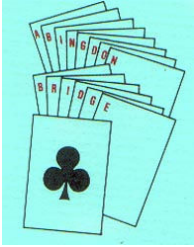
Deposit Account: AS reported that we have about £3000 on deposit at a current rate of 0.1%. BM suggested buying ERNIE bonds.... but the majority decided against this. Anyway, ERNIE prizes are dropping in line with interest rates! AS suggested that now was a good time to spend money if we needed to. Bridge mates? Duplimate machine? More tables? It was agreed that the new committee would take a fresh look at all these.

2009 prospects: AS presented his projected expenditure for 2009. If we meet these projections we will spend £775 less than in 2008, implying a gain of ~£90 in 2009. He suggested that as it will be likely that we have to raise table money in 2010 it would make sense to leave everything as is and absorb any shortfall from our deposit account. This was agreed.

6 Secretary's report.

OBA Management meeting report: CK had distributed meeting notes from the meeting on 11th December 2008 – CK and IVM had attended. CK highlighted a few things of particular interest – (a) Camrose at Oxford on 6-8 March, (b) OBA subscription is being held at £4 per annum, (c) several posts are vacant on the OBA committee from the AGM, (d) non-playing director is essential for Swiss and Men's/Ladies pairs, (e) nominations were welcomed for OBA shareholder, (f) A draft OBA constitution had been circulated, (g) P2P will affect the size of the management committee – it was agreed to keep calculation of representatives the same as at present, (h) IVM raised the issue of progress on P2P – the OBA chairman agreed to raise the lack of information forthcoming with the EBU.

Correspondence: CK had circulated copies of all pertinent correspondence. These are - (a) ROSY had sent CK a letter and receipt for our Christmas donation, (b) details of SIMS entries from ECATs, (c) notes on the first meeting of the EBU clubs committee for OXON and other counties. A request for information form had been sent, circulated to the committee, completed and returned. A draft contract for P2P will be circulated to clubs during the first half of 2009 for agreement by the end of 2009 (the committee hoped that sufficient time will be allocated for review). All members 'in good standing' will become members of the EBU – we can define 'in good standing'. This seems to imply that not all members of a club have to become members of the EBU? (d) Correspondence from the EBU on an update to universal membership. Points to note were (1) P2P fee will be in the draft contract, (2) English Bridge will be sent to qualifying members (yet to be defined). A time table of events for P2P implementation was also included.



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(e) IVM had circulated a note on EBU shareholders – KS had replied. It was agreed that IVM would be nominated as a shareholder from the Club. (f) A letter, questionnaire and a petition had been received from Coventry Bridge Club. It was agreed that CK would reply, saying that (1) we haven't got enough information yet to answer some of the questions, (2) requesting that they, as a large club, might consider obtaining the services of a lawyer to have a look at the draft contracts. Actions: **CK**

Proposed Website Questionnaire: CK had circulated a draft questionnaire about the ADBC website that he had now been running for 10 years. It was agreed that he would put copies on tables for one evening – probably on the open pairs night.

7 Forthcoming AGM

The committee agreed-

- (1) CK to put a notice about the AGM on the club notice board
- (2) CK to put up a nomination form on the notice board
- (3) The AGM would start at 7.15 pm

Action: **CK**

It was noted that CK's three year term of office is nearly completed – a secretary needs to be found before the AGM, preferably from within the current committee.

8 Any Other Business

IVM said he would not like to be C team captain next season

The meeting closed at 10.12pm

Clive Keep 4/2/09