

Minutes of the Berwick Bridge Club Committee meeting held at 5pm Tuesday, 18 May 2021 online on Skype

Present:	Reverend Canon Christopher Smith (CS)	President
	Paul Gipson (PG)	Honorary Secretary
	Tony Reed-Jones (TRJ)	Honorary Treasurer
	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
	Chris Orchard (CO)	Committee member

Apologies: Christine McCreath

1. President's welcome

CS welcomed everyone to the meeting and reiterated the usual rules of the meeting.

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were approved unanimously.

○ Cashless club summary

TRJ's summary was included in the notice of the AGM sent to members.

○ Parish Centre ventilation

CS has written to the Parish Centre detailing the concerns over ventilation. He added that the Parochial Church Council intends to provide Internet connectivity for the Parish Centre in the near future.

LH expressed his opinion that it would be difficult and expensive to implement significant improvements to the ventilation. The Committee will wait for the Parochial Church Council to respond.

○ Disciplinary procedures website update

The website has been updated.

○ Dealing machine

CS confirmed that the club is still looking for someone to take over this role.

3. Berwick Congress review

The congress went well with 52 entries for the Congress Pairs and 32 teams participating in the Swiss Teams. The prize fund was BB\$244. It is expected that we'll make a donation to charity in excess of £100 once the entry fees have been received from BBO (via the SBU).

The beneficiaries of the charity donation will be decided at the next meeting.

4. Summer bridge

The Committee approved summer bridge on Bridge Base Online from 27 May to the end of August. Sixteen-board tournaments will be run on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for BB\$2.

PG said he will be continuing his Saturday morning pairs.

5. AGM preparation

- CS thanked Peter Calder and Len Hutton for their contributions on the Committee for the past three years.
- CS reported that Peter Calder is happy to stand for election as Vice President at the AGM.
- SP raised the question of hybrid competitions when we return to the Parish Centre, as some members may wish to continue online play. CS confirmed that this will form part of the discussion.
- The Officers' reports will be distributed prior to the AGM.
- CS will ask Christine McCreath who was responsible for the trophy engraving in 2019. The plan is to assemble all the trophies for engraving prior to the physical presentation.
- We shall attempt a virtual presentation, or handover, of trophies at the AGM. PG will contact existing trophy holders and new winners to ensure that they are prepared for this.

6. AOCB

- Borders Association of Bridge Clubs

Berwick will assume the presidency of BABC for two years in July: the principal job is the organisation of the Border Pairs and Border Teams.

The new Committee will have to appoint a member to represent the club and TRJ will maintain the BABC finances. PG said he was happy to be the BABC Secretary during the club's presidency but did not wish to be the President.

- CS thanked Sue and Eric Price for their assistance with Zoom for Committee meetings and other club events.

- Marion Mead

CS arranged for flowers to be delivered on Marion's ninetieth birthday. CS explained that it is tradition at the club that flowers or whisky is presented on this occasion. The Committee confirmed that it wished to continue this.

- 2020-21 season summary

PG wished to thank all the tournament directors who have ensured that this BBO season has run so smoothly: Colin Edney, Elaine Kilgour, Eric Price, Jane Smithson, Julian Bales, Louis Moore, Paul Gipson, Stuart Breckons, Sue Price and Trish Frew.

PG and TRJ have distributed BB\$514 in prize money to 36 club members, with George Martin leading the money list.

Sixty-nine club members participated in at least one evening of a club competition.

- CS thanked the Committee for its commitment and work over the past year.

The meeting closed at 5.40pm.

The next meeting will be on Monday, 7 June at 5pm on Skype.