**Minutes of Corsham Bridge Club Committee Meeting 26 November 2018**

Hilary was welcomed to her first, hopefully of many, committee meetings

1. **Minutes of last meeting (26 Sept 2018)**

Agreed and signed

1. **Apologies**

None

Standing Items

1. **Review of open action points**

**Chris**

* Duplimator and funding. It was agreed that we would not pursue any matters relating to a duplimator, firstly because of the need to reserve funds for a potential move of premises and secondly because of the issues around responsibility for and storing of a duplimator.
* Follow up the possibility of additional space at the British Legion – Sue has spoken to the manager and much as the committee at the Legion would like us to be able to stay they cannot find a way to offer us extra space.

**Colin**

* Colin has made a provisional booking for 40 at La Flambe on 23 January. He will follow up his request for menu options.

1. **Finance**

Janet handed out up to date reports. There is a surplus of £739 for the first 3 months of the year which includes £350 from training. The bank balance is a very healthy £5441, which stands the club in good stead to fund any costs for moving premises.

It was agreed to re-align the subs year with the club’s financial year.

1. **Membership Review**

Player numbers are rising steadily with an average of 6.6 tables compared to 5.7 the year before and 4.5 the year before that.

We currently have 46 members of whom only 3 do not often attend and may drop out next year. Phil Russell will be asked to join next time he attends.

1. **Club Environment – Including Planning for Expansion**

With the expectation that people on the current beginner’s course will join the club next spring, it was accepted that, reluctantly, we will need to find a larger premises.

Ideally the club wishes to stay in Corsham.

* Ray agreed to look at his previous research to rule out any unsuitable venues.
* Janet will produce an updated affordability spreadsheet.
* Janet will research the possibility of the retirement home in Post Office Lane and the Community Centre as new venues. Minimum 12 tables.

The maximum number of tables the Legion can accommodate is 9. We have never had more than that but there is a possibility of it happening. It was agreed that should this happen committee members would stand down.

1. **Competitions and Events**

* Garden Cities – enough members are willing to play so Sue has entered a Corsham team.
* Ray will put details of all County events on the Corsham website.
* Championship Pairs on 2 December – will be publicised on Wednesday.
* Non Expert Pairs – it was agreed we would positively encourage club members to enter this event which is for those with a NGS of 10 or below.
* Mixed Pairs 17 February 2019 – again the club will publicise this event.
* From January 2019 the first Wednesday in the month will be a team’s night.
* The club will enter the Stratified SIMs pairs event on 13 March 2019
* We will publicise the Semington Bridge holiday in March 2019 as there have been good reviews of these events.

**Other Items**

1. **Beginner’s Course**

The beginner’s course is at week 8 and progressing well. We have 15 students (with 2 more expected this week) all of whom are attentive and enthusiastic. The move to the downstairs hall has been well received by all.

1. **Prize Giving Dinner**

The list for attendees is in the process of being circulated and the menu options can be sought nearer the date when Colin has obtained the menus.

Members have been asked to return their Trophies.

1. **Christmas Cards**

The suggestion that the club would have a box to allow people to make a charity donation rather than send Christmas cards to other members was well received and will go ahead.

Hilary offered to prepare a box for member’s donations. Members have been asked to make suggestions as to local charities they would like the money to go to.

1. **AOB**

**Partnering arrangements**

Sue will circulate an updated e-mail list to all members with e-mail and encourage them to use this list to look for a partner.

**Bar staff Xmas donation**

Agreed at £50 for the barman

**Play sessions over the holiday period**

19 December – bridge as usual

26 December – no bridge

2 January - bridge – teams night

**Directing**

As part of preparing less experienced members for outside competitions, people will be encouraged to call the Director when any issue arises at the table. To try to ensure we have a qualified Director each week it was agreed that the club would fund a Director’s course for Ray.

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1. **Date of next meeting.**

10 am 16 January 2019 at Hilary’s.

**Action Points**

**Colin**

* Follow up the request to LaFlambe for menu options
* Publicise details as per item 7

**Ray**

* Look at his previous research to rule out any unsuitable venues

**Janet**.

* Produce an updated affordability spreadsheet for potential move.
* Research the possibility of the retirement home in Post Office Lane and the Community Centre as new venues.

**Sue**

* Circulate e-mail addresses as per item “Partnership Arrangements”

**Hilary**

* Prepare Charity box.