

# NORTHERN IRELAND BRIDGE UNION

## COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held at Corr's Corner on Wednesday June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 6.30pm.

Present: Harold Curran, Michael McFaul, Anne Fitzpatrick, Heather Hill, Helen Hall, Liz Scott, Norma Irwin, John Ferguson, Norman Lacey, Patrick Rice, Ken Hammond, Pat Johnston, Anne Hassan, Eric Lesage.

Observers: Alan Hill, Brian McDowell.

1. Apologies:

Ian Hamilton, John Murchan. Christine Crockett

2. Minutes of the meeting held on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

*Item 9:* JF stated that he had not offered to coach Intermediates.

*Item 11:* JF stated that he had not agreed to canvas views on his League proposals.

The Minutes were agreed subject to amendments to items 9 & 11 on a proposal by LS and seconded by HHi.

*Action: MMcF*

3. Matters Arising.

*Item 7:* PJ confirmed she had spoken to both Florence Boyd & Shelagh McCaughan.

*Item, 13.* NL said he was in correspondence with Sam Punch over the circulation of a suitable article.

4. Annual General Meeting – review and feedback.

A delegate had expressed concern over the acoustics in the meetings room. However, members present were agreed that the microphone had made a big difference and that all speakers could clearly be heard.

JF asked that the booklet be available beforehand and it was agreed to do this via the website. KH said he felt strongly that LEC reports item 22 and 23 were offensive to Council.

5. League format and Rules.

Rules as agreed by LEC and TC having been previously circulated, HC asked Alan Hill to comment. AH said that much of the content was duplicating that contained in 'Conditions of

Contest'. Following lengthy discussion, it was agreed that AH would extract content more suited to the Handbook and produce a set of league rules in simplified form.

*ACTION: Alan Hill*

6. Website proposal.

Brian McDowell referred to his updated paper. He emphasised how important it was for the website to have a 'Members Only' section with restricted access. He felt the Bridgwebs platform was ideally suited to the Union's needs. It was agreed that interested and knowledgeable members would meet over the summer and produce recommendations to Council at the next meeting. HC thanked BMcD for his paper and constructive proposals.

*ACTION: PR to convene meeting at an agreed venue with BMcD, HHa and Aha*

7. Incoming Committees.

MMcF circulated the list of volunteers who wished to serve.

The past Selection Committee was returned en bloc on a proposal by HHi and seconded by HHa – convenor KH.

As the Laws & Ethics Committee was over-subscribed, MMcF asked that members vote by secret ballot. As a result, the following were elected on a proposal by AF and seconded by HHi:

Alan Sharp (Convenor), Christine Crockett, John Ferguson, Shelagh McCaughan and Mark Lennon.

The past Youth Committee was returned en bloc with the addition of Roberta Madill and Norman Lacey on a proposal by JF and seconded by LS. Convenor – Pat Johnston.

The Tournament Committee was returned en bloc except for Brian McDowell being replaced by Helen Lowe. Proposed by JF and seconded by AF.

8. IBU delegates.

HC stated the following to be delegates for 2019-20:

Anne Hassan, Anne Fitzpatrick, Harold Curran, Helen Hall, Ian Lindsay, John Murchan, Michael McFaul, Liz Scott. Proposed by JF and seconded by HHi.

9. BGB Meeting

HHa referred to business transacted at a recent meeting she had attended. She said new screen regulations would be forthcoming from the EBL. Also new age regulations for Junior

Camrose + Peggy Bayer events. She was pleased to report on the favourable feedback the NIBU had been given for running the recent Junior International events. She went on to refer to the Patrick Jourdain bequest and BGB's insistence that it be used either as prize money or a trophy for a Seniors only event. It was agreed that a midweek competition would be devised by the TC and named 'The Patrick Jourdain Pairs'.

*Action: LS*

10 Sonya Britton Trophy

It was confirmed that the cost of the dinner at the Sonya Britton event would be £30 per head.

11 Miscellaneous Matters

HC paid tribute to Ian Lindsay and thanked him for his work as Outgoing President.

JF asked his league proposal to be circulated to Council members for comment.

*Action MMcF.*

HHi suggested trialling a novice's section at the autumn congress.

Members were reminded to canvas for entries to the forthcoming Gala Pairs event.

HHi asked that club secretaries be informed of all events.

12 Dates of Council Meetings 2019-2020.

It was agreed to meet on the first Wednesday of every 3<sup>rd</sup> month i.e. August 7<sup>th</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup>, February 5<sup>th</sup>, May 6<sup>th</sup>. There would also be a meeting in June directly after the 2020 AGM

The meeting ended at 20.50.

Michael McFaul

Hon. Secretary