

MINUTES of the **Franklin Bridge Club committee meeting** on **Sunday, March 16, 2025**, at the clubrooms at **4pm**.

Present: Linda Thornton, Christine Godding, Terry Evans Jnr, Arie Geursen, Jonathon Taylor, Maureen Nelson, Henriette Annabel, Henk Egelmeer, Bev Henton, Susie Longdell, Dennise Biddick

Apologies: Nil, apart from Maureen who apologised for not joining the meeting until 5pm.

Minutes from previous meeting accepted (mover Henriette, seconder Bev).

Matters Arising from the minutes. See general business.

Inward Correspondence

- (a) Email about the 2025 Ultra Restricted 4 Tournament Series in July (Franklin as the cup holder for 2024 will host the final).
- (b) Newsletter from Franklin Law including information on upcoming changes required by the Incorporated Societies Act 2022.
- (e) Charities Commission newsletter which refers to upcoming changes that will be required in account reporting.
- (f) Request by Caroline Griffin for copies of all minutes since the November 2022 AGM.
- (g) Email from Sanderson Group sales manager for The Hill retirement complex inquiring about using our clubrooms for an open day and expressing interest in sponsoring our May 24 tournament.
- (h) Email from Jane Stearns from NZ Bridge expressing interest in meeting with some or all of the committee at the clubrooms on March 25 at 1.30pm.
- (i) Board meeting minutes from NZ Bridge. Also notices re upcoming board vacancy, preliminary notice of board AGM and refreshing of NZB website.
- (j) Quote from Henk Egelmeer for painting the clubrooms front fascia and façade.

Inward correspondence passed as received (Henriette/Bev).

Outward Correspondence

- (a) Emailed letter from the President to Grant Jarvis (representing ANRB) reinforcing our concern about clashes between our face-to-face tournaments and competing online ones held on the same days.
- (b) March issue of Table Talk to all members.
- (c) Secretary's emails to Kevin Griffin concerning room temperatures during sessions.
- (d) Reply to Jane Stearns accepting her offer to meet with FBC at our clubrooms on March 25.

Outward correspondence approved (Jonathon/Linda).

Email notifications, discussions and, in some cases, decisions among the committee to be recorded and/or ratified as appropriate

- (a) Approval of final version of FBC street sign and arrangements for putting it up.
- (b) Discussion of building signage, agreement on the final version and arrangements for mounting it.
- (c) Discussion about painting the clubroom's front fascia and façade to set off the new building signage.
- (d) Posting of first quote received by Henk for extending hard surface area on street side of the clubrooms to provide more all-weather parking.
- (e) Discussion about distributing cards promoting our upcoming lessons at schools.
- (f) Request made by Club Captain to purchase some new sets of boards to replaced old damaged ones, as approved previously in 2023 but apparently not actioned. The President suggested we discuss this at the next committee meeting (see General Business).
- (g) Email from Club Captain noting he has spent time upgrading the graphics and general presentation of the NZB lesson material - and an invitation to check the result.
- (h) Discussion around new member Pam Browne's messy and delayed inclusion in essential club data and the need to have a procedure to make the process for new members streamlined in the future.

Email discussions/decisions agreed as correct and ratified where appropriate (Arie/Terry)

Treasurer's Report

We currently have \$20,000 on term deposit and \$29,000 in our general account.

Club Captain Report

Meeting agreed to Terry's suggestion to change lesson material to 4C for ace asking instead of 4NT. He also sought and was granted the go-ahead to work on a sign to replace the street front sign promoting the beginners' lessons with a general sign promoting the bridge club.

Property Report

Henk said he wanted to get check throughout the building with an electrician, and to check on the urinal and a few other items in the building to make sure they are as operating as they should.

He also answered questions about the \$65,000 quote received for creating a sealed parking area on the street side of our building. The discussion that followed showed other committee members were not in favour of spending money of that magnitude on such a project.

President's Report

Linds said she had had a meeting lasting more than two and a half hours with Alan Morris, president of NZ Bridge after he was approached directly by a member who was unhappy about the committee's decision on that member's application for fixed seating rights. He followed up this meeting with an email which Linda shared with the committee. Linda had replied by email and ascertained that we are an independent club with the right to make our own call on such matters.

General Business

Upcoming lessons and Improver classes. Maureen noted that lessons were due to start the coming Tuesday and that 21 people had indicated they would attend. Linda, as leader of the trio taking the upcoming Improvers Lessons said the topics had been decided and they would be aimed at the next level up from the beginners. They would start on April 3. A more advanced Improvers course might be held later in the year

2025 Ultra Restricted 4 Tournament Series in July (Franklin as the cup holder for 2024 will host the final). Proposed dates: Papatoetoe July 6, Papakura on July 13, Howick July 20 and Franklin July 27. Terry reported that Mark Buckley, the organiser, said there was very limited choice regarding these. Dates to be publicised in next Table Talk.

Tournament preparations

Jonathon said he would be away when our September tournament was held and may not make be available for the May one either. He will let Bev know if this is the case as soon as he finds out. Kevin Griffin was suggested as an alternative scorer.

Clubrooms and inner office security. In response to concerns about access to the inner office and computer, the meeting decided the password on the office computer should be changed and Susie was asked to ask two members for their sets of keys as they no longer have roles requiring them.

Update on the status of our right-of- way next to the Plunket building and disagreements relating to the parking associated with that building and on the right of way.

Arie noted that he was working on hopefully sorting out some sort of mutually beneficial agreement with Plunket over using parking to the north and west of our building.

With regard to property matters.

Garden maintenance. Arie also noted that David and Sue Spencer had recently organised a gardener to tend to the clubroom grounds and had offered to do so on a more regular basis. The committee decided this it would be a good for this to happen every three months and that the Spencers would be asked to send the account for this work to Franklin Bridge Club.

Sponsorship. Maureen noted that The Hill Pukekohe (a new retirement home complex being built in Pukekohe) had said It would consider sponsoring our next tournament. Susie undertook to follow this up with that organization,

Purchasing Bridgemates. Terry said we had 22 Bridgemates in total. Aries considered we should aim for a total of 26. Terry said one supplier reported he was expecting new Bridgemate 2s (like the ones we have got) in February. They would cost \$249 each. The meeting voted to buy six more of these (Linda/Dennise).

Henriette, Linda and Denise offered to fund one each of these and Terry undertook to sponsor 10 new keypads for replacing keypads on existing Bridgemates (some have already been replaced).

Dealing error the previous Friday. This could be solved by buying a new machine (at a cost of about \$5000). It would read barcodes on the sides of boards – which would mean buying stickers for our boards. The meeting agreed to buying a new dealing machine and selling the current one secondhand (Arie/Maureen).

Request for parallel sessions on Monday nights. It was considered that those players making this request were now being catered for because they had an extra session in the form of the planned Improvers Lessons.

Dealing with procedures regarding new members. Agreed that the secretary should be the central person who would ensure that the Treasurer had been informed and had the necessary info for the membership file and that the club Captain and IT Manager were informed and the new member registered as a Franklin member with NZ Bridge and entered into file used by the scoring system.

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION

Inward committee correspondence.

Reports on the observed behaviour of a member seeking to sit north-south despite losing the 'toss' at the start of sessions.

Email discussion

Comment as requested by the President on a draft letter to this member, including a formal warning as set out in our Constitution.

Outward correspondence

Subsequent letter, including a formal warning, emailed to that member, after approval from the committee.

There was no further decisions about this matter.

The meeting closed at 6.25pm