

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON SUNDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2008 AT 10.30AM

PRESENT:

97 members were present

APOLOGIES:

The apologies as tabled were accepted and sustained.

R Filler, A Gunder

AGREED

MINUTES of the previous Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 18 November 2007 were accepted as a true and correct record:

R Watt, M Collins

AGREED

MINUTES of the Special General Meeting held on Sunday 24th August 2008 were accepted as a true and correct record:

B Morris, A Morris

AGREED

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Russell Watt presented and tabled his report, with special thanks to the staff (applause) and to C Wilson (applause) which was then adopted.

R Watt, C Wilkinson

AGREED

TREASURERS REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

The financial outcome from running our Club over the past year has been very positive. Good playing support from members and the full year effect of the table money increase, combined with good management and expense control, were major factors. The operating surplus of \$29,896 was needed to help fund the overall resource consent cost of \$85,203. This may need to be written off but our auditors decided this should occur at a later date.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the Auckland City Council for the two grants they have given us during the financial year. While reduced from the previous year, the Accommodation Support Fund Grant of \$7,870 towards our Rates Bill Of \$18,067 is major assistance. Furthermore, the Community Group Assistance Fund granted the full amount (\$3500) towards adding the scanner facility to our photocopier.

The Auckland Regional Council generously remits 50% of rates to approved Community groups. Due to timing, we received this benefit for both the present and previous years in 2007/08. A number of other grant applications (building project, Honours Boards) were unsuccessful.

Comment on other significant items:

Sponsorship	this process was reviewed and gives a greater benefit to the Club
Fundraising & Donations	the focus has been on the building / refurbishment project
Rents	continue to decline, also the demise of the Remuera Club
Cleaning & Laundry	increased costs of supplies & services
Playing Materials	many regular items, including the Programme Book
Master Points	increased from 14cents to 30cents per player per session
Presidents Night	unintended surplus, but a successful night! Last year included the 75 th celebration as well as the 2007 year.

Unrealised Loss on Investment: write down on Vector shares in current market conditions

A Budget has been prepared for the current year, conservatively reflecting a substantial change back towards a deficit, due to the consequences of increased wage and other expenses, and the effects of the proposed building refurbishment. As much support as possible from members during this time will improve this outcome. There is no proposal to increase regular subscriptions or Table Money at this stage.

Building Project: With the proposed removal of Nathan House, a potentially expensive liability will be removed. As many of you are aware, I have consistently been of the view that 80% funding from non-refundable sources was never likely.

Options will be considered at the AGM. Members need to be aware that operating expenses of the Club will still rise. Expenditure of around \$200,000 on refurbishment would impact on Table Money by about 75 cents; on new building, about half that (because of the longer time frame) This is a reminder that our recent surpluses have been achieved in large part by delaying reinvestment in our premises.

J Ashwell emphasised the contribution of sponsors and the grants received from the Auckland City Council Accommodation Support Fund Grant and Auckland City Council Community Group Assistance Fund as well as the Auckland Regional Council.

J Ashwell presented a gift to Patricia Bartley in appreciation of her sterling work as almoner for the Club.

B Hart had requested information regarding the accounts:

Resource Consent costs were unable to be written off as they might have a future value. It was decided not to receive a qualified report and the Club had deferred to the Auditor's advice.

Programme Book: The cost of the programme book was more than covered by the income from advertising.

Membership subscriptions: The difference between subscriptions received and membership numbers was due to the variety of subscriptions and by partial subscriptions.

F Muller thanked the two members that donated the name badges. APPLAUSE

The Financial Accounts were adopted and approved:

J Ashwell, A Gunder

AGREED

CONFIRMATION OF AUDITOR

Moved that **Walker Wayland** be appointed Auditors for the following year.

G West, B Ashwell

AGREED

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS & COMMITTEE.

President Russell Watt

Vice-President Allan Morris

Treasurer Jan Ashwell

COMMITTEE

There are five vacancies for committee members with five nominations being received: Juliet Rowe, Owen Hayward, Gillian West, Douglas Russell, Barbara Cook.

R Watt thanked the outgoing Committee: C Wilson, Y Bowling

F Muller expressed appreciation to all the Committee for their work through the year.

APPLAUSE

REMIT:

REMIT 1: That the Auckland Bridge Club Inc adopts the new constitution, replacing the current constitution.

The Auckland Bridge Club is affiliated as a member of New Zealand Bridge Incorporated (NZ Bridge), being the governing organization responsible for the management, control, administration and regulation of contract bridge in New Zealand. NZ Bridge has recently adopted a new constitution and in doing so has approached all members requesting that each reviews their rules and looks to bringing them in line with NZ Bridge. The Committee decided having reviewed our rules and a draft set of new rules provided by NZ Bridge that we would recommend to members the adoption of a new constitution. The proposed constitution appropriately brings the club into line with NZ Bridge. The new rules reflect how we function and incorporate all the appropriate controls and authorities that are necessary for us to run the Auckland Bridge Club. The document is easy to understand and is written in

modern language. The recommended rules embody all matters covered by our existing rules. Provision remains for all categories of membership- life, ordinary, student, veteran and associate.

The age of student membership has risen from 18 to 23 years. We have reduced the number of committee members who must retire at each annual general meeting from 5 to 3. The purpose is to maintain skills and continuity.

The remit was put to vote.

AGREED

REMIT 2: That the Auckland Bridge Club Committee be given approval for the disposal of Nathan House

The remit was put to vote.

AGREED

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND ENTRANCE FEES

The subscription for associate membership be increased to half the annual full membership subscription.

The subscriptions for the coming year 2008 be:

Full	\$75
Associate	\$37.50
Junior	\$19

AGREED

GENERAL BUSINESS

HARRY LITTLEWOOD BURSARY

The 2009 recipients of the Harry Littlewood Bursary were presented with certificate by Christine Wilson: David Joseph and Carol Joseph and partial recipients Shani Joffe, Brian Joffe, Geraldine Meo, Raewyn Hamilton. **NOTED subsequent to the AGM Harry Littlewood passed away peacefully 24th November 2008 aged 100 years.**

Report on the property development

Allan Morris gave a power point presentation on the main five options for refurbishment and building, with the Committee recommending option 5.

A full discussion regarding these options ensued, with George Wilkinson thanking the Committee for their excellent efforts.

A vote was then held to obtain a recommendation for the incoming Committee to proceed.

Option 2 – Full refurbishment of the existing facilities and a lift to the second storey for an estimated cost of \$500,000 received 52 votes.

Option 5 – The building of a single storey extension to provide 10-15 tables and an entrance area received 31 votes.

The remaining options received very few to no votes.

Allan Morris was thanked for his excellent presentation.

GENERAL BUSINESS

The Committee decision in October to cancel future sessions of Sunday bridge was discussed. The meeting gave a very clear indication that this session should be continued with appropriate changes to make it more viable. J Barnard and G Wilkinson offered their services to direct gratis.

The meeting closed at 11.50 am