

**Central Coast Bridge Club
Special General Meeting
Held at the Clubhouse
Saturday 7th September 2019**

Minutes

Meeting Called to Order by Jean Moran (President) at 11-30am

Present – It was noted that there were 113 members present and that a Quorum existed.

Apologies – Apologies were received from 18 members as listed on the attached sheet.

Jean outlined the reason for the SGM stating that this meeting would deal with one motion only. The reasons for this motion would be explained by Sally Clarke.

Jean also explained that she and Sally could not preside over the meeting and that an independent Chairman would be drafted. Jean proposed John McIlrath and asked for any objections to his appointment. No objections were forthcoming.

John McIlrath then took over as Chairman.

John asked Jean to introduce the committee.

The Chairman then outlined the running order for the meeting including time limits.

The Chairman then asked Jean to speak to the motion.

Jean outlined and proposed the motion that: -

“We, the members, agree that the Committee is properly managing and controlling the affairs of the Association.”

The Chairman then call for Sally Clarke to second the motion

Sally outlined what is happening in the club to require this motion then spoke to and seconded the motion asking for support from all members at the meeting

The Chairman outlined why it is important to understand the constitution.

The Chairman stated that he would now ask for speakers against and for the motion.

He outlined the process and stated that a time limit applied to all speakers and that once one side had no more to say or if repetitive or off point the process would end.

Chairman called for speakers against motion.

David Purkiss rose to speak. David said he would like to see agenda items that addressed broader issues not just housekeeping. Outlined his view that members are getting older and the club needs to bring in younger members and particularly new members.

The Chairman stated that the concerns raised by Mr Purkiss related to all clubs and suggested that CCBC does this fairly well.

Chairman called for speakers for the motion.

Peter Johnman rose to speak. Peter mentioned that he is a founding member of the club. Peter stated that he thinks the club is doing well and the committee is focused on strategies to improve the overall benefit for members. Peter added that the issues raised by Mr Purkiss were being addressed. Peter suggested that the members present vote overwhelmingly for the committee.

Chairman called for speakers against motion.

John Redfearn rose to speak. John suggested that some of the things this committee is doing are only the same as last committees have been doing in the past. He stated that this committee has done certain things that have annoyed him. When the new committee took over things changed and some things were restricted. John indicated that he did not like the changes and felt that it suggested distrust of average members.

Chairman asked Jean to respond to Mr Redfearn. Jean outlined the reasons for any changes the committee is making and stated that the objective was to improve the club for all members.

Chairman called for speakers for the motion.

June Thompson rose to speak. June stated that she was disappointed with what was going on. June said that the members had voted the committee into place and should support the committee. June further stated that the members can always vote the committee out at the next AGM. June said all members should support the committee and the club.

The Chairman pointed out that all committee members were volunteers.

Chairman called for speakers against motion.

Kaylee Lemon rose to speak. Kaylee said she thinks the meeting is undignified. Kaylee said we should be concentrating on playing bridge.

Chairman called for speakers for the motion.

Dorothy Berzins (amended August 6, 2020) rose to speak. Dorothy said she believed that the club was properly run, and the members should be let the committee run the club. Dorothy said she believed that the measures put in place are good for the club.

Chairman called for speakers against motion.

Stewart Duxbury rose to speak. Stewart said the committee seemed to be secretive and he thought the committee should be more open as there seemed to be lots going on.

Chairman pointed out that not many ABF clubs put minutes on web site. Jean pointed out the minutes of committee meetings were put on our web site.

Chairman called for speakers for the motion.

Bob Mavin rose to speak. Bob wanted to speak for the motion he was prepared to act as a mediator. Bob believed that the club should get on with things and support the committee.

Chairman called for speakers against motion.

Rod Shellshear rose to speak. Rod said he was talking against the motion and wanted to outline a complaint against the committee that was not properly dealt with. Rod said the complaint was passed to the Ombudsman who sent an email to Jean Moran with a confidential report. This report was not made public and no discussion was allowed. Rod believed that complaint should have been dealt with by the committee not Ombudsman.

The Chairman said the committee was in place to handle things. Jean said she believed the complaint was handled properly.

Chairman called for speakers for the motion.

Allan Bustany rose to speak. Allan stated that he was the Zone Representative for the NSWBA. Allan said he has been looking at clubs in entire region and he believed CCBC was one of the best run clubs in this region. Allan said he was stunned that with all speakers against he had heard nothing that detracted from this view.

Chairman called for speakers against motion.

Jan Buchanan-Medina. Jan said she believed that the new committee was simply complaining against previous committee. Jan felt the newsletter was patronising she believed that there was a distinction between members. She said there was talk about complaints not being handled correctly and the club had become a grace and favour organisation. Jan believed that John Redfearn was not allowed to access club records, and this was not right.

The Chairman said that he had received calls from a club with a serious computer malfunction and that clubs must protect the club records and assets.

**Chairman asked for any more speakers for or against. There were no takers.
The Chairman then asked for questions from the floor.**

Jenny Walmsley asked what present Committee is doing to work with old Committee. The Chairman pointed out that the new committee does not have to consult the previous committee. Sally Clarke took the point on direction saying that the present committee was very willing to receive input from past committee members.

Len Perkins asked why he is barred from Committee meetings. Jean Moran said that he had received an email that explained that Committee meetings were club specific and information from Committee meetings was not for use by others.

The Chairman brought the question time to a close.

Chairman said we would proceed to a secret ballot on the motion. The ballot would be a yes or No.

Kevin Dougall requested that the meeting be given the actual count

Peter Johnman was appointed as Recorder.

Scrutineers were Len Perkins and Adriana Smith. Helper Carol Parker

Ballot papers handed out at 12-30pm. voting to take place immediately.

The ballot was completed and counted by the Recorder and Scrutineers.

The result of the ballot was: -

70 for the Motion

39 against the motion

4 informal

The Chairman thanked the Recorder and Scrutineers and handed the meeting back to the President.

The President thanked John Mclrath for chairing the meeting.

The President said she and the Committee were committed to working with all members to improve the club and were keen to get on with the job.

Meeting closed at 12-47pm

President

Secretary