**Bridge Ward Club**

**President:** Alderman Sir Alan Yarrow

**Chairman:** Kathryn Williams

**Website:** [www.bridgewardclub.org.uk](http://www.bridgewardclub.org.uk)

**Email:** bwc@bridgewardclub.org.uk

**NOTICE OF THE ‘VIRTUAL’ 90th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRIDGE WARD CLUB TO BE HELD**

**ON THURSDAY 4 JUNE 2020 AT 6.00 PM**

**AGENDA**

1. To receive and sign the minutes of the 89th Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 5th June 2019.
2. Matters arising from the minutes
3. To receive and consider the Chairman’s Report for 2019/20
4. To receive and consider the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2019.

7.   To elect Officers and Committee Members for 2020/21

8.   To consider the reappointment of Mr Michael Cooper FSA, not a member of the Committee, to review and report on the Accounts for 2020.

9. Any other business

Dennis Conrad

Secretary

**AGM: Item 1**

**BRIDGE WARD CLUB**

**Minutes of the 89th Annual General Meeting of the Bridge Ward Club**

**held at the offices of Wells Fargo, 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AT**

**on Wednesday 5th June 2019**

Present: Sir Alan Yarrow President

Kathryn Williams Chairman

Roma Bhowmick Deputy Chairman

Jacy Morbey Treasurer

 Janet Bird Secretary

 Keith Bottomley CC Ex officio

 Colin Bird Committee

John Carnaby Committee

Andrew Dyke Committee

 Father Philip Warner Honorary

Together with 19 other members of the Club

The President welcomed members to the meeting in the newly constructed offices of Wells Fargo. He expressed the Club’s thanks to Wells Fargo for allowing it to use the new offices as a venue for this meeting.

The President proposed that Kathryn Williams be the Chairman of the Club for her second year in office. This was approved.

The Chairman took the chair for the AGM, also thanking Wells Fargo

**1. Apologies for Absence:**

Apologies had been received from Isabel and Richard Derby, Tim Levene, Sue and Robert White, Nick Andrews, Suzanne Hoenig, Jane Samsworth, Geoffrey Bond and Brian Fishwick.

**2. Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday 9th May 2018**

The minutes of the 76th Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday 9th May 2018 were put to the AGM. Andrew Dyke commented that the minutes needed to be corrected as they stated that it was the 76th AGM, but queried why this was, as the Club is in its 89th year – a matter for future research. The minutes as amended were agreed as a true record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters arising:**

None

**4. Chairman’s Report:**

The Chairman spoke to her report (previously circulated), commenting particularly on the visit to the HAC, with the musketeers.

The 16th scholar from Norway will be arriving in August and it had been agreed that Roma will be put up as a trustee of the Norwegian Scholars Trust, in place of Ivan who was retiring after long and distinguished service.

The Chairman commented that the Club was losing 4 long serving committee members at the close of this meeting - Colin Bird (previous Chairman and Treasurer), Janet Bird (Secretary), Andrew Dyke (Webmaster and Clerk to the Ward) and John Carnaby. In addition, Peter Twist and Suzanne Hoenig are leaving the Committee but will continue to organise events. Sir Alan added his thanks to all retiring Committee members and to Andrew and the Birds for their support whilst he was Lord Mayor. He said that he hoped the Club would still see plenty of them in future

Karen Whitting proposed acceptance of the Chairman’s report and Frances Golland seconded.

**5.** **Treasurer’s Report:**

Jacy presented her first report to the AGM as Treasurer. The accounts for the year ended 31 December 2018 had been circulated with the AGM papers and had been independently examined by Michael Cooper FCA.

Subscriptions exceeded £5,000 and events had a surplus of £313. This income enabled the club to make charitable donations of £3,000. Overall the Club made a surplus for the year of £279, having transferred a net £500 to special reserves. These results were satisfactory and the Club’s general reserves at 31 December 2019 stood at £20, 833 with an extra £5,000 reserved to meet the cost of the Club’s 90th anniversary event in 2020.

The meeting received and considered the accounts for the year ending 31 December 2018 and, on a motion proposed by Roma Bhowmick and seconded by Colin Bird, approved them.

1. **New rules.**

The Chairman introduced draft updated rules for the Club. These had been circulated with the papers for the AGM.

The main change is to allow for the introduction of Corporate Members. Colin Bird asked if the new committee could ensure that all events were available to all members, so that we did not end up with a Corporate “elite”.

Colin also asked Santander if it would be good for them and their representative said that it would be good to link up and for corporates in the Ward to get together with the Club to expand activities which are available.

Andrew Dyke proposed that new rules be accepted. Alan Downing seconded and they were approved.

**7. Election of Officers and Committee** **Members for 2019/20**

Following the usual custom, the Chairman continues for a second year. Roma Bhowmick stepped down having completed her term as Deputy Chair and Stephen Wagstaffe was proposed and elected Deputy Chairman for the coming year.

Jacy Morbey agreed to continue to act as Treasurer and was elected

It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Karen Whitting that Michael Daniels join the committee, and this was agreed.

Dennis Conrad was co-opted to act as Secretary.

Other co-optees would be discussed by the new Committee

Ex-officio members remain as Deputy Keith Bottomley and Tim Levene CC

**8. Appointment of Independent Examiner**

Jacy Morbey thanked Michael Cooper for his assistance as Independent Examiner. She proposed, and it was carried unanimously, that Mr Cooper should be re-appointed to the role for 2020.

**9**. **Any other business**

There being no other business the meeting was closed, and members proceeded to enjoy the hospitality of Wells Fargo.

**Bridge Ward Club AGM: Wednesday 5 June Item 3: Chairman’s Report for 2019/20**

I am pleased to report on the activities of the Club during my second year as Chairman which commenced at the AGM in June 2019. Our President Sir Alan Yarrow, hosted the AGM and we very much appreciate his continued support of the club.

Last August saw the traditional Club walk led by Peter Twist and Deputy Keith Bottomley where we learned many interesting secrets about our Ward and information about proposed new developments. The walk finished at the Royal Exchange where several people enjoyed afternoon tea. Our thanks to Peter and Keith for organising and leading this event. Over 30 people came on the walk and along with other walks we raised over £1,000 in aid of the Chairman’s charity for 2019 which was to set up a fund for the transport costs for schools participating in the 5-A-Side football Bridge Ward Challenge Cup tournament in the future.

In September a small group of the Club took part in the Inter Ward Quiz hosted by Billingsgate Ward Club at St Mary at Hill. Queenhithe Ward Club won on the evening and will host the quiz in 2020.

On 24th September – City Giving Day – members supported Santander, Poole Re and Lime Street and Cornhill Ward Club in their various fund raising activities. The Club donated £750 to the Lord Mayor’s Appeal as it does every year.

The inaugural Quarterly Luncheon was held in October. Held at Ironmongers’ Hall, it proved to be a great success and would be carried forward as a regular fixture in the BWC calendar. My thanks to Ken Newnham for facilitating this event.

October also saw another first; the inaugural 5-A-Side Football Bridge Ward Challenge Cup. 6 companies participated, including ‘The Bridge Ward Club All Stars’. My thanks to John Gavin for all his hard work to make this initiative a reality.

The annual Lord Mayor’s Show luncheon at the Guildhall in November was enjoyed by 26 members.

The highlight of December was our annual carol service at St Magnus the Martyr.  Deputy Keith Bottomley and Tim Levene CCC presented the Norwegian Scholar, Sven Lyngholm with his certificate before the service commenced.

Our thanks to Kathy Agatiello (Santander) and Annette Saunders (Vanquis Bank) and their able band of kind volunteers supplied, prepared and served the magnificent array of cakes, food and refreshments.

Holding the service in the late afternoon allowed workers from the City to attend the service along with members of the City Livery Club. Our thanks to Father Philip and the St Magnus choir, who ensured that the service was memorable and a very special start to the Christmas celebrations.

In January 2020, the Bishop of Fulham and Father Philip officiated at a High Mass at St Magnus the Martyr. There followed a brief service at The Monument for the removal of the flowers left there in memory of those that lost their lives in the terrorist incident at Fishmongers’ Hall in November 2019. A procession to the centre of London Bridge then took place to meet with a party from Southwark Cathedral for the Blessing of the River service. I was honoured to read a lesson on behalf of Bridge Ward Club and St Magnus. Attendees then processed back to Southwark Cathedral for refreshments. The series of services were very appreciated and well received.

February saw a visit behind the scenes of Mansion House with the unique guide, John Davies the Keeper of the House. Hidden treasures were seen and John regaled the attendees with real life stories of the Mansion House.

The winter Quarterly luncheon was held at the Middle Temple Hall in February. Prior to the luncheon we had a short orientation tour of the Temple area and Middle Temple Hall by Marion, a fellow City of London Guide. My thanks to Frances Golland for assisting in the organisation of this event.

The luncheon proved to be our last BWC event before the AGM due to the advent of the COVID-19 lockdown.

The 90th Anniversary Banquet at the Mansion House was postponed until later this year or probably, early next. You may have all seen that the existing City Civic team (The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor and Sheriffs) will remain in post for another year. The Lord Mayor’s Show and our participation is currently under review at the time of writing.

We welcomed our 16th Norwegian business scholar, Sven Lyngholm, in August last year and Sven proved to be a very special friend of the Club. He and two of his friends played for ‘The Bridge Ward Club All Stars’ at the Shoreditch pitches for the Bridge Ward Challenge Cup and we are delighted that he will be co-ordinating with past Scholars to support the Trust and also returning to take his Masters at the London School of Economics later this year. We thank the trustees of the Norwegian Scholars’ Trust for their continued service and extend particular thanks to Geoffrey Bond who continues to work so hard for the Trust.

The Committee continues to support the Club in all activities. Jacy Morbey became a full member from a co-opted member in December 2019 upon her 2 year anniversary of joining the Club. Dennis Conrad and Helena Nicolaou were the additional two co-opted members. Dr Jana Filosof became the third co-opted member in December 2019. Father Philip and Roma Bhowmick remained as honorary members and additional expertise was sought by honorary members Alison Wagstaffe, Annette Saunders and Kathy Agatiello. Helena Nicolaou will stand down at the AGM and we thank her for her input and support in the past year.

The Bridge Ward Club web site is with the designer and we hope to launch this later this year. We continue to receive many applications for membership which covers a broad age range, which is very encouraging for the future.

COVID-19 virus has changed all our lives and I know that we will all be ready to celebrate seeing each other again when we are through this difficult time. I know that we have lost one member to the virus so far and I pray that no more will be lost. Please keep safe and well.

Warm wishes

Kathryn

Kathryn Williams

April 2020