**Notes on County Chair’s Meeting 29th September 2022 10:00am**

I give the agenda and my comments below

1. Welcome and Introduction (Ian Payn)

No comment

1. Apologies

Not taken

1. Presentation: Libraries and the Social Aspect by Richard Evans – Suffolk

A presentation from Suffolk that in 1 year they used the local libraries to teach over 200 beginners.

1. Discussion on the Presentation – Chaired by Doug Dunn – Devon

A discussion arose around how to get libraries involved, with no conclusions as you might expect. A question was raised as to how they advertised it, and it seemed to me that they used all the methods we had used with no success, but obviously they had success.

1. Potential changes to Green Points: Raised by Mick Green – Berks & Bucks

“F2F is not really going to work yet for counties” said Mick Green introducing the item. “Online bridge here to stay”.

Norman Iniss gave the opposite point of view – we need to get back to F2F bridge, the online events cut each others’ throats and drive prices down.

Paul Littlewood raised the issue of revenue from online GP events to counties.

Gordon Rainsford gave essentially the reasons given in the paper. More structured and balanced calendar of events.

Kay Preddy raised the issue of online GP events taking money away from the game – particularly the EBU.

About half the speakers were in favour of the proposal and about half against.

However, a much larger majority were in favour of it being a separate item (from the other proposals in the paper) at the AGM.

I raised the issue of events that are proposed to be played permanently online (particularly the Pachabo and Corwen) and made the case against this. Interestingly, I got NO support! (though 2 later posted in chat that they agreed with me).

1. Presentation: CBA’s their role and how they can change the image of Bridge – John McCoy – Essex

John McCoy gave a depressing presentation on the problems facing bridge in the future, and that it is dying (literally). Need to promote that it is fun, exciting, mentally stimulating, vibrant and cut and thrust.

There was a lengthy section of the presentation on the “Essex Bridge Academy” – an umbrella organisation for bridge teachers.

1. Discussion on the Presentation – Chaired by Doug Dunn – Devon

There was little discussion on the issue.

1. Increased participation at County/National Events: Raised by Eddy Blackburn – Worcs

The person who raised this was not present and the item was not particularly discussed. Ian Sidgwick said the 9 high events were helpful.

Meeting closed at 11:25