

We extend a friendly invitation to the

CAMBS & HUNTS COUNTY BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

2015 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

To be held at the **Thursday Bridge Club:**

**ADRIAN HOUSE, BURRELL'S FIELD, GRANGE ROAD,
CAMBRIDGE CB3 9DH - entry via Porters' Lodge**

on **THURSDAY MAY 21st 2015** at **6:30pm** for a 6.45pm start

**(many players park in Adams road or Clarkson Road nearby,
both off Grange Road, map attached on page 2)**

AGENDA

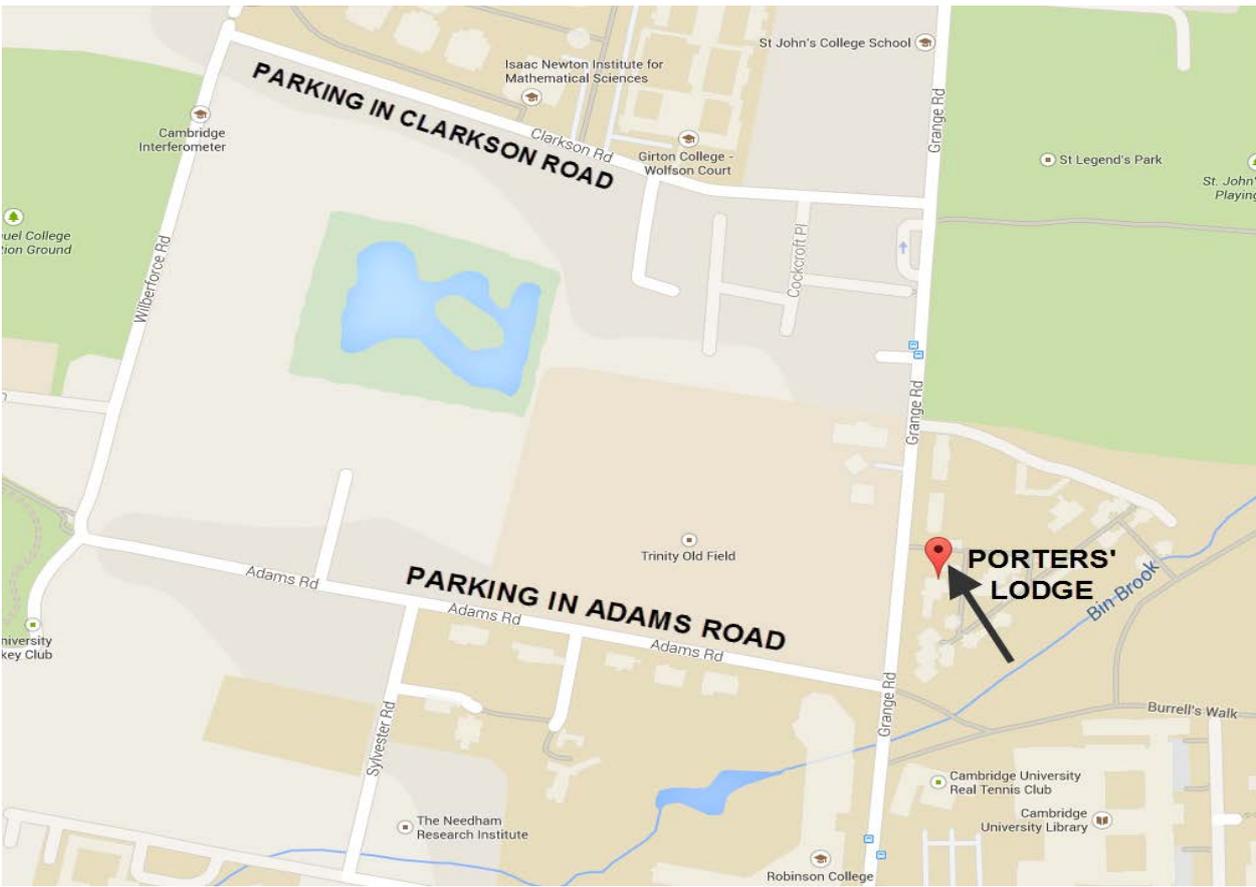
1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held on Wednesday April 23rd 2014 at the Cambridge Bridge Club
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Reports
5. Subscriptions for 2015/2016
6. Appointment of Auditor
7. AOB

All attending are extended **an invitation to a free evening of bridge**, subject only to available space after club members are accommodated; **the evening is hosted, which means players need not arrive with a partner in order to play.**

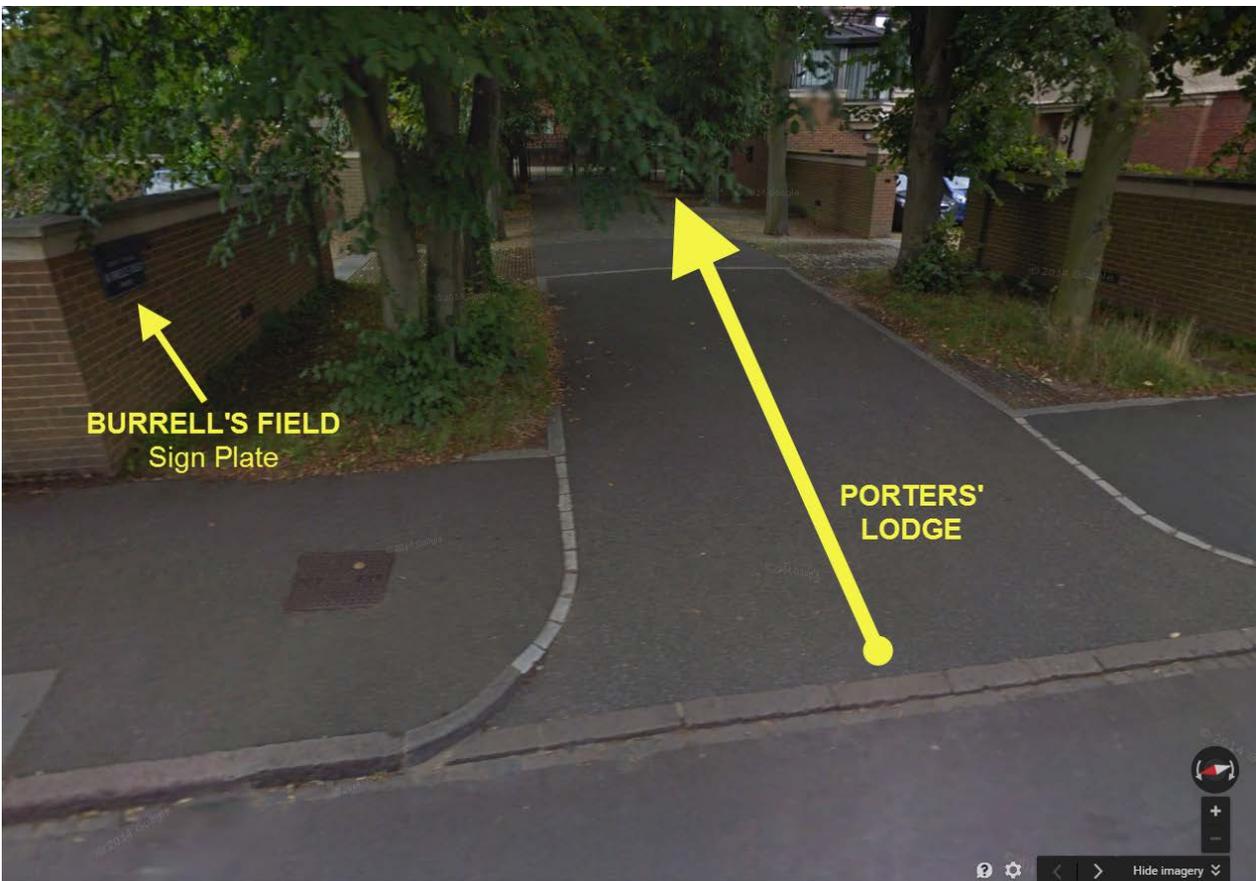
Documents (attached):

#1: Minutes of 2014 AGM

LOCAL MAP (Google Maps)



PORTERS' LODGE, BURRELL'S FIELD (Google Street view)



CAMBS & HUNTS CBA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held at the Cambridge Bridge Club (Chesterton) on Weds April 23rd 2014

Committee Present:

Chris Jagger	Chair	
David Man	Treasurer	Thursday
Paul Bond	Secretary	Cambridge

Members present: 33 (at the end of the meeting)

1. Apologies for absence

David Carmichael, Trevor King, Chris Larlham, Penny Riley.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on Monday May 20th 2013 at the Dry Drayton Club

These had been distributed to the Clubs and displayed on the website.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

No matters arising; minutes accepted.

4. Reports

- **Secretary (Paul Bond)**

Paul related that there had been some experiments with hosting in the County, whereby a player without a partner could turn up to an event and be guaranteed to play. The Cambridge Bridge Club and Saffron Walden hold regular hosted sessions [see their respective websites for details].

Hosting both enabled new partnerships to emerge and helps visitors to engage with bridge in our area; for example, this evening the meeting welcomed a visitor from Australia, Margaret Robertson, who through the hosting system required no prior arrangement to be ensured an evening of bridge.

County League results are now posted via an EBU site (<https://www.ebu.co.uk/leagues/>) where teams post their results.

The County does not have an operational website. Discussions are ongoing as to how to address this issue.

Local events only happen through the dedicated efforts of a number of event organisers, so thanks to Gladys Gittins for the Novice Pairs, Peter Grice for the County Pairs, Paul Russell for the County Individual, and a special thanks to Alison Lloyd for responding to a call for an organiser for the Swiss Pairs next weekend. Thanks also to Neil Matthews who has volunteered to generate boards for County events.

Congratulations to Simon Barb who is now on the EBU Staff List (Management - Education & Development Manager EBED), based at Aylesbury.

Thanks also to the Cambridge Bridge Club for allowing County Results to be posted on their website.

- **Captain's Report (Chris Larlham, *in absentia*)**

In the C&H B L, Ely have won Division One (again!), with Peterborough 3 and Huntingdon 2 relegated.

In Division Two, Peterborough one lead the division at the moment but there are six matches to be played, half of them involving Cambridge 4.

There is one match outstanding in Division Three, with SWBC One and Peterborough 2 promoted, SWBC as champions if they get at least 3 VPs against University Two.

Division Four has been won by Ely 3. There are two matches still to play.

Chris Jagger awarded the League Trophy to Peter Burrows, a regular and former captain of Ely, the League winners.

- **Treasurer (David Man)**

We've had a surplus for the year of £122, which is a little less than in the past. David said that at previous meetings he has reported that P2P has been good for the County, and that the committee had adopted the policy of ploughing revenue from the County subscription rate of 8p back into events.

There was now no entry fee for the County Knockout, and the entry fee for the County Pairs and County Individual had been reduced to £1. Consequently income from the County Pairs had fallen from £300-£250 in recent years to just £7 this year.

However, the East Anglian Bridge Weekend (EABW 2014) yielded a profit of £301, based on our EBU right to hold two Green Point events. Hopefully there will be a similar contribution from an EABW 2015. It is the income from this event has enabled the County to show a small profit this year.

The County also purchased extra Duplimate Boards.

3. Subscriptions for 2014/15

The current County subscription rate was 8p.

In response to a query from the floor, Chris explained that the policy of the committee was to retain a reserve of around £2K to allow for a few bad years. When he took on the task of Chairman some 20 years ago such a fund was not available which created problems at the time. The approach followed by the committee was to channel income beyond the reserve back into Bridge in ways which we hope encourages more people to participate in County Bridge events.

David also mentioned that EBU competition fees were due early in the year, and that a reserve also ensured that this financial commitment could be met.

The County also remained open applying funds to new ideas. For example, in response to a question from the floor, should any member/s wish to suggest a Youth Initiative the County would be most happy to receive suggestions.

There was a question from the floor regarding insurance. David replied that EBU insurance covers County Events via EBU Master Point fees. This question had arisen in committee, and David had established with the EBU that this was the case. (For the avoidance of doubt, such insurance does not extend to club events.)

A proposal to keep the level of County subscription at 8p was accepted.

4. Auditor

Peter Grice had kindly volunteered his services as Auditor for another year. Gratefully accepted by all present.

5. Any other business

- **EABW (Paul Bond)**

Some members (for example Simon Barb, Tanawan Watts) had expressed a desire that the County should hold its own Green Point event/s. Currently EABW is organised by Suffolk as a tri-county event, attracting players from Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambs & Hunts.

The County wish to make it clear that any credible initiative for Cambs & Hunts members organising the Green Point events would be supported, either from a group or an individual. Meanwhile, the County is most grateful to Suffolk for undertaking the not insubstantial task of organising the East Anglian Bridge Weekend.

- **Volunteering (Paul Bond)**

The County is short of volunteers to contribute to County activities. If you would like, or know of someone who would like, to contribute their efforts to Bridge in the County, then please put them in contact with your Club Secretary who will pass on the offer to the County.

Even if members do not wish to volunteer, the County welcomes members with ideas to attend County Committee meetings either on a one-off or long term basis.

- **Coaching and Teaching (Chris Jagger)**

One idea that has emerged is the suggestion to take some steps towards developing a Coaching and Mentoring approach aimed at experienced bridge players, to improve the higher competitive standard within the County. For example, post-mortems of some Eastern Counties League matches is being considered (we have three teams; they have seven matches a year). If these were to be well received other initiatives might be considered.

Peter Grice relayed an impression from playing in a heat of the County Individual in talking to some competitive players that a source of local advice on how to improve would be welcome and instructive. Chris replied that a "Play with the Experts" type format was certainly a good idea; perhaps this approach was probably best addressed by the clubs rather than the County. Indeed, if someone took on a Coaching and Teaching role, part of that role might be to encourage clubs to hold such events.

Chris closed the meeting by thanking the Cambridge Club for hosting this AGM, a thank you to committee members, and also the many people that contribute to County activities and events. All present were welcomed to a free evening of bridge, with the costs borne by the County. Those present were reminded that the evening was hosted, so that any player wanting to play was assured of a game.

END