

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

7.00pm 17 June 2020

Zoom

MINUTES

Attendance Present:

Rona McCraw – Chair
Robbie Nellies – Deputy Chair
Hilary Lumsden – Secretary/Treasurer
Elspeth Wallace – Fife AC
Mandy Strachan – Tayport Tennis Club
Marianne Scott – Cycling Scotland
Margaret Kennedy – Councillor
Gary Anderson – SRUC
Martin Turnbull – St A Table Tennis Club
Grant Stevenson - Fife Sport & Leisure Trust

1. Welcome and Apologies

Rona welcomed the attendees. Apologies came from Andrew Arbuckle and Gillian Paton.

2. Minutes from last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting on 4th March 2020 were approved; being proposed by Marianne Scott and seconded by Robbie Nellies.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Secretary/Treasurer Report

The Secretary stated that there had been very little happened since the last meeting due to Covid19 lockdown. There have been useful and interesting webinars by Observatory for Sport in Scotland and Changing Lives with SportsScotland over lockdown. Communicating with members about funding and how lockdown is and has impacted their clubs (see below). Communication with Awards shortlisted nominees and attendees (see below). Sadly Mark Smith has stepped down from the committee due to changes to his work, his studies and time constraints; we thank Mark sincerely for his work over the last year.

Income and Expenditure

The Treasurer presented accounts up to the most recent balance and bank statement of 16 April 2020 and confirmed a balance of £29,770.04. We received the recurring Fife Council grant payment of £3908; while expenses included the cost of trophies, printing and gift for the Awards and March wages.

5. Correspondence

Other than correspondence with members about Covid19 lockdown, there has been little other correspondence. Randal McDonald from Falkland AFC contacted us looking for help with finding support for their club. Its facilities were damaged in storms during the winter and Covid19 lockdown has cancelled planned fundraising. Secretary to meet them at the park, a meeting had been arranged pre-Covid19, support has been offered to point the club towards suitable funding streams.

6. Sports Development Officer Report

Work has revolved around communicating and giving guidance and assistance on support available for those affected by Covid19 lockdown. Looking at Phase 2 and guidelines from national governing bodies and building a route map for recovery, which is starting with outdoor provision. It is felt that there will be a move away from conventional membership towards a drop-in and out concept with greater emphasis on family participation and provision, which will be supported by Fife Council. The focus will move to what the community needs and what can be offered, Local clubs have a USP of social capital and communication connections. Robbie Nellies raised the point that clubs that rely on indoor space during winter months will struggle with the challenges of distancing and school facility changes. Please also see report from Active Schools attached below

7. FSLT

Grant Stevenson updated on the situation with FSLT services. All facilities were closed in March and members fees were cancelled. The majority of staff are furloughed and will be brought back once lockdown eases. A small team of staff are employed to keep sites operating which will allow them to open quickly once possible to do so. The trust awaits information from governing bodies about protocols for getting back to each sport. There has been an extensive online offering, which has been very successful provided by self-employed instructors, plus the trust has organised equipment drops for members. Margaret Kennedy commented that it is important to continue with the plans discussed prior to lockdown about community consultation, starting with soft conversation about how to begin a community voice. Secretary commented that Swim England guidelines could be used tentatively to plan and open discussions with club users. The insurance and staffing cost problems experienced prior to lockdown will still exist and be magnified further on opening with social distancing requirement. It is assumed that the trust will open and operate similarly as it did prior to lockdown.

It was agreed that Grant Stevenson would arrange a video meeting with the Chair and Secretary to discuss working together and helping communicate with local clubs and users.

8. Membership 2020-21

The Chair proposed this be deferred, in light of the challenges being faced by members. Jamie Moffatt will check regards the Agreement and what the other two sports councils are doing. A decision will be made at the next meeting.

9. AGM (17 Sept 2020)

Access to Howe RFC uncertain, though Margaret Kennedy commented that scale of Howe RFC (and Duffus Park BC for ECM) may allow for required distancing. Question over whether AGM can be held digitally. Margaret Kennedy commented current legislation prohibits Ltd Co/charities from doing this but EFSC Constitution may allow for this.

Jamie Moffatt to contact Dunfermline & West Fife SC as they recently had an AGM, and may have done this digitally.

A decision will be made at the next meeting.

10. Club feedback on Covid19 impact

See report attached.

11. Awards 2020

The Chair suggested we wait until we know if we can hold a celebration event and incorporate this with Awards Ceremony, with a provisional date possibly in November. Robbie Nellies suggested a cut off of the end of September for a decision as this should not creep into 2021 otherwise recognition of achievements will pass 12 months. Jamie Moffatt highlighted Fife Flyers had produced a 5 minute video of their digital awards ceremony. It was agreed Awards 2021 would not be possible due to lack of sport, however that an event reflecting the stories of lockdown could bring clubs back together and draw a line under Covid19.

12. Grant applications

The Chair proposed that the criteria for the development grant be amended to include a Covid19 recovery fund clause to help support members as lockdown is lifted in order to start-up again, which currently is not available under the existing criteria. Clubs will require Covid19 officers and face increased costs for cleaning and safety protocols. This could run for a set time reverting back to normal after this time.

Jamie Moffatt commented that this would require permission by Fife Council and that the development criteria should not change - clubs such as Cupar Golf Club could apply for development funding to develop junior section by buying clubs and that clubs that had gone into lockdown with no reserves had failed to manage their business properly and should not expect grants in order to start-up after lockdown but that smarter clubs have been able to manage lockdown better and should be supported to develop further. Robbie Nellies stated that it was the duty of the sports council to support its members and that we should be able to add Back to Sport initiative criteria to our grant application as doing things differently in the new normal will cost clubs in different ways. The Secretary put forward that golf clubs have been able to open, but indoor clubs (eg. Pegasus Gymnastics Club who had been in contact about this) will face far greater challenges including facility hire complications; also that many smaller, rural clubs are run by passionate volunteers rather than business minds. Martin Turnbull referenced the SportsScotland Get Your Facilities Ready for Sport document and the detail involved, commenting that indoor clubs such as the table tennis club that uses a Fife Council hall will require support, particularly with safety implications and cost, in order to start up again. Margaret Kennedy recognised a risk of abuse but felt it unlikely we would receive underhand applications, that the sports council had a moral obligation to not see clubs fall. It was agreed this would need to be discussed with the other sports councils and that the Chair and Secretary would review the criteria and report back.

13. Young Persons Panel

Agreed the secretary will arrange a meeting with Stephen Adamson from FVA re disclosure.

14. Volunteer Day / training

The training planned in May had been cancelled, but it was agreed we would rearrange this once lockdown allows.

15. Quiz 2020

This is scheduled for 6 Nov 2020, but no venue agreed yet. Agreed to look at arranging a digital quiz if not able to hold an event.

16. Format for future meetings

The Chair asked each member how they felt about continuing digital meetings, it was agreed to use these or a mix going forward, particularly in the winter months. Elspeth Wallace pointed out digital discussion can be harder with less opportunity for spontaneous points and discussion. Marianne Scott pointed out Cycle Scotland used 2 formats for digital meetings where any points requiring decision were circulated and decisions made prior to the meeting to allow meetings to move more quickly. It was agreed this was a good proposal to follow. The AGM was discussed again, Margaret Kennedy commented that changes to the office bearers would be difficult due to unprecedented circumstances and the disruption to operating through the year. The Chair commented that she would be prepared to stand for one more year but no longer. This will be discussed further at the AGM.

13. AOCB

There was no AOCB.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 6th August 2020 (please note this has changed) at **7.00pm** on Zoom.

Dates for 2020

1 Oct

10 Dec

AGM 17 Sept

Quiz Night 6 Nov

East Fife Sports Council – Active School Update 17th June 2020

The Active schools Team have been working in several groups looking how we can make an impact for young people now and as we enter new lockdown phases.

In total we have 8 groups:

1. **Workforce:** focusing on communicating with our volunteers and coaches and providing training opportunities that can be done at home. Additionally, working with our coaches to create social distancing lesson plans ready for when we can deliver in a school setting.
2. **Glow:** A school communication platform where the team have created a space that includes everything about Active Schools. Staff can access information about strategies, policies, young leadership pathway, physical activity resources, support with young people's and their own wellbeing and elearning opportunities. Young People can find out information on how they can take part in sport and physical activity, their wellbeing including healthy eating as well as comprehensive resources detailing the programmes within the young leadership pathway and how to access them.
3. **Resources:** creating and sourcing sports and activity resources for schools' hubs, and to be shared via our social media platforms for family's at home.
4. **Transitions:** supporting schools and identifying methods for transition for those P1 and S1 pupils
5. **Leadership:** virtual classes with the newly recruited platinum ambassadors, additionally providing young leaders with training and support. Furthermore, identifying how recruitment timings need to be adjusted and creating a new plan of action.
6. **Communication:** providing a thorough and constant twitter voice, including but not limited to: showcasing resources, profiling Active Schools & Young Leaders work.
7. **Sway:** Producing good practise stories highlighting health and wellbeing
8. **SAMH:** Providing links to Scotland's mental health charity

Some highlights to note that have come from these groups:

The resources team created a Virtual Dance and Basketball extracurricular programme where across Fife 500+ and 250+ have signed up respectively. In addition, they collaborated with Judy Murray to create a Fife wide tennis CPD that will take place on the 22nd June. Over 150 coaches, teachers and volunteers have signed up already for this.

For anyone interested in our latest resources, ideas, communications please follow us on our Twitter platform @FifeActiveSch