**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**7.00pm 01 October 2020**

Zoom

 **MINUTES**

**Attendance Present:**

Rona McCraw – Chair

Martin Turnbull – Deputy Chair

Hilary Lumsden – Secretary/Treasurer

Robbie Nellies – Falkland Cricket Club

Elspeth Wallace – Fife AC

Gillian Paton – Ladybank Golf Club

Venessa Rengger – Tayport Tennis Club

Grant Stevenson - Fife Sport & Leisure Trust

Madison Garland – Active Schools Coordinator

1. **Welcome and** **Apologies**

Rona welcomed the attendees. Martin Turnbull was warmly welcomed as the new Deputy Chair while Robbie Nellies was thanked for all his great work as Deputy Chair as he steps down from the position. Warm welcome also went to Vanessa Rengger who joined the committee at the AGM.

Apologies came from Margaret Kennedy, Gary Anderson and Jamie Moffatt.

**2. Minutes from last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting on 6th August 2020 were approved; being proposed by Robbie Nellies and seconded by Martin Turnbull.

1. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

**4. Secretary/Treasurer Report**

[Emailed 28-09-20] Members were asked to pay the affiliation fee for 2020-21 if they were in a position to do so, to date we have 20 members of 75 that have paid or have been invoiced.

Members using community use facilities have been in touch about access: Wormit PS Saturday Football Club was using the primary school grounds but has not been permitted to use these as yet and has had to find a new venue. St Andrews Table Tennis Club has lost its venue to the C-19 testing centre and is also trying to find a new venue. J Moffatt is to update the sports council on progress with access.

The Chair and I met with Wendy Chamberlain MP on 21 Aug 2020 by Zoom, when we discussed issues such as FSLT and the #Saveleisure campaign, access for our members to community use facilities (Fife Council) and training in sport being brought more regularly and accessibly to East Fife. She has written to Joe Fitzpatrick Minister for Public Health, Sport and Wellbeing about FSLT, Steve Grimmond, CEO of Fife Council re access to community use facilities and Stewart Harrris, CEO of SportScotland regards access to local training. A reply was received from the SportScotland office confirming Child Protection training is now online and asking us to work with Meg Buchanan for other training; I responded to ask for more information on local training to qualify teachers/coaches. We had written to Willie Rennie MSP regards the FSLT campaign, he has written to Joe Fitzpatrick also on our behalf, we await a reply.

Pegasus Gymnastics Club were awarded £500 from the C-19 Emergency Fund in mid-September, for which they have sent great thanks to the committee.

A meeting was held on 14 Sept 2020 to discuss the Duffus Park Community Sport Hub Community Asset Transfer of Duffus Park, to take ownership of Duffus Park and Ladyinch Playing Fields, returning to the arrangement of 1910 when the land was first gifted to Cupar, so that clubs have full ownership of the facility. Clubs attended by Zoom and discussed interest in being involved in this proposal. Work is ongoing to address questions and pin down costs involved.

EFSC AGM 2020 was held by Zoom on Thursday 17 Sept 2020, and it went extremely well. Reports and associated paperwork including accounts were circulated prior to the meeting, where we had 27 members and executive committee attending – the meeting was completed within 30 minutes. We had also agreed a change to the Constitution just before the meeting at an SGM. This change was incorporated into the Constitution at the AGM.

Sadly, we had to cancel the Awards handover event on 23 Sept 2020, which was scheduled for 29 Sept 2020, due to the change in rules by the Scottish Government on 22 Sept 2020. I have written to the winners and runners-up by email about the results and the results will be added to our website; a post with the results on the FB page has reached over 3000 people. The Active Schools coordinators at Bell Baxter, Madras and Waid Academy kindly offered to help with distribution of trophies and programmes. I have also asked for pictures with trophies to be emailed in so we can build a visual page for the website.

**Income and Expenditure**

I confirm a balance of £30,377.14, and the only transaction is wages for April to June. Bank statements are now being received with the latest dated 16 Sept 2020 showing a balance of £30,900.14

Income: 15 affiliation payments, £90 from Duffus Park BC for wine (from Awards), late sponsorship payment from Royal Scots Dragoon Guards.

Expenditure: wages, Henderson Black fee and Pegasus GC grant.

**5. Correspondence**

Correspondence from W Rennie and W Chamberlain covered in Secretary’s Report..

**6. Sports Development Officer Report**

See attached Report by Jamie Moffatt.

Duffus Park Community Asset Transfer (DPCAT)

The Chair commented on this meeting and the concerns she raised about responsibility for care of the park and liability falling to those located in the park though there are club users of the park and its facilities from other locations. This is currently being looked into; the DPCAT will be a charity and so liability of members is covered by this status. Each club has been asked to put forward one person as a trustee, including users not located in the park. G Stevenson commented the Sports Centre and astroturf area stay under FSLT; V Rengger asked if FSLT had been a CAT, G Stevenson confirmed but commented it was before his time working for them so he didn’t know the details. Martin Turnbull asked what would happen if 2 or 3 of the clubs located in the park did not want to take part, this is as yet unknown. Duffus Park Bowling Club raised the current issue regards the significant rise in rates for the club being charged by Fife Council, and what happens about the clubs with long-term leases. V Rengger commented there would be cost to change leases (c.£300).

Awards 2021, will be covered in point 9.

**7. Active Schools Officer Report**

Not much change, unfortunately there is still no access for clubs to school facilities, but there is hope this might change on 15 Oct, especially to allow the Young Leaders and Ambassadors to be deployed into their roles. Parents have continued to help support. The Chair thanked M. Garland for her support in distributing Awards to the winners and runners up.

**8. FSLT**

G Stevenson confirmed the phased opening of facilities continues, with Cupar in the third phase due on 12 Oct alongside Waterstone Crook (East area). Support is being offered to clubs to ensure they have the necessary C-19 Risk Assessments and other guidance in place for getting back to activity properly. here have been no hurdles so far in opening with swimming and gymnastics getting back successfully. The main issue currently is deciphering guidance to find ways for certain sports to get back eg, squash, working with the governing bodies is key to finding the best way to do this. The Chair asked if unused areas could be used to other sports for use in the meantime. G Stevenson commented that they are working on this and eg. in St Andrews a dance group has been relocated to East Sands - this has been done in partnership with Fife Council. M Turnbull commented that the Table Tennis Club has been relocated to the Cosmos Centre which has allowed the club to get back to some training but that the main issue now is that the elite players cannot access the centre during the day as they are working, they need late training hours.

The Chair asked that a meeting be arranged to discuss the community consultation, G Stevenson agreed and commented that there is a meeting with local Cllrs in the coming week.

**9. Awards 2020/2021**

Awards 2020 – see Secretary’s Report.

The Chair commented on a proposed format for an awards ceremony in 2021 by J. Moffatt (see report, attached). The committee agreed that we had previously discussed the need to organise some kind of celebration next year, to bring clubs together, and to replace not being able to award sporting achievement. J Moffatt’s proposal mentions an event by all 3 sports councils to acknowledge work by clubs in the community. Discussion regards last meeting of the 3 sports councils with Emma Broadhurst in sprint 2019 when the possibility of holding a joint awards was put forward. The committee was very cautious about this at that time and continues to be, as many of our smaller clubs cannot compete with some of the larger clubs towards the west, which also is supported by the Carnegie Trust. The preference of the committee is that the East Area keep its own awards ceremony. The Chair acknowledged it would be good for the 3 sports councils to continue to meet, especially now for a steer from the line manager about the role of the sports councils going forward, and that she will write to J Moffatt to enquire about the change of management structure within Fife Council since E Broadhurst left her position.

The EFSC Awards includes a Club of the Year award, it was agreed by all of the committee that the proposal put forward may be seen to disadvantage those clubs that have suffered most from C-19 lockdown, and that any event or award format must be on a level playing field. However at this point it is difficult to know what this will be, but we must take care to take into account clubs that have not yet been able to start activities (guidance, financial or facility access) and clubs with set seasons - G Paton suggested moving the date of the event from May to autumn next year to make more allowance for this. E Wallace commented that the event should acknowledge rather than reward and the Chair confirmed that the SLA requires am Award event but not what the format of this should be. R Nellies commented the fluid situation makes it difficult to plan but that we could look at celebrating getting back to sport.

V Rengger suggested adding stories, such as those included in J Moffatt’s proposal, to the website to acknowledge the good work clubs are doing. G Paton agreed adding it could inspire other coaches. M Garland also suggested that video clips could be used on FB, also helping build hype around what the sports council does, celebrating clubs through C-19.

**10. Quiz 2020**

The Chair confirmed there will be no Quiz as planned. V Rengger suggested we organise this on Zoom and R Nellies commented it would be a great way to bring clubs together. Discussion followed around different quiz formats, the Chair re Planet Quiz, G Paton re Jotform and M Garland re Cahoot. The Secretary will look into this.

**13. AOCB**

The Chair commented that the Grants Sub-committee needed new members after the AGM. M Turnbull and G Paton to join this sub-committee alongside the Chair, R Nellies and E Wallace. G Anderson stands down from this sub-committee.

A meeting is to be arranged with the Chair and M Turnbull and V Rengger, Secretary to arrange on Zoom.

M Turnbull asked if we know what proportion of our members are not back delivering activities yet, we do not have this information; but we could survey members.

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

**Thursday 10th December 2020** at **7.00pm** on Zoom.

**Dates for 2021** on Zoom, unless instructed otherwise

14 January

4 March

6 May

15 July

7 Oct

9 Dec

AGM 16 Sept

Quiz Night 5 Nov

**Sports Development Officer Report**

* Duffus Park Community Asset Transfer – the inaugural meeting of this group took place on Monday 14th September, which was extremely well attended. All clubs in attendance are in support of advancing discussions around the asset transfer of Duffus Park under the banner of the Community Sport Hub. A few issues were raised on the night regarding the core paths and future maintenance of the site.

Since the meeting, both Gina and Jamie have been in discussion with local councillors and Firstport to seek further support and advice. A meeting with North East Fife Area Manager, Janice Laird has been arranged to discuss the next steps. A follow-up group meeting will take place once these ‘next steps’ have been agreed.

* Club Fife Accreditation – Pegasus Gymnastics Club, Tayport Tennis Club and Warm Hearts Yoga have recently completed their Club Fife Accreditation and I look forward to working with all three in the future and aiding their development
* Sport & Physical Activity Route Map – following the First Ministers announcement on Tuesday 22nd September, outdoor sport and physical activity has been largely unaffected. Her comments around the proposed next review on Monday 5th October now not taking place, puts some uncertainty on a return to sport for indoor contact sports. I would like all clubs to know that the rest of the Active Fife team and I am here to support and will work alongside the club, their National Governing Body, and relevant facility provider to get them back to some form of normality as quickly as possible (in the safest possible environment for the club and their members).
* Awards 2021 (to be discussed as part of item no.9 on the agenda) – the feeling from all three sports councils is that an awards ceremony next year will not happen, due to the lack of sporting events/competitions taking place because of COVID there is “nothing to celebrate”. I feel, that each sports council (or all three combined) have an opportunity to celebrate some of the incredible work that’s been taking place throughout community sport during COVID lockdown/restrictions. I firmly believe the sports council have a duty to support the clubs in telling their stories of triumphing over adversity. I had the same discussion with the Kirkcaldy & Central Fife Sports Council at their AGM on 24th Sept. and will be discussed in more detail at their next committee meeting about how this can be celebrated.

For reference, some of the work which could be celebrated in the North East is:

* + Cupar Bowling Club – offering free memberships to all key workers
	+ Cupar Golf Club – increased their membership by 100+ following phase two restrictions being lifted on 29th May, and offering more of a social element to the sport
	+ Cupar & District Swimming Club – although still to return to the pool, the club have been using a whole host of methods to keep their members engaged, which included an online Q&A session with Commonwealth Games athlete, Hannah Mylie
	+ Falkland Cricket Club – increased their social membership by 50+ because of their beer garden at the club opening on Friday evenings. This night was also teamed up with a family cricket session, brining the whole community (and their families) together at the club
	+ Howe of Fife RFC – during the first part of lockdown in March/April/May, players and members were helping to deliver food and pharmacy prescriptions out to residents as a way of helping the community. Although not rugby related, the club became a life-line for many older, vulnerable members of the community
	+ Crail Golfing Society (Juniors) – Assistant PGA Professional, David Snodgrass was sending out his junior members daily videos, tasking them with skill-based exercises to do at home, as well as theory-based work which had a golf theme (doubled up as school work in many cases). David also had the children submit questions to 2019 Dunhill Links Champion Victor Perez, who kindly answered all of them on a group video call – this was an incredible experience for the children!

All these stories need to be told and celebrated. There are some phenomenally hard-working clubs in our communities and their service to their members and wider community over the past 6 months should be recognised. Some of the work is not sport related, but it is sport that’s being used as the tool to make social impact – something that we’re seeing more and more of in Scotland, and certainly where I will put my support and encourage other clubs to follow suit where possible. I agree that very few of these stories align with the current awards categories, but there’s an opportunity to tailor a short-list into a showcase of celebrations from the amazing clubs we work with.