**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**7.00pm 06 March 2023**

On Zoom

**MINUTES**

**Attendance Present:**

Robert Winter – Vice Chair

Rona McCraw – Hon President

Hilary Lumsden – Secretary/Treasurer

Elspeth Wallace – Fife AC

Gillian Paton – Ladybank Golf Club

Hayley Smith – Active Schools Coordinator

Grant Stevenson – FSLT

Ellis Jaffrey – Step Rock ASC

Andrew Gibson – Young People’s Panel

1. **Welcome and** **Apologies**    
     
   Robert welcomed the attendees. Apologies came from Martin Turnbull, Cllr Kennedy, Sharon Hedley, Jamie Moffatt, Cllr Stefan Hoggan-Radu.
2. **Minutes from last meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting on 24th January 2023 were approved; being proposed by Gillian Paton and seconded by Ellis Jaffrey.

1. **Matters Arising**

Get Fit Falkland social prescribing project awaiting a response from NHS Fife to Cllr Kennedy.

Await a reply from Maree Todd, Minister for Sport, to our letter of 6 September re issues around accessing funding to sport projects, swimming particularly, delivered during school hours.

Discussions continue with MSP Willie Rennie and Cllr Clark re access to swimming lessons locally.

The Secretary awaiting contact from Ben Kinnear re meeting to discuss Duffus skatepark project. Cllr Kennedy updated that Cupar Community Council are putting forward a proposal for this project at the next meeting.

No further information on AM Soccer’s access document for FSLT (G Stevenson).

1. **Young People’s Panel**

What’s App group has been set up and H Lumsden has been PVG’d through Active Schools to allow communication with panel by email and What’s App. Rowan Geary has put forward a proposal for the Awards speech, which will include the audience interacting. Other members of the panel are encouraged to join Rowan in the planning for the night. Sadly Oliver Forbes has written to inform us that he is unable to continue as part of the panel due to exam commitments, we thank Oliver greatly for his involvement with the panel and wish him the very best with his exams. A Gibson confirmed there was no further update from the panel.

1. **Secretary/Treasurer Report**

EFSC Membership for 2022–23, to date all 84 clubs have responded and of this 80 have paid. We welcome Crail Golfing Society, Tay Trampoline Club and Lundin Sports Club.

Cllr Kennedy and I met with key stakeholders in the St Andrews University athletics track conversation by Zoom on 20 February, this was a very positive meeting with great support from Fife Council especially, Meeting Minutes are attached.

Fife School Aquatic Group was delighted to be awarded £3000 from Foundation Scotland-Essentia in February. This takes the total funding for 2022/23 to £10000 and means that the group is able to deliver all of its aims for this year but one: sports leader aquatics training, S1 PE swimming, primary school lessons, NPLQ training in April and July and SSTQ training (tbc). Funding to set up a Leisure Apprenticeship will be pursued by the group going forward.

Through our supporter Changing Ideas, I met with Kirsty Doig from the Darcey Sunshine Foundation. Kirsty runs a water safety charity in South Africa set up in memory of her daughter, she has recently relocated to Fife. It was inspiring to hear the work they do and some of the solutions to challenges they have around accessing pools. Kirsty will attend the Awards with David and Jane from Changing Ideas.

I attended a public event hosted by Falkland Estate at the palace on 8 February. I joined our contact from Falkland Football Club to hear about a proposal for the handover of some of the estate’s land to the community through Falkland Stewardship Trust. There were speakers from Eigg and Lauderdale where this has been done, and there were a number of questions from the audience. There were no firm plans given and so this did not clarify the situation for the two clubs who face losing their facilities. I spoke with Falkland Estate after the event and the Estate is still keen to hear from the clubs about the proposal to relocate them to an area where a sports hub could be developed. I continue to work with the clubs on this, and it is in their hands currently.

This morning I took part in Scottish ClubSport’s Focus Group Research on Zoom with Glasgow Caledonian University to help SCS develop future strategy and decisions around the conference later in the year. It was great to meet and have discussions with the other sports councils that took part in our session, and it is clear that we are all facing the same challenges.

Daryl Keddie followed up on St Andrews Pickleball enquiry after the last meeting, about accessing more facility time and the club is now in discussion with Madras College.

Partners FSLT made an announcement this last week, which Grant will update us on.

OSS has confirmed the second summit in June 2023, the Secretary, Chair and Hon President will all attend.

Thank you to Meg Buchanan who delivered the First Aid course on 22 Feb/1 March; the second one runs 8/15 March. We hope to arrange another date towards the end of summertime.

**Income and Expenditure**

The confirmed bank statement balance of £48770.04 (ringfenced £15300 CDF + £7138 FSAG) is dated 14 Feb 2023. Balance in account on 3 March 2023 is £47,516.79. Transactions include income from an affiliation and Awards sponsors; and expenditure is wages and OSS conference.

1. **Correspondence**

Cllr Clark from St Andrews sent information about flooding at East Sands and discussions with Scottish Water about what the cause was.

Scottish ClubSport notified us of a campaign from Community Leisure UK ‘’Save Our Pools’’ Big Swim Day, which was a day of action organised as a celebration of swimming and pools on 24th February.

**7. Sports Development – Jamie Moffatt**

* Community Sport Hub Officer Post – Interviews for the new Community Sport Hub Officer will take on Monday 13 March, with the likelihood of the successful candidate being in post in mid-May. Until then, the hubs main contact for North East Fife will be Jamie Moffatt E: [Jamie.moffatt@fife.gov.uk](mailto:Jamie.moffatt@fife.gov.uk)
* Madras Hockey – as part of a joint partnership with Active Schools, Scottish Hockey and Active Fife, Madras Hockey Club will be running a series of sessions in primary schools in St. Andrews. Direct links will be made to extra-curricular hockey provisions at Madras College to sustain participation levels of youths in the area.
* Community Learning & Development Plan – the ‘CLD’ team have launched their plan for NEF, which states that they wish to build relationships with local sports clubs and activity providers. Jamie to make contact with the team manager about how best to progress this in partnership with EFSC and Club Fife accredited providers.

**8. Active Schools Officer Report**

**Report from Hayley Smith**

A new Head of PE at Bell Baxter HS has been appointed, Aaron Anderson, and Stuart Robertson is overseeing the position until Aaron takes up his position. There were 31 applications for the 12 places on the NPLQ courses, there will be interviews taking place on 15 and 16 March to select those who will get a place. Bell Baxter HS hosted the NE Fife League Hockey 2022/23 competition. There has been a change in how funding can be allocated by Active Schools, so that clubs that are holding holiday camps/taster sessions, and who with support from AS identify pupils who are keen to join but may not be able to due to financial barriers then AS is able to allocate funding for these memberships. There are boxing and judo sessions taking place at Waid and Bell Baxter HS, supporting pupils with behavioural challenges, these have been very successful with the boxing club also arranging transport for the sessions.

**9. FSLT Report**

Reinstatement of opening hours:

Post lockdown and throughout 2020 FSLT worked with Fife Council on several operating models to ensure that the financial deficit and expenditure were contained and managed as part of recovery strategy. It was agreed a phased opening with a reduction of 135.5 weekly operating hours should commence on 14 September 2020. Specifically in NE Fife:

* East Sands reduced 15 hours per week
* Cupar reduced 12 hours per week

Following the phased re-opening of sports and leisure centres since the pandemic, FSLT have been working on establishing a return to pre-pandemic levels. This process has been supported by such initiatives as Active Fife 4DX, the planned and proposed alignment of services and most recently the Fife Leadership Summits.

Given the multiple challenges in returning to pre-pandemic levels, balanced with the need to open centres to provide vital access to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities, FSLT and Fife Council had agreed the phased reopening approach.

Work by the leisure trust has seen an 84% overall recovery up to 31 December 2022, along with Fife having the largest learn to swim programme in Scotland.

* East Sands recovery 74%
* Cupar recovery 84%

The recovery challenges remain and the ability to extend opening hours further requires sustainable funding allocation. Fife Council has agreed with these challenges and agreed that it will fully support FSLT in extending the opening hours. This recognition by Fife Council highlights the collaborative approach to delivering for our communities and working together to realise the shared physical activity and sports strategy for Fife.

Fife Council have agreed to fund:

* An additional 15 hours per week at East Sands
* An additional 13 hours per week at Cupar

The changes will be implemented in line with the key phases detailed below:

1. Communication (staff, stakeholders, customers)
2. Community consultation
3. Change process for staff (if required)
4. Recruitment (if required
5. Programme development
6. Communication (staff, stakeholders, customers)
7. Staff onboarding/induction and programme launch

There were questions around how the extra hours would be allocated, this would be decided from feedback from the consultation. E Wallace asked how long this will take – it could take until around August as the consultation needs time as well as statutory staffing policies, plus the changing hours will require changes to staffing levels and positions will need to be recruited. The Secretary asked what would happen if the consultation brings differing views on how the hours should be added – there will be a weighting system used in order to do this. R Winter stated this news has been very well received, G Stevenson confirmed the recruitment of permanent positions is paused until after the consultation.

**10. Awards 2023**

The event is just over 2 weeks away and all planning is now more or less in place. Trophies have arrived, the program is about to go to print and the presentation is being finished off. Richard Brickley has been hugely helpful - meeting to discuss how the night will run and planning his speech with Oliver Carter and Stefan Hoggan-Radu. This year has taken more time to organise as the nominations all came in very late and there has been a huge volume of email communication (more than previous years). There is a guest attending in a wheelchair, we have stewards from East Fife Triathlon helping on the night and so our guest will be looked after. Many thanks to S Hedley for helping organise the guest prize draw (an annual and 3 x 4 month gym/swim subscriptions for Fife Sports and Leisure Trust, supported by EQ Accountants and FSLT) and for working with Rowan on this and the YP Panel speech. The Awards sub-committee will meet to debrief after the Awards.

**11. SWOT Analysis Review**

There has been no further work done on this, but it will be picked up again after the Awards.

**12. AOCB**

**Grants Sub-committee** discussed and agreed a funding applications from:

Tayport Walking Football Club for a Development Grant for £364.95 – to fund another set of goals for the ladies section that is growing member numbers.

Ladybank Football Club for a Community Development Grant for £2000 – to help fund and support a project to create a shorter course suitable for juniors and older members (over 80) that will open new membership categories with reduced capped fees to ensure fair access for all ages and help encourage more junior members.

There was also discussion around Individual member funding, particularly for talented athletes competing at elite levels, there is funding available from Fife Council for individual athletes and through sportscotland/ governing bodies. This is a topic that is being discussed in Fife Council and recently it has been raised by East Ayrshire Sports Council through Scottish Club Sport as they are collecting information regarding Talented Athlete Support Programmes.

**13. Date of Next Meeting**

Tues 9 May at Duffus Park Bowling Club

**Dates for 2023**

Tues 18 July in person

Tues 3 Oct in person

Tues 5 Dec on Zoom

**Awards** Wed 22 March

**AGM** Tues 12 Sept

**Quiz** Fri 10 Nov