



President Paul Robbins

**Minutes of the Swim England South West Region Annual Council Meeting held at the
Holiday Inn Taunton on 16th September 2018**

Present:

Swim England South West Board Members and Officers: David Flack Chairman, Paul Robbins Wiltshire & President, Chris Robinson Finance Officer, Roger Downing Vice Chair & Devon, K Smith Gloucester, A Smart Dorset, G Cockill Somerset.
B Holman President Elect.

Standing Committee Secretaries: C Tremellen Swimming, M Hooper Synchro, M Coles Water Polo

Past and Life Presidents: D Toogood, A Reynolds, G Smart, H Richards, J Airlie, M Britton.

Cornwall County Delegates (0)

Devon: County Delegates (4), County Delegate (1), Devonport RSA (2), Newton Abbot (1).

Dorset: County Delegates (2), County President (1), Bere Regis (1).

Gloucester: County Delegates (-).

Somerset: County Delegates (3), President (1), County Delegate (1), Clevedon ASC (1).

Wiltshire: County Delegates (5), County President (1), County Delegate (1), Salisbury Stingrays (1), Trowbridge ASC (1), Wroughton (1).

Staff (non-voting) Mrs Yvonne Stead Club Development Officer, Mrs Stacey Millett Club Development Support Officer & GDPR Compliance Manager, and Mrs Chris Vickery Regional Administrator.

1. Apologies

The following apologies were recorded: Chris Elliott Board Member Cornwall, Robert Margetts Independent Board Member, Ben Batley Past President Somerset, Ian Stuart Past President Gloucester, Philip Jones Past President Gloucester, John Bird Past President Devon, Sue Criddle Team Bath AS, Sandra Yeoman Wroughton SC, Brian Armstrong Gloucester, Team Bath Synchro, Weston Super Mare SC, Jackie Hilleard Regional Staff.

2. Welcome to the ACM by the Regional Chairman – Mr David Flack

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made followed by housekeeping.

3. Obituaries

The Chairman asked delegates to stand in silence for:

Lynne Elliott, Jean Holland, John Hamblett, Gladys Lyons, and Marilyn Evans.

- 4. To receive the Minutes of the ACM 10.09.2017 and record as an accurate record**
Page 5 of 7 amend from Sue Dors to Paul Robbins and last sentence change to his.
Alterations now made.
Minutes were adopted.

- 5. To receive the 2017/18 Annual Report as a pdf file on the Regional Website (swimwest.org.uk)**

The Chairman presented the Annual report via the projector. The Chairman invited comments regarding the paperless annual report and whether it was liked or not. General feedback was good, it was requested that it should be available earlier and for an email or notice to be sent to say it is on the website to view. A discussion followed around dates for reports etc. to be in and also for the Annual report to reflect the past year.

The Chairman moved to adopt the annual report via a card vote and the vote was unanimous in agreement.

- 6. To receive the Finance Officers Report and Balance Sheet**

Chris Robinson presented the annual financial reports and invited comments page by page. The financial reports have been examined by an external auditor. The accounts are ready for approval subject to the noted revised figures.

The Chairman moved to adopt the financial accounts – vote was unanimous in acceptance subject to revised figures following examination being distributed to all

- 7. To receive the Chairman's Report**

The Chairman gave his report for the past year and expressed his thanks for all the hard work the President, Board and regional staff have done for the region. The Vice Chair also gave a report regarding succession planning and informed those present that advertisements would soon be going out for both the Chair and the Vice Chair roles. Both roles will run for 4 years however the first replacement Vice Chair will run for two years and then subsequently four years in order to deliver easier continuity and planning. Application closing dates Chair – 14.01.2019 and Vice Chair 18.02.2019 in order for the new Chair to have involvement in the Vice Chair applications.

- 8. Appointment of Tellers – if required – Ann Reynolds and Roger Downing.**

- 9. To confirm Affiliation Fees 2018**

Clubs and Associations £85.00 Membership fee, 50% reduction on affiliation or re-affiliation for Swim Mark clubs:

ASA Cat 1 - £2.90; ASA Cat 2 - £3.65; ASA Cat 3 - £2.00 (same as last year for the categories)

Confirmed and agreed by unanimous vote.

- 10. To appoint Officers and other Officials:**

- .1 Finance Officer: Mrs C Robinson agreed
- .2 Vice Chairman: Mr R Downing agreed

- .3 Administration Officer: Vacant and to remain vacant at present
- .4 Health & Safety Officer: Vacant
- .5 Medical Advisor: Vacant
- .6 Trophy Co-ordinator: S Dors agreed
- .7 Welfare Officer: Mrs M Britton agreed
- .8 Secretary Diving: Vacant
- .9 Secretary Open Water Committee: Ms V Periera agreed
- .10 Secretary Swimming Committee: Mrs C Tremellen agreed
- .11 Secretary Synchronised Swimming Committee: Mrs M Hooper agreed
- .12 Secretary Water Polo Committee: Mr M Coles agreed
- .13 Secretary SE South West Region School of Swimming Development: Mr N Harper agreed
- .14 Emergency Committee (3): Mr P Jones, Mr D Toogood, Mr G Smart agreed
- .15 Regional Representatives to SE Members Forum (1): Mr P Robbins agreed, Mr D Flack agreed, Mrs C Robinson agreed
Regional Representatives to SE Members Forum nominated by County Associations: Mr C Elliott (Cornwall), Mr R Downing (Devon), Mr A Smart (Dorset), Mr K Smith (Gloucester), Mr G Cockill (Somerset), Mr R Margetts Independent Board Member & Mr B Holman President

Card vote all unanimous

11. Proposal: Give authority to the ASA SW Regional Managing Board to make any changes necessary to the ASA SW and make any appointments / nominations following decisions made at the 2018 ASA ACM regarding the Incorporation of the ASA. These to be brought to the 2019 SW Regional ACM for ratification.

12. Proposal: To delete all reference to The South West Regional Members Forum.

13. Proposal: To invite past Chairman of the South West Region to attend the Regional Annual Council Meeting.

11, 12 and 13 were all presented by the Chair and agreed in vote unanimously.

14. Installation of 2018/2019 President – Mr Bob Holman

The Chairman invited Paul Robbins to say a few words following his year as President. Paul Robbins gave a review of his past year and thanked everyone for their support and help.

The Chairman then invited Gerry Griffin on behalf of Dorset to propose the 2018/2019 President Mr Bob Holman.

The Chairman invited Bob Holman to come forward.

Paul Robbins presented the Presidents Chain to Bob Holman and Paul Robbins presented the consort badge to Mrs Holman.

Chairman then invited each County representative to offer words of support to the

new President.

15. Presentation of Past Presidents medallion to the retiring President Paul Robbins

The Chairman invited the President to present the past President's badge to Paul Robbins and the new President said a few words.

The President then took his seat on the top table.

Flowers were presented to both Mrs Robbins and Mrs Holman.

16. To confirm 2019/2020 President Elect and presentation of medallion

The Chairman invited Fiona Bowen to nominate Somerset's choice for President Elect 2019/2020 – Mike Coles.

Mike Coles was presented with the President Elect badge.

Regional Awards

The Chairman presented the results for the Regional Awards:

Club of the Year – Plymouth Leander SC

Coach of the Year – Barry Aldrick Poole SC

Volunteer of the Year – Esther Rookes Tavistock SC

Young Volunteer of the Year – Lily Thorpe Caradon SC

Services to Aquatics – Robin Brew Mount Kelly SC

17. Swim England Annual Report

The Chairman asked for views/comments on how the report is to be viewed, comments to be sent to the Chairman.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to the Board and for all the help and support received over the past year.

The Chairman thanked all delegates for attending and advised that next year's meeting will be on 15.09.2019 at the Holiday Inn Taunton subject to confirmed booking (same venue).

Meeting finished at 16.00

Photo session took place at the end of the meeting.

Appendix One – Nomination report from Gerry Griffin

Appendix Two – Nomination report from Fiona Bowen

Appendix I

Personal Synopsis Bob Holman

Bob Holman was born in Barnstaple in 1944 but did not join the Barnstaple Swimming Club until he was 15 when he was spotted by the late Harold Vernon. He was soon playing water polo for the town, first for the junior and then for the senior team.

During these happy teenage years his infamous Houdini act was the finale to the summer carnival gala. This involved being taken to the top diving board, bound and hand and foot, chained, put in a sack and thrown into a blazing pool by two burly teammates. Imagine what health and safety would say about that today.

After he was married, he came to Dorset in 1970 and played for the Blandford, Bridport and Bournemouth polo teams.

In 1974/75 Bob took his first ASA swimming teaching qualifications and looked for somewhere to use his newly acquired aquatic skills. He formed the Bere Regis Swimming Club in 1976, a learn to swim club which still flourishes today. After 42 years, he is still chairman of the club and is now teaching the children of his original children!

Through his work, Bob met Tom Watch who had trained most of the Weymouth channel swimmers since the 1950s. Bob always had an ambition to swim the channel and at the age of 47 in 1992 swam the channel in a time of 18 hours 40 minutes gaining the Rosemary George trophy from the Channel Swimming Association for the most meritorious swim of the year.

In 2004, under Bob's guidance and leadership, Bere Regis Swimming Club became the first club in Dorset to gain Swim 21 accreditation

In 2005/06 Bob became Dorset ASA County President and he and his wife Diana had a wonderful time visiting all the Dorset Clubs and counties within the SW region. In the same year, he took on the role of Dorset Country Water Polo Secretary and with others formed the Dorset mini polo leagues. A number of new clubs were introduced to the game for the first time and are still flourishing to this day. At one stage he was running five leagues.

Also, in 2005, Bob became the Dorset Open Water Secretary. Again, with others, he formed the East Dorset Open Water Swimming Club in Poole and was its founder chairman for a number of years. He started up and ran the club's very popular Seahorse Swim race at Studland and the event now attracts well over 300 swimmers from all over Southern England. A very busy time.

In 2007/08 Bob and his friend Dave Pratten, took on a challenge to swim a mile in every UK lido. There were 99 still in existence at the time and they spread from the Jubilee Pool down in Cornwall to Stonehaven in Scotland. Swimming Wiveliscombe twice they completed their 100 miles in 100 lidos and raised over £4,000 for Save the Children Fund.

Following this challenge. Bob wrote a diary which was published in the ASA's Swimming Times Magazine over 3 months in early 2009. Peter Hassall, the editor invited him to become a regular contributor to the magazine under the title "Pools of the Trade"

In 2008 Bob encouraged and trained a team of swimmers from East Dorset Open Water Swimming Club to successfully complete a relay crossing of the English Channel. Following this the Club has managed several relay and single Channel swims.

In the run up to the 2012 Olympics Bob was given the honour of carrying the Olympic Torch through Abbotsbury. The weather was absolutely atrocious with the rain being so severe that the television crews would not follow the procession.

Bob still swims regularly and in just over a week's time will take part in the round Brownsea Island 4.6-mile swim. Swimming has been so much part of his life and it will be a real pleasure to him to take on his new role as ASASW President.

Appendix II

It gives me great pleasure to confirm on behalf of Somerset ASA our nomination for Regional 2019/20 President Elect as being Mike Coles.

For those of you who don't know Mike, a brief resume.

Born and bred in Weston-Super-Mare, so Somerset through and through, Mike, aged four years, was introduced to swimming by his father, former Weston-Super-Mare Swimming Club captain and Life Member, Doug Coles.

Mike went on to represent the club at competitive swimming and diving. Then he discovered water polo, and there was no stopping him. That was in 1968 and his entry to the dark side was complete!

Since then Mike's involvement at all levels with Water Polo has covered competing, coaching, officiating and sitting (on committees).

In nominating Mike for President Elect, Somerset have no doubt that he will be an excellent ambassador the Region and for Water Polo, bringing his own unique character and personality to the role, as well as his passion and drive for the sport he has loved for more than 40 years.