



President Ian Stuart

Minutes of the meeting of the Members Forum held at the Regional Office on
Wednesday 20th July 2016

1. Welcome

The President Ian Stuart welcomed the members to the meeting.

2. Apologies

22 members attended with 13 recorded apologies.

3. Appointment of Tellers

This was not required for this evening's meeting.

4. Matters arising not covered by the agenda

There were no matters to discuss although Sandra Yeoman has an issue to discuss in Any Other Business.

5. Secretarial allowances

D Flack, R Margetts, J Bird, A Withers, L Elliott left the meeting.

Roger Downing presented the proposal for increasing the allowances – please see appendix 1 (**Roger needs to send in this**)

Increases to be made in all areas for all disciplines and are realistic and recompensed appropriately.

Proposed by R Downing

2nd Sandra Yeoman

Unanimous agreement. Allowance increases agreed.

6. Nomination for Regional President Elect 2017/2018

J Bird – attendance at ACM from each region is 2 members, the Board have agreed a rule change – County Presidents attend and vote independently. Is the forum happy for this rule change to be placed early in the agenda and then implemented in the ACM – agreed.

7. Appointments 2016/2017

Please see the attached appendix 2

8. Report from Regional Finance Officer

Unfortunately the Regional Finance Officer is away on holiday and therefore this report was not available. R Margetts requested that this needs to be circulated before the ACM and then any questions can be prepared for then.

9. Report from the Regional Chairman

The Chairman thanked the Regional Management Board, all disciplines and County Secretaries for their support and hard work following a period of illness.

The Chairman gave an overview of activities which have been happening in the Region.

The Annual Report was issued to the Forum members for their perusal. Page 10 of the Annual Report – it was emphasised the importance of submitting this information for the swimmers to appear in this list.

The Website is having funds allocated to a revamp, feedback for improvement ideas has been received from Gloucester Regional Management Board member which is a great help. These improvements will be seen in the short term.

New Club Development Group has replaced the Swim 21 panel and this group will look at all aspects of club development across the region. The Chairman is Dave Beament and new members to join the panel are currently being sought.

From this there has been an approval in principle in the setting up of a Volunteer Forum where we are looking for new volunteer faces to become involved in club level.

This group aim to meet at weekends and a Terms of Reference needs to be drafted for this group.

There will be a National Volunteer Forum also.

The Regional Strategy will commence the new period commencing 2017. The ASA have looked at their strategies and this next period will be slightly different.

Volunteer recruitment and retention is really important and Clubs will still remain at the heart of the Region.

The Chairman will be writing to invite all County Secretaries and County Treasurers to a meeting to discuss the Regional Strategy commencing 2017. It will be held in the Regional Office Wellington unless numbers are too many and then it will be held at the Holiday Inn Taunton. Date of Meeting Saturday 08.10.2016. Encourage as many to attend as possible. Volunteers are the key to our success. The ASA and the Regions will continue to work together.

There will also be a part time Club Development Officer role, to support Emily Taylor. Working from the ASA office in Wellington. The finance of this as a sustainable post has been agreed. The next step is to determine whether employed through the ASA or County Sports Partnership. This will be an admin role supporting the Clubs and Emily, organising courses etc. and the aim is for someone to be in post by the end of 2016.

Tradition of the ACM is for the lunch to be subsidised by the Region – should this continue? Proposed Julia Airlie

2nd Gordon Smart – agreed unanimously

Cost of lunch £12.00 subsidised by £2.00 – date of meeting 11.09.2016

Guest speaker – Chief Executive of Wesport, topic, How clubs and counties can use County Sports Partnerships.

Incorporation – discussion followed around where we are with Incorporation as the ASA had sought to become an incorporated body. There are three main avenues: Charitable Status, Incorporation or stay as we are. Careful consideration must be taken and there is no hurry to decide, at the end of the day it needs to return to clubs and teams to make their final decisions. Full consultation will have to happen.

9a ASASW Board minutes (January – April – May 2016)

Discussion followed regarding availability of minutes, website etc.

Julia Airlie asked why the previous meeting minutes for the Forum had not appeared on the agenda for agreement – agreed that this should be amended for the next meeting. ***

10. AOB – as previously notified to John Bird by 18th July 2016

Sue Dors – Nominations for ASA Aquatic Awards – closing date 12 noon on the 10th August 2016 – this is the only way for members to be recognised for their hard work. J Bird asked the counties to think hard and make your submissions. Website not showing much information, if any apart from Cornwall – well done Cornwall.

J Bird – ASA Club Survey, our Region only had a submission of 21% - lowest in the country. Decisions are made as a result of these surveys – if you do not respond you must accept the consequences of the outcomes.

C Elliott responded that quite probably most people in the clubs are unaware of the survey. There are many clubs with hardly any volunteers – not sure how to address this – topic for discussion on the 08.10.16 meeting.

Sandra Yeoman – Can anyone from the Region write to all those from the aquatic disciplines who are going to Rio to express how proud we are of them. President will undertake this role.

J Bird – presented Tonya Crouch with her trophy and was pleased to report she was over the moon to receive this award.

J Bird will present Les Debenham with a plaque on behalf of the Region as Les is going to be spending more time with his family and moving away.

All meeting dates, once decided in November will be distributed as required for all to record in their diaries.

Meeting closed 8.00pm