



**Minute of Committee Meeting
Levenmouth Academy
Thursday, 30 March 2017**

Present: Alistair Cameron (Chair), Don Burns (Vice Chair), Ken White (Secretary), Kenny Crichton (Membership Secretary), George MacDonald, Gordon Fyfe, Michael Kavanagh, Greig Hopcroft (Development Officer), Mark Clunie, Cllr. Kenny Selbie (Kirkcaldy)

Apologies: Alastair Robertson (Treasurer), Paul Armour.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3. Reports:

a) Chair –

AC thanked everyone for attending.

i) Social event. Alistair felt that we were working well as a committee and were being proactive and he wants the group to be as strong as possible. He mentioned that he had spoken to Jenn Mann with a view to returning to the Committee. He also thought it would be a good idea if we were to get together on a social basis and go out for a meal. MK mentioned that last year Eat Fife SC ran a quiz night for all their member clubs and that had been very successful evening and well attended.

ii) Drop-in evenings. GH had arranged three dates, as follows:

- Wednesday 19 April at Levenmouth Academy
- Tuesday 2 May at Glenrothes Strollers
- Monday 15 May at Kirkcaldy Golf Club

All at 6:30pm to 8pm

GH explained the purpose of the evenings and those groups who had already confirmed their interest.

SALSC has provided a grant of £300 to cover these evenings.

iii) Beach Highland Games. Not much to report, everything is set up and will be held on Saturday 10 June.

iv) Self sufficiency – ACa felt that we need to be looking at how the Sports Council is funded just in case there are any reduction in the monies received from Fife Council.

He also mentioned that he would like to see Greig's role being continued and he has asked Greig to have a look at bringing in monies for activities that we never had the time to do anything about in the past.

GH mentioned that, so far, he had received a £300 grant from SALSC and that he had applied to Foundation Scotland for £2,000 for banners, advertising, flyers, etc., but this was declined because they don't have the funding at present. GH had a meeting with Gail Prince of SALSC and she is saying that it is becoming harder for Sports Councils to obtain funding as funders are not going to give other funders money that they could use to fund organisations.

The best way would be to obtain a suitable sponsor. However, GH will continue to look at funders including the Robertson Trust.
GH asked MK about the grant received from Fife Council.
MK responded to say that the money was fixed but saying that there had been a 1% increase last year and this was followed by a 1% decrease this year. The grants is agreed for three years. There was some discussion on what may happen to this funding and G MacD pointed out that after the 4 May it may be a different administration which could change everything.
GH said that the main aim was to attract as much external funding as possible. All our outgoings need to be looked at and ACa reckoned we need to attract £1800, that we didn't have before, to ensure the continuation of Greig's role and look at the possibility of more sponsorship for the Awards. There was discussion on attracting sponsorship and different suggestions of how other funding can be achieved.
The main issue to come out of the discussion would be that someone on the committee would need to have responsibility for organising these events.
Kenny Crichton agreed that he would fulfil this role.

b) Secretary –

KW reported that there had been over 300 items of correspondence, enlarged by the awards and a rush of grant applications which were left for GH to deal with. There are three items that needed to be raised.

i) E-mail from Martin Brown regarding to disadvantaged youngsters who were hoping to get a place in a team at Templehall United but this had fallen through. PA agreed to look into this but because of illness he has been unable to do so. PA will look into this ASAP.

Action PA

ii) Constitution has now been signed following the agreed changes at the EGM
iii) KW reported that the Fife swimming clubs had had a meeting with Cllr. Neil Crooks and all had their say most of the issues raised were common throughout the clubs. Cllr. Crooks will arrange a meeting with the clubs and Fife Sports and Leisure Trust.

c) Funding/Grants

GH mentioned that he would look at the ordinary grants first and take all the Olympiad grants at the end.

Some grants have already been awarded by the sub-committee as they already meet the criteria.

- i) Kirkcaldy Ice Hockey Club have submitted a couple of grant requests and were awarded £200 and £150.
- ii) Enigma Gymnastics were awarded £300
- iii) Kirkcaldy Canoe Club £300
- iv) Fife Elite Football Academy £250

Other submissions were:

Before going on to the general grants GH reported that the committee had already agreed to award the Olympiad Committee £500 but because of the number of individuals who were likely to receive grants, through their clubs, GH had spoken with John Vaughan who had agreed to withdraw his application.

- i) East Fife Ladies FC – to put someone through the SFA 'C' License. At a cost of £300. The Committee agreed to pay half the costs i.e. £150. MK also

- mentioned that they would still be eligible to apply for another portion of the cost through Community Funding.
- ii) Kirkcaldy Ice Hockey Club – coach development grant for two coaches at a cost of £150 each. Both are qualified at Level 1 and both wish to do the Level 2.
Committee agreed £150 to cover both and they can then get additional funding as above. MK asked if there was a check that the grants was being spent as detailed. GH responded that this was part of his remit and would visit the clubs concerned. MK mentioned that with Fife Council the money is not paid until evidence has been provided that the event has taken place.
 - iii) The next one has been discussed at length by the sub-committee but they were unable to make a decision and this was for Shukokai Karate, through Stuart Maxwell. What was being asked was for funding to support Claire Penman to attend the European University Championships in Portugal in July. She has been select by GB universities for this event. The funding is to allow her coach to attend. The committee agreed to pay £150 towards this.
 - iv) West End Bowling Club to put someone through an introductory bowls course at Stirling Bowling Club the cost of which is £25. This was agreed by the committee. Gordon Fyfe mentioned that the previous grant application has had to be put on hold as other steps must be taken, including an update of their constitution before this can proceed.
 - v) MC raised a point regarding one of the pupils who will attend a six week training camp with Benfica. GH reported that this had already been granted.
 - vi) Kirkcaldy Football Club, raised by Paul Armour, for a project with an overall cost of £1565, and after fundraising are £450 short. It is to fund a variety of activities including coach and player development. GH replied that it fits into coach development which has a £150 limit, but enhanced grants have been issued in the past. MK suggested that part of the grants is also for software. There was some discussion on this. KC suggested that there should be two application which would both attract £150, one for Coach Development and one for Club Development. KC suggested that information should be added to our form to highlight to clubs that funding is also available through Fife Council. It was agreed that a grant of £150 would be granted and that Paul would be encouraged to submit a further application for Club Development.

Action GH

Olympiad Applications

GH reported that there were three applications which have been declined two because two were individual application and one was from a Dunfermline Club.

Overall, we have had applications for 86 athletes of which 23 were declined leaving a balance of 63 athletes eligible for funding. These were from Glenrothes Strollers – 1; Destination Judo – 7; Team Fife Volleyball – 19; East Fife Ladies – 6; Fins Swimming – 12; Fife Olympiad – 2; Fife Athletic Club – 8; Glenrothes Strollers – 2; Raith Rovers Ladies and Girls – 2; Burntisland Swimming – 4.

KC asked what the other Sports Councils were doing. GH replied that he had met with the other two Sports Councils, East Fife were working on the same basis as ourselves, but with much less applicants, and West Fife were looking to support no one, but Lindsay Weir is asking them to change their mind.

Considerable discussion took place on how we should support the 63 applications.

It was finally agreed that £3,150 would be paid to Fife Olympiad with instructions that £50 is deducted from the cost for each of the 63 athletes identified.

KW queried the grant application from the Fife Elite Football Academy in that he was unsure of the club's status. The player in question is a member of Raith Rovers FC and as a professional club cannot receive a grant from the Sports Council. Some discussion took place. It was agreed that while Fife Elite Football Academy represent the four professional clubs in Fife they are amateur and play as FEFA against other amateur teams. On that basis, the grant was agreed.

d) Development Officer (including Website)

GH reported that he had made a few cheque presentations to Shotokan Karate, Burntisland Bowling Club, Fair Isle Bowling Club, Kirkcaldy Ice Hockey Club. Meetings with John Vaughan on the Olympiad, Ian Keddie of Kirkcaldy Ice Hockey Club there is also a follow up meeting next week with MK, work with Fife College regarding Awards, another meeting with Richard Brickley who is very pleased with the support from the Sports Council. Meeting with Burntisland Golf House Club who are looking to rejuvenate their youth section. They are looking at a new scheme whereby they buy equipment and loan it out to Juniors for the Year. Meeting Lindsay Weir and Philip Mould and got a rough estimate of their numbers. West have 57 clubs and East have 70. West charge same as us and East charge £15.

We are currently sitting at 67 members, 43 of which have now renewed their affiliation.

KW asked about Eat Fife Youth Academy with regard to membership. There was some doubt about this but it was agreed that they are not currently members.

The drive is now to continue to increase membership. Greig made a comparison of how the Sports Councils worked and mentioned the support provided to West Fife by the Fife Sports & Leisure Trust. The West are very focussed on Schools' festivals. Meeting with Gail Prince was about how SALSC worked in regard to Sports Councils. There are only 38 Sports Councils in Scotland. She is the only full time member of staff and is keen to help wherever they can. She is interested in whoever attended the SALSC weekend would provide feedback. DB to send GH a summary and he will pass it on to Gail.

Action DB/GH

This year's conference will again be September it was to be at Inverclyde but this is proving to be too expensive so it is likely to return to the same venue as last year but just held over one day instead of two.

In general:

Bank forms were completed and sent to the Bank who subsequently lost them so they have had to be redone.

Affiliation invoices have been sent to every club via the website which is more interactive with the clubs and there have been changes made to the listings on their websites.

GF mention that he had been looking at the Sports Council website and noticed that Buckhaven Bowling Club was still down as David Duffy. This should be Margaret Duffy.

ACa asked Greig if he could do a sheet of bullet points so that all committee members can see the work being done.

Action GH

Other things done were flyers, some work for the awards, design of programme, sent invoices, attended West Fife Sport Council Awards. It was interesting to see the differences between the awards evenings and GH will also attend North East Fife Awards. He had also asked Gail Prince for feedback on our awards evening. Her

comments were that it was really well run and was very impressed. Every Sports Council runs their evening differently – meals, buffet, not everyone has a guest speaker, there is a different order for doing things. She also commented on the number of awards given out, which can be time consuming. Greig had looked at our constitution to see if we could incorporate schools in our awards based on the West Fife Awards.

Gail commented that our awards was a well-oiled operation.

GH had to completely redo the awards PowerPoint presentation as no one could find last years.

Photos and videos are on the website. We did a test video that seemed to work quite well. Alistair's speech was on Facebook and it was good to try different things.

There was an additional photographer there and photos will be sent out to the winners. Going forward just much the same – increase membership, drop in nights, grants. Few points to raise are – awards for 2017 whether the venue needs to be changed. There was mixed feedback received on the night buffet was disappointing, staff running about setting up buffet during the guest speaker's presentation and other issues. GH felt that we should look at an alternative venue with perhaps a different format. GH has contacted the Bay Hotel, Adam Smith Theatre, Gilvenbank Hotel just out of curiosity. The only one to get back with a price was the Adam Smith Theatre and that was £1200 for the auditorium and all IT and front of house services. There was some discussion regarding issues experienced at the Awards.

e) Membership

Membership had been covered under the development officers report.

However, two clubs did not wish to continue their membership namely, Eastvale FC and Raith Rovers Community Foundation, based on a board decision.

GMacD said that Raith Rovers Community Foundation is not a club.

f) Finance

KW reported, in AR's absence, that we have £15,462.62 in the account.

ACa mentioned that as of this morning we have £16,010.46.

GH also mentioned that a further £350 had been put in the bank. There were also a number of cheques to be paid out.

g) Awards

KW reported that from his point of view he had received a lot of good feedback but as was mentioned previously the buffet was not up to its usual standard. This is the first time ever that there has been a negative response to the buffet. GH suggested that this should be fed back to the College. KW responded in that while he was annoyed at Brian's attitude we have been with the College right from the start of the Awards and most of the time it has been very good and wondered if we should set up a meeting with Christine Laing to go over the evening. MK asked how much we were paying the College. KW responded that it was £600 which is next to nothing and everything else is free. The £600 is to make a contribution to the cost of the buffet and hasn't been increased for four years.

KC mentioned that his issue was because it was disappointing this year it may be hard to sell next year. GMacD did not agree and said that the College is an integral part of the Sports Council and at the very onset and setting up of the Sports Council the College came on Board and we don't use it to its full potential. The original idea of the College coming on board was that students doing various courses in hospitality

and sport could assist the Sports Council. GMacD reckons the College is currently under pressure and are receiving less and less funding and are now managing with fewer people. For one year that it has gone wrong we should be going back to the College to say that we have had an excellent relationship and have had excellent service.

There was further discussion about the situation.

It was agreed that KW would e-mail Christine Laing to arrange a meeting to discuss the issues.

**Action KW (Done immediately)
(No response to date)**

MK thought that it had gone on longer than in previous years.

It wasn't but it just felt that way. MK thought that Matthew could cut back a bit on some of his interviews. Especially as Derek Rae appeared four times.

KW was conscious of the number of times certain individuals appeared and had a suggestion if GH could accommodate it. Since the Professional Award was introduced, and is now the award voted on through the Press, the judging panel are asked to choose the Sports Personality plus two runners up from the existing six individual awards which means that three of the previous winners are going to appear again.

What KW was hoping could happen is that the Awards sub-committee would elect four individuals to form a short list, as was previously the case, if it were possible to carry out a vote through our website or Facebook or whatever IT route. GH responded positively.

MK suggested that the food be served at the start. There was some discussion on this. GH suggested that there should be two serving tables.

GH suggested that we should be looking at a schools' award.

MC mentioned that we are the only Sports Council that do not do anything for schools and suggested that he would like to see two schools' awards included. The categories would be – Youth Volunteer Award and a Service to Schools Sport Award. MC went onto explain the number of teachers, parents, and other volunteer who worked with the youngsters to ensure pupils were involved in some recreational activity. Using himself as an example he runs a two hour football session at Auchtermuchty Primary School every week for 40 weeks otherwise the kids have to pay £50 to AM Soccer. Mark also takes them to football festivals etc. There was some further discussion on this. MC also agreed that he would have no problem sponsoring both categories through Active Schools.

MC also raised that he was not receiving e-mails. It would appear that e-mails addressed to Fife Council are treated as 'spam'.

GH agreed to look into this.

Action GH

GMacD asked a question regarding the two proposed schools' awards – would it be nominations. The answer would be yes and like the majority of the awards would be open for anyone to nominate, not just schools.

There was further discussion on this.

On the question of the Sports Personality Award this would revert to the system that was in place prior to the professional award in that a short list of four would be drawn up by the Awards sub-committee and it would then be decided by public vote through our website or Facebook.

GH raised the no appearance of the Professional Award nominees. KW responded that he had spoken to Matthew and asked him to ensure that those nominated knew of their nomination prior to the vote taking place.

MC also mentioned that they do a thing wherein all the festivals schools are graded in how many teams are involved and how many turn up etc. There are three categories that decide the ranking –

- i) How many turn up
- ii) How well they perform, and
- iii) Participation as a percentage of the school roll.

This is now on the radar but Active Schools will definitely sponsor two events.

h) Link Officer

MK reported that for Club Fife there are five clubs just gone through and one club received the top award which is the Gold Star Award and that was Enigma Gymnastics.

There was discussion on membership of the Sports Council and membership of the Club Fife. There is a disparity between them and the goal is to get all clubs to be members of both. GH mentioned he has drawn up a spreadsheet to show the comparison. MK mentions that for the standard Club Fife Award there is no requirement to be a member of the Sports Council but it is a requirement for the Gold Star Award. Kirkcaldy Tennis Club have gone through Club Fife and are starting to develop the club. The coach has given up his full-time job and is now coaching full time so good things are about to happen in tennis.

There is a National Promotion each year for tennis and Sports Development are hoping to provide more support locally and have asked all the clubs to let them know when their open days are due to take place and any other events they intend to run. Kirkcaldy High School are looking to cover their tennis courts to provide an indoor facility. This is at a very early stage and there is no certainty this will go ahead as there will be a significant cost.

Bowling – there has been quite a bit of work being done with Fair Isle Bowling Club who are about to go out to primary schools. Kirkcaldy West End Bowling Club have linked with Kirkcaldy West Primary School and Meg is speaking with Burntisland Bowling Club.

A lot of Bowling Clubs across Fife had picked up on the funding from here and East Fife and a bit in West Fife but at the moment there is no competitive element. What Sports Development have done is to engage with Bowls Scotland and the District Secretaries to put on a competition at Abbeyview this year to provide some fun competition. This will be a pilot and hopefully will develop further the following year.

MK will send on a list of those who have attended the training events to Greig.

Action MK

Sports Development has been running participation classes, the major ones being handball and netball and have been putting on competitions. Over 200 kids have taken part.

GH mentioned that the boxing meeting fell through and is now on the back burner. Aca mentioned that the roof is now done for the Kingdom Boxing facility and drainage is being sorted out and work will progress to allow use the downstairs area. They still have a few more jobs to do before they come back to talk about funding. This is what they have been told to do by sportscotland.

MK mentioned that Asher didn't want the meeting to go ahead as not all seven clubs were getting involved. He would therefore rather go out and speak to clubs individually.

i) Active Schools Co-ordinator

The main update was to look at the awards and what the focus will now be to have all the programmes planned in for the coming year. All the Schools festival and individual sports events. This should all be known by the beginning of June. Looking at how events are to be funded.

What needs to be done is to work with the clubs to support the events and also representatives from the Sports Council.

Just completed a Rugby Festival which was attended by 525 kids at Glenrothes High School playing touch rugby and the Rugby Club was there. From this developed a curriculum programme on the back of it doing contact rugby. The kids were all provided with a gumshield and they had a festival for that with 60 kids participating and 10 stayed on for the training session after it. This is what Active Schools are looking to encourage.

Kirkcaldy and Levenmouth are now following the programme.

j) Bowls Project

GF mentioned that MK had already covered some of it but there is a date set for a taster session for Kirkcaldy West End and they have now received the bowls from Sport Development. The Coach has still to do his introductory training. The taster sessions will run till the summer and it is hoped that the participants will form the Club's Junior section.

MK reported that other clubs are getting involved in the project, including Burntisland Bowling Club and a few others. KW asked Gordon if he was liaising with other clubs. He responded that he has been speaking with Fair Isle but the person involved has fallen out with the committee and has left. MK gave a update to say that Chic was back on board.

GF will go up and see how Fair Isle organise their sessions. There are five people involved in the project at Kirkcaldy West End. The Coach, and assistants all PVG'd. MK will put a list together of those clubs that are involved.

k) Balwearie Hub

PA is involved with the Balwearie Hub but is still not well enough to attend.

GH said he was meeting Jamie Moffatt to discuss hubs.

l) Other reports

MK mentioned that the SLA will be due soon and will find out when it is due to be released.

ACa mentioned that we had agreed to sponsor a bout at the forthcoming Kingdom Boxing Event on 2 June.

5. AOCB:

Cllr. Kenny Selby told the meeting that as he would not be standing at the local elections this would be his last meeting as the Kirkcaldy Area representative. ACa thanked him for coming along. Kenny thanked the committee he thought that it was really great and the Sports Council had achieved a lot in the time that he had been on the committee. There will be a new representative from the Kirkcaldy Area Committee as well as the other two Areas after the election. ACa thanked Kenny for his contribution to the Sports Council. GMacD thanked Kenny for his inputs to the Awards and for getting the Police on board when required. ACa said he would still welcome his views even though he would not be attending the meetings and if he sees anything to let KW know.

KW mentioned the meeting he had with Cllr. Neil Crooks regarding pool charges. There has been a meeting of the clubs with Cllr. Crooks and the next stage is to set up a meeting with Fife Sport & Leisure Trust, the clubs, Sport Council Chairs or their representatives and possibly some Area Chairs. There are more issues than just finance that need to be brought into the open.

GMacD asked who the chairs of the other Sports Councils were. They are Cllr. Helen Law for the West (which incidentally answers the question about ACa continuing as Chair should he be elected at the Council Elections) and Rona McRaw for the East.

GH mentioned that he is out of contract as of tomorrow. There was also mention of a maximum 11 months continuous. KW explained how it worked with the organisation he worked with.

6. Date of Next Meeting

25 May, 6pm, Windmill Community Centre, Kirkcaldy

Meeting finished at 20:55