



**Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 3 East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy  
Wednesday 11 June 2009**

**Present:** Ken White (Secretary), Liz Anderson (Active Schools), Gary Innes, Alastair Robertson, Bill Hogg (Link Officer)

**1. Apologies:** Mark Bramwell (Chair), George MacDonald (Treasurer), David Paton, Helen Kuzyszyn, Martin McGovern (Fife Police), Andrew Lane (Active Schools), Neil Crooks (Fife Council)

**2. Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising:**

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Gary Innes agreed to chair the meeting.

The last full meeting of the Sports Council was held on 11 March and the minutes of that meeting were approved by Liz Anderson, seconded by Bill Hogg.

There were no matters arising.

**3. Reports**

**3a. Chair** – No report

**3b. Secretary** – reported fourteen pieces of correspondence received by e-mail from SALSC plus 21 pieces of correspondence from other parties. He also mentioned that he had not included correspondence that was now out of date.

Ken reported that the SALSC correspondence consisted of various news items and information with regard to events but there were two items that required decisions to be made.

The first one of these was information from SALSC about Sports Councils being able to employ someone between the ages of 18 and 24 who have been out of work for more than 12 months. This is a government scheme whereby organisations could receive up to £6,500 per 6 months.

Gary felt that if there is money available then we should advertise for someone to help.

While it was felt that this may be useful there are other issues that would need to be considered not least being the question of actually employing someone and the issues of National Insurance, etc. but it was agreed that this could be looked at.

Liz thought it was strange that such a scheme was being proposed when the government were cutting a similar scheme – ‘Project Scotland’ – which seemed to be doing well and explained that one of the current Active Schools Co-ordinators started with ‘Project Scotland’.

One of the e-mails from SALSC contained information regarding the affiliation of Sports Councils to SALSC. Ken will forward this to George.

**Action KW**

With regard to general correspondence there were a number of items that were discussed by the committee.

i) e-mail from Rosemary Potter regarding support for the East Kirkcaldy New School Action Group. Following discussion it was agreed that while the committee are very sympathetic to the views of the group it was not something that, as a group, we could become involved with.

Ken will respond accordingly.

**Action KW**

ii) e-mails from Jen Henderson regarding Joint Sports Partnership. Ken reported that on both occasions the time to respond was extremely short and in the case of the second e-mail it was just one day. Liz and Bill reported that arrangements were underway to establish the Partnership.

iii) e-mail from Anna Tizzard asking Sports Council to inform Disability Fife of any disabled athletes that they may not be aware of. There was some concern about this and Gary mentioned that he was also concerned that Disability Fife did not approve of him being part of the Sports Council and that he did not represent Disability Fife but was there purely as an individual.

iv) e-mail from Alistair Cameron offering help in any way he could and suggesting that we bring on board professional clubs such as Raith Rovers. There was discussion around the ethics of doing this with the Sports Council funding coming from Fife Council. It was suggested that it may be acceptable to do this but that any professional club, or individual athlete, would not be eligible for any grants from the Sports Council. Bill Hogg agreed to look into this and report back to the committee.

**Action BH**

It was further suggested that we should invite Alistair to join the committee.

v) e-mail from David Paton giving his response to the ‘Sports Strategy for Fife’. The Sports Council should have responded to this but there had not been a full meeting of the committee where it could have been discussed. Bill Hogg stated that we should still give a response. Ken agreed to speak with George.

**Action KW**

vi) e-mail from Neil Crooks regarding climbing facilities and asking the Sports Council to find out information on climbing walls. Again the committee felt that while the Sports Council should take an interest and support this type of provision it should be down to Fife Council or the Sports and Leisure Trust to gather such information.

vii) e-mail from Dumfries and Galloway Council regarding forthcoming Coaching Conference. Bill Hogg reported that most local authorities, including Fife, would be organising Sports Conferences over the next few years. Ken was requested to send the details to the member clubs.

**Action KW**

viii) letter from Red Gate Karate where they expressed concern that another “less able” organisation had been used by Active Schools to provide Karate in schools. Liz Anderson reported that she was aware of this situation and that if they had a problem they should contact Sarah Drury. Again the view of the committee was that the Sports Council had no authority to interfere with the work of Active Schools. Ken was asked to respond accordingly.

**Action KW**

**3c (i) Finance:** Ken reported that George had sent an e-mail giving accounts details for the meeting and these were distributed. He also reported that George had met recently with Bill to discuss the grants.

Bill reported that at the meeting it was reinforced that the Sports Council must ensure that they avoid offering grants that Fife Council already provide.

Bill has prepared a paper on Fife Council grants and once this had been distributed to member clubs they should be invited to suggest areas that they would like to see included other than the Fife Council Grants.

He further reported that Fife Council was looking to change their grants but the same categories are likely to remain. The main difference would be the introduction of a scale of grants.

Club grants would tie in with a club accreditation scheme, similar to those run by some governing bodies.

Bill will continue to work with George to develop proposals for Sports Council grants.

**Action BH/GMacD**

**3c (ii) Membership:** George also reported in his e-mail that a further 3 clubs had joined – Kirkcaldy Squash Club, Gallatown Bowling Club and Raith Rovers Ladies Football Club. Ken added that Liz had handed him a completed form and cheque for Beveridge Park Bowling Club.

**3d Link Officer – Fife Council:** Report as in 3c (i) above

**3e Awards:** Ken reported that it was his intention to start sending out the details much earlier this year and would liaise with Helen Kuzyszyn regarding Adam Smith College. He also reported that he had spoken with the Fife Free Press regarding the Sports Personality Award where the sports Council will seek nominations and then through the Press the public would vote on their sports personality. This will involve the public and should raise awareness of the Sports Council. The remaining awards will still be decided by a panel and Ken asked the members present if they had any suggestions for a panel in addition to the three members of last years panel.

**Action All**

**3f. Funding/Grants:** Report as in 3c (i) above

**3g Active Schools:** Liz Anderson reported that Active Schools would be holding a Volunteer Information Workshop on Monday 6 July from 10am to 12 noon. The workshop will be run by Mary Rae. The purpose of the workshop is to give more information on Active Schools, the benefits of volunteering with them and a chance to see first hand some of the opportunities that are available. The event will be held at Kirkcaldy North Primary School's building, Matthew Street, Kirkcaldy, KY2 5AT.

Liz also reported that she is currently focusing on bowling especially targeting kids that aren't currently involved in activities.

Liz further reported that Active Schools are promoting health weeks and aim to get kids involved in the Fife Highland Games, and Kirkcaldy Area schools will focus on the Thornton Highland Games which will be held on 19 July. In order to prepare the kids for this Active Schools will run a summer camp during the first week of the holidays. The target age group is Primary 4 to Primary 7.

**3h. Disability:** Gary once again reported that he felt that there wasn't much that he could do for disabled sport and reiterated that Disability Fife did not feel that he could represent them at the Sports Council.

**3h. Other Reports:** There were no other reports

**4. Update – New Sports Facility:** Ken reported that the Sports Council had now reached the end of its efforts in trying to persuade the Council on the new sports facility and its location and it would now be down to the meeting of the Council and their consideration of the objections that had been lodge. He also mentioned that he had received an e-mail from Martin McGovern (Police) that the Police's Architectural Liaison Officer for Fife Constabulary had not been consulted during the planning process but had concerns about the current plan.

Ken stated that as a Sports Council we had spent an inordinate amount of time on the new facility and felt that the Sports Council was in danger of losing its direction and impetus. Liz and Bill agreed with this.

**5. Way Forward:** It was felt by the committee that we now need to take stock of where we are going and the next stage in terms of the way forward would be to ensure that a suitable grants process is put in place.

**6. Sports Strategy for Fife** Ken to liaise George to compile a response.

**Action KW/GMacD**

**7. Date of Next Meeting:** It was noted that numbers attending were extremely low and Ken suggested that what needs to be done is to set a series of meetings for the year ahead. Those present agreed that the best evening for the meeting is a Thursday, with the exception of Liz. However, Liz thought that she would be able to work round this for most of the time. It was agreed that Ken should put out two dates for the next meeting which are Thursday 16 July and Thursday 30 July and committee members will be requested to let Ken know which was the most suitable. The meeting will then go ahead based on the majority of responses.

**Action KW**

**AOCB:** Bill Hogg referred back to the discussion that took place with regard to the Way Forward and offered that he and Liz would work out a number of topics for the agenda. This was accepted by the committee.

Ken reported that he had looked at the web site prior to the meeting and was disappointed to note that it is way out of date, especially with regard to minutes.

Discussions to place and it was agreed that it was important that something be done about the web site. Liz stated that if she wanted to find out about any organisation she was likely to use the web site as the first contact. She agreed that KASC web site would not encourage anyone to join.

Ken reported that Fins had a webmaster who has just updated the Fins web site. If the committee were in agreement then he could approach the person with a view to becoming involved with the Sports Council. The committee agreed and suggested that this person should be paid for this type of work.

The meeting thanked Gary for chairing the meeting and it closed at 1945 hours.

**Note:** The person for the website has been approached and will be pleased to help.