



**Minutes of Committee Meeting held at 3 East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy
Thursday 16 July 2009**

Present: Ade Johnson (Vice Chair), George MacDonald (Treasurer), Ken White (Secretary), Gary Innes, Alastair Robertson, David Paton, Martin McGovern (Fife Police), Bill Hogg (Link Officer), Jennifer Mann

In Attendance: Stuart Ward (Fife Police)

1. Apologies: Liz Anderson (Active Schools), Helen Kuzyszyn, Neil Crooks (Fife Council)

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting/Matters Arising:

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, George MacDonald agreed to chair the meeting.

George thanked everyone for attending and welcomed Stuart Ward, Fife Police Architectural Liaison Officer, to the meeting.

The last full meeting of the Sports Council was held on 16 June 2009 and the minutes of that meeting were approved by Alistair Robertson, seconded by Bill Hogg.

There were no matters arising.

Note: Ade Johnson arrived just after the start of the meeting and apologised for being late. George asked Ade if he wished to chair the meeting but Ade in turn asked George to continue.

George suggested that item 4 – Update on the New Sports Facility be taken next which would allow Stuart Ward to leave the meeting if he wished. This was agreed.

4. Update – New Sports Facility: Ken reported that Fins C.S.C. had written an e-mail to every member of the Kirkcaldy Area Committee regarding the location of the new facility but also referred to the previous minutes where it was agreed that there was little else the Sports Council could now do to persuade the decision makers.

However following a previous invitation he pointed out that Stuart Ward had agreed to address the committee and give his perspective on the proposal.

George invited Stuart to give his report.

Stuart reported that the Architect had sent drawings of the projects well after it had gone to planning. He further stated that the current proposed location will increase crime.

The key issue is Barnetts Vennell and it will be difficult to overcome the problems that will arise, not just for the users of the sports facility but also for residents.

The physical aspects of the facility include overhanging areas and recesses. Any overhanging or recessed areas will encourage misuse and cause concern to users.

Stuart informed the committee that his full report can be accessed in the Fife Council planning area and there is also a short report at the end by the Road Safety Officer.

Stuart also pointed out that Fife Police has to be invited into discussions with Fife Council but the Force Area Commander was fully aware of his report. There were some questions for Stuart which he answered fully.

Gary Innes suggested that Dunnikier Park was the most appropriate site.

George thanked Stuart for his contribution and reiterated that the Sports Council had now exhausted its efforts of trying to influence the decision makers.

Ken reported another matter with regard to the new facility in that he had received an e-mail from Councillor Neil Crooks enquiring about climbing walls as he had been approached about the possibility of the old cinema in Kirkcaldy being used as a climbing venue. Ken reported that he had informed Councillor Crooks that there was a void shown in the documents for the new facility that could perhaps be used for a climbing wall and that would at least bring another sporting activity into the facility. The committee agreed that this was something that we should maintain an interest in and asked Ken if he would make contact with the parent.

Action KW

3. Reports

3a. Chair – No report. Concerns were expressed that the Chairman had not attended any meetings since the previous AGM and as the next AGM was just over two months away, what steps need to be taken. Discussions took place with regard to the position of the chair and the lack of direction of the Sports Council. It was agreed that the Vice Chair would contact the Chairperson with a view to setting up a meeting with the Office Bearers to resolve the situation.

3b. Secretary – reported three pieces of correspondence received by e-mail from SALSC plus three new pieces of correspondence from other parties. He also mentioned that he had also brought some further correspondence from previous meeting as they still required some action.

Correspondence from SALSC referred to the Sport in Communities Conference and that they were moving to a news letter format. Two such newsletters have been received the first containing information on affiliation and the 2010 Conference. George asked Ken to send him a copy.

Action KW

The second e-mail contained information on the results of a survey, the Mars fund, Pathe visit and VOCAL Conference. Ken mentioned that he had been speaking with Jennifer Mann before the meeting and thought that the Mars funding may be of interest to her. Jennifer explained to the committee that one of her gymnasts, had been selected for the GB Olympic squad and had to find £3,500. Hannah was an award winner at the KASC Awards in February and KASC offer their congratulations to her. Ken read out the short piece on the Mars funding and noted that there was also a link. July newsletter to be forwarded to all committee members.

Action KW

Ken mentioned the e-mails that had been received regarding the Fife Sports Strategy and the fact that as a Sports Council we had not responded with comments, apart from those submitted by Dave Paton. Bill reckoned that it was now too late to forward our comments.

Another piece of information received was regarding the proposed hub structure for Scotland. Sport Tayside and Fife, and Central were the two pilots for this structure and the intention is to roll this out throughout Scotland. We had very little time to respond to these e-mails, just one day in one instance, but it was felt that it is something where we should have an input. It was agreed that a sub-committee should be set up to discuss the proposals and Alistair Robertson, Ade Johnson and Jennifer Mann agreed to join that sub-committee and report back to the next meeting.

Action AJ, JM, AR.

Bill Hogg is also interested but he will need to find out if he is able to participate. Ken was asked to forward the information to the members of the sub committee.

Action KW

Email from Dave Paton about child protection. Dave reported that he felt that the Sports Council should provide support to clubs who require help with their child protection processes. This was agreed, the Sports Council's Child Protection Officer to action.

Action DP

The other information received was:

- Sport Tayside & Fife Annual Report (lengthy document)
- Rugby e-zine
- Marketing offer.

3c. Treasurer – The Treasurer reported that we are solvent. As our accounting year ended at the end of June he has now prepared the annual accounts which will be sent to an independent examiner. There accounts were passed around members present and there were no questions.

3d. Link Officer – Bill reported that Sports Development had been working on a club accreditation scheme which would be linked to a new Fife Council Community Grant Scheme. There are currently two levels – Foundation and Development – and he was looking for clubs for a pilot in October/November and hoped that the scheme would go live in the New Year.

Questions asked were as follows:

If clubs were already accredited by their National Governing Body would still need to go through the Fife Scheme? – Answer: No.

What the target area was for the Scheme? – Answer: Whole of Fife

Can we get information out to clubs? It was agreed that Bill would send the information to the Secretary as soon as it was available.

Bill also reported that the previous practice of printing information brochures for coach education would cease because of the cost and they would now be web based flyers.

Bill reported on the holiday camps as follows:

- Madras ran really well
- Balwearie – 8 to 11 years are full and 13 to 16 years there are only a few places remaining. However, it was noted that Badminton will be affected due to the fire at Balwearie High School but alternative arrangements will be made.
- Beath is also full.

Bill reported that he had made enquiries about co-option on to the committee and while there was no problem, it was a case of seeking any individuals, and the committee's agreement.

Bill also mentioned that Fife Council were waiting on an application for a grant from the Sports Council. It was reported that here seems to be a breakdown in communications. The Treasurer will contact with the appropriate person.

Action GMacD

Bill also reported that in the absence of the Active School's Co-ordinator that the holiday camps were also doing well.

Jennifer reported that she was now involved with Active Schools in the Levenmouth Area.

It was reported that a member of the Sports Council had come across some activity in Templehall – Street Football – being organised by Fife Council Community Wardens but commented that there was one person who seemed to be trying to disrupt the activities and was drinking from a 'Buckfast' bottle. Some discussion took place on these activities and it was reported that the Community Police were involved in the planning but the police were very reluctant to appear in uniform as this may have a negative effect on the activities. The situation will be monitored by Fife Police

3e. Awards – No report

3f. Grants – George reiterated the objectives of the proposed Sports Council grants which would be to fill any gaps left by the Fife Council Community Grants and any other funding available. Before they

were put to the members, it was agreed that a final document would be worked on to finalise an agreed format for sending to clubs. Questions on this document seem to have not reached the recipient and will need to be resent. George and Bill to agree the final document and information will be sent to the Secretary to distribute to member clubs.

A general discussion took place on grants available to clubs and Bill suggested that the committee may wish to look at www.biglottertfund.org.uk/wefunded-uk

Post Meeting Note: I had a look at this and a number of sports clubs in Fife, mainly from the Dunfermline Area, were awarded grants for training officials and paying for coaches to provide sessions to primary schools. Strathallan Primary in Kirkcaldy was awarded £2,705 to create an eco garden.

Action BH, GMacD and KW

3g. Active Schools – In addition to the above Jennifer reported that Active Schools Co-ordinators have been asked to compile an A-Z on how to keep active.

3h. Disability – Gary referred to a SALSC item from the previous meeting about Sports Councils being able to employ an appropriate person aged between 18 and 25. George indicated that he had responded to SALSC but the Sports Council could not employ anyone. The only way this would be possible if the scheme were to be administered by perhaps a third party employer.

Discussions took place on how this might be possible following which George agreed to make further investigations.

Action GMacD

3i. Other Reports: Martin asked what information is required from the police and what the expectations of the Sports Council were in this regard. The reason for this is that the Police are currently restructuring. George referred back to the start of the Sports Council and the Police involvement in setting up the midnight leagues. However it was agreed we should revisit the role of a Police representative.

Action GMacD

7. AOCB – An item on the website was already tabled and George asked Ken to report.

George and Ken had met with a representative of Fins CSC who had agreed to work on the website and bring it up to date. Much of the communications requirements mentioned above such as informing clubs about help for Child Protection could be posted on the web site. It was also reported that one of the ideas was to provide a high profile link to member clubs websites and where they did not have a web site to offer them the opportunity to take up a page on Sports Council web site.

Work on a proposed format will take place with details being sent to the Secretary and Treasurer for initial approval. A presentation would be made available for the next meeting in order to gain input and feelings of the full committee.

Following the above report the Treasurer proposed that Shona Irvine be co-opted to the committee. This was seconded by the Vice Chair and there were no objections.

Various questions, comments and suggestions were then discussed by the committee on various other options for websites, it being agreed that the situation would be monitored and possibly reviewed at a future date. The committee agreed that suitable expenses would be paid on a regular basis by the Sports Council for the work done on maintaining the website.

A question was asked on the progress on acquiring banners for the Sports Council. It was reported that Multi Print was dealing with this but that no information had been forthcoming. This to be chased up along with promotional material advertising the Sports Council.

Action GMacD

An enquiry was made about the Administration of the Sports Council. The response being that it had been difficult in the absence of the Chair but there was a structure in place already agreed by the Sports Council and the encouragement that we need to get back to this as soon as possible.

5. Date of Next Meeting: As the AGM is due to be held in September the committee will need to meet sometime in August. Following a short discussion and checking of diaries it was agreed that the next meeting will be held on Thursday 27 August. Ken will ask for the meeting at East Fergus Place.

Action KW

Post Meeting note: Room at East Fergus Place has been booked for the meeting on 27 August at 6:30pm. The committee also agreed that the AGM would be held on Thursday 24 September. Ken will send out a notice of the AGM to all members and will speak to those at Adam Smith College about the use of facilities for the AGM. **Action KW**

The meeting closed at 2040 hours