

AFFILIATED TO SWIM ENGLAND EAST REGION

**Minutes of the Swim England Suffolk, Executive Committee Meeting
held via Zoom on Saturday 10th April 2021 starting at 10.00am**

ATTENDEES:

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------------------|------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Ian Cotton | IC | Chairman | Sarah Elmer | SJE | Championship Sec |
| Chris Vinter | CV | Secretary | David Robinson | DR | Regional Delegate |
| Dave Whelan | DM | Past President | Dan Pilbrow | DP | West Suffolk |
| Sue Purchase | SP | President/St Felix | Nick Hutton | NHu | Stowmarket |
| Nick Thompson | NT | Team Manager | Louise Perkins | LP | Covid-19 Liaison |
| Stephen Christian | SC | Officials Coord./Pres Elect | Jeremy Duszynski | JD | Past President |
| Stella Day | SD | Team Ipswich | Peter Elmer | PE | Website |
| Gemma Cannon | GC | Masters | Nikki Hall | NHa | Deben |
| Caroline Cofield | CCo | Trophies | John North | JN | Records Officer |
| Ann Byrne | AB | Disability | Bobbie Wilson | BWi | Welfare Officer |
| Alison Vinter | AV | Past President | Stephen Bunclark | SB | Deben Chair |
| Chris Bellwood | CB | Management Board Member | Tom Pawle | TP | Leiston Chair/Rep |
| Paul Bowman | PB | Newmarket | Sarah Tait | ST | Open Water |
| Rob Garry | RG | Mildenhall | | | |

| Item | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------|----|------------|-------------|----|---------|
| <p>1. WELCOME TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SUFFOLK CLUB FORUM</p> <p>IC again welcomed members of the Suffolk Club Forum who been invited to this meeting to help with communication between clubs.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>2. APOLOGIES</p> <table border="0"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lesley Beevor</td> <td>LB</td> <td>Treasurer</td> <td>Chris Deaton</td> <td>CD</td> <td>Newmarket</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ann Byrne (Arrived Late)</td> <td>AB</td> <td>Disability</td> <td>Clive Evans</td> <td>CE</td> <td>Sudbury</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Lesley Beevor | LB | Treasurer | Chris Deaton | CD | Newmarket | Ann Byrne (Arrived Late) | AB | Disability | Clive Evans | CE | Sudbury |
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| <p>3. CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>CV advised that some items will be discussed under separate agenda items. Ipswich Borough Council have accepted the initial bookings made in June and July for possible County Competition. The confirmation of these bookings is on hold until we have further Swim England guidance.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>4. FINANCIAL UPDATE</p> <p>IC advised the meeting that the accounts for last year have now been signed off by the verifier.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>5. RATIFICATION OF DECISIONS MADE BY THE MANAGEMENT BOARD</p> <p>IC reported that following consultation with some members of the MB it was agreed to fund and organise a Parent Workshop, see next item.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | |

6. WORKING WITH PARENTS IN SPORT, WORKSHOP

IC thanked NT for his efforts organising the workshop at such short notice. The two sessions, parents and guardians with children, 12 and under and 13 and over were attended by 55 to 60 people and both were well received. SP mentioned that she had also received good feedback. NT mentioned that numbers may have been higher if the sessions had not been at the same time as the beginning of the lifting of lockdown restrictions.

7. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNTY OFFICERS

Regional Delegate Report – DR referred to his written report and mentioned that there was a minor typo in the second paragraph, it should read Swim England East Region. IC thanked DR for his East Region representation since the formation of the Regions.

Open Water Secretary – ST thanked Mildenhall and Newmarket for their responses to the questions raised in here note that had been circulated. Any further comments would be much appreciated in advance of the Regional meeting on 15th April. It was agreed by the meeting that the County would support an event that does not follow the usual championship format provided it is run in accordance with the then current Government and Swim England guidance.

Disability Officer – AB is currently officiating at Sheffield at a Para event but had informed CV that a number of Clubs had now responded to her request for names of Para swimmers in their clubs. She thanks clubs for this information and asked that any further responses would be much appreciated.

Website – PE and IC reported that the existing free website hosting arrangement comes to an end on 24th May and that a monthly charge will then apply. New generic email address for some post holders were being looked into as the existing addresses have reference to “ASA”. A new History page has been created and this shows all past Presidents and Honorary Life Vice Presidents. Posting of other historical information is also being considered and PE would be interested in receiving in hearing of any appropriate information that could be posted.

8. COUNTY CAMPS

IC advised the meeting that we were awaiting guidance from Swim England

9 COVID-19 UPDATE

IC asked Clubs to give an outline of their return to the pool next week. The County would offer help and guidance where possible.

St Felix – SP advised that some of her swimmers were already in the water but they are now having to deal with a temporary pool closure.

Team Ipswich – LP advised that swimmers will be back in the pool on Monday following agreed Covid-19 rules

Stowmarket – NHu reported that swimmers would be returning Tuesday morning. Expressed concern that Swim England were actively promoting Level X before swimmers even return to the water.

Leiston – TP reported that they had already commenced using the facilities at Beccles Lido, indoor from Monday. Support from Club members remains strong.

Felixstowe - CCo reported that they will be returning on Monday with the same sessions as in August but as with all Clubs precluding all over 18's.

Deben – SB confirmed that they would be returning on Monday with a limited schedule as some sessions have not been made available. Also concerned that Level X was being promoted by SE including contacting swimmers direct. SB asked whether there was any guidance on the recent

notification from SE on the ratio of coaches to swimmers. IC advised that the 15 athletes to 1 coach had come from Sport England guidance – this was being interpreted as 15 swimmers to 1 coach in swimming environment and should have no impact on numbers in club sessions following Swim England guidance.

Mildenhall – RG advised that their situation is a little different as they are waiting for the opening of their new pool on 28 May as the local authority had decided not to reopen the old pool. They had managed to acquire two one evening sessions between 8 to 9pm in the interim.

Newmarket – PB advised that they would be returning on Monday with the same sessions as before the latest lockdown. CV welcomed Paul back into the fold!

West Suffolk – DP advised that a few school swimmers had returned on 8 March and that the remainder would be returning to the same sessions as before the latest lockdown.

IC summarised the comments made by all and it was agreed that he would write to SE re the promotion of Level X. It was the consensus of opinion of all that swimmers should concentrate on return to fitness before consideration of any form of competition. GC also raised the anomaly of over 18's being able to swim in a public session with many strangers but were not able to train in controlled Club sessions. IC will also mention this when contacting SE.

10. EAST REGION SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING 22nd APRIL 2021

CV encouraged clubs to register their attendance at the special meeting on the 24 April.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was noted that the meeting had not agreed the minutes of the last meeting. NH pointed out that the date of the meeting had not been shown on the minutes. With this addition the minutes were agreed.

TP asked what the situation was with the Counties. SJE stated that a number of possible event schedules had been created but none were likely to be used and that we were waiting for further guidance from SE.

DP expressed his disappointment that the British trials had recently been opened up to all swimmers. It is unfair to suggest that swimmers, apart from the elite athletes, would be physically capable of competing in the competition. He also mentioned that no Coaches Forum sessions had been arranged for some time and that this would normally have been set up by Kevin Pickard. It is understood that Leanne Brace will be arranging something after swimmers return to the pool.

DR informed the meeting that he had received a number of County Trophies from Reg Lloyd and he was happy to hold onto these for the time being.

SC advised that an East Region Officials Group meeting will be taking place at the end of April. Options of how to get officials up to speed again will be considered. JD asked about officials licences and SC confirmed that these will be extended for 12 months. The requirement for FINA rules updates, etc., will also need to be considered.

IC advised that a meeting re future competition will be arranged in due course.

Dates of Next Meetings

Saturday 10th July 2021

Saturday 18th September 2021 (+League AGM)

Saturday 27th November 2021 (AGM)