



Fleetwood & District Amateur Swimming Club

Annual General Meeting
18:30Hrs, 16th December 2015

Present: Colin Jackson, Glenn Wellard, Dave Woods, Dave Hamilton, Emma Parkinson, Syd Holt, Barrie Rayner, Jane Fletcher, Norman Cowburn, Julie Booth, Louise Sturzaker, Emma Chiltern, Diane Kaley, Elliott Myers, Sue Roe, Charles Barber, Joan Cowburn, Joanne Brown

1. Apologies for absence

Alison Lawson, Jen Barcock, Terry Simpson

2. Minutes from previous AGM

The minutes were accepted as a true record of last year's AGM.

3. Matters arising from minutes

- Barrie Rayner previously reported that there was funding available from the Coastal Network Group for Level 1 & 2 Coaching Courses. We have applied and received funding from this source.
- Jane Pearson previously requested that communication to parents is improved. A Facebook Page has been set-up by Dave Hamilton and the Club Website has been refreshed by Patrick Jones-Wright.

4. Chairpersons Welcome and Report

See Attachment 1.

5. Treasurer Report

The treasurer provided his report and copies are available on request. A notice to this effect has been placed on the Club Noticeboard.

6. Head Coach Report

Overall it has been a good year with more positives than negatives.

There has been a slight reduction in membership, but, this has not resulted in a reduction in the number of swimmers in the pool as more swimmers are swimming more often. The criteria the Head Coach has been applying for the last few years are:

- i) To increase numbers – Membership has increased.
- ii) To increase numbers competing – 20 - 30 extra in Club Championships and the entry at Bolton.
- iii) To increase the number of swimmers competing at Regional / National Level – The criteria for Regionals / Nationals keep changing making it difficult to compare, but, evidence supports that we are moving in the right direction.

League as per Colin's Report – though it was not yet clear what our final Arena League position would be (as the Arena website had not been updated at the time of the meeting).

The 2Hr sessions are going down well, but the Head Coach still wanted more attendance at the AM Sessions.

Thanks to the Team Managers (Barrie, Gary and Ian) and all other helpers, the Club Captains Hannah and Patrik, Competition Secretaries (Alison and Jen) and the Committee.

7. Social/Fundraising Report

No report provided, finances as per Treasurers Report.

8. Water Polo Report

See Attachment 2.

Life Saving Report

See Attachment 3.

9. Election of Committee Posts

All committee posts agreed and elected by a majority vote. See Attachment 4.

10. Resolutions received

None.

11.Election of independent examiner of accounts

Becky Smith has agreed that she would act as the independent examiner for the 2015 / 2016 Financial Year and was endorsed by a majority vote.

12.Close of AGM

Chairperson thanked all present for their attendance and meeting closed at 19.40.

Q&A Session

- a) Barrie Rayner asked if the 'Honorariums' are supposed to be paid on an annual basis. It was agreed that they should be and Glenn will pay these following the provision of a list by Barrie.
- b) Norman Cowburn asked for a copy of the accounts.
- c) The next meeting with the YMCA should be arranged for 1st / 2nd week of January.

Attachment 1

Chairpersons Report to AGM - 16 December 2015

This has been my second year as Chairperson for the swimming club. I continue to feel very lucky / proud to have been given the opportunity to undertake the role.

In this last year the committee has welcomed new people into the key roles of: Club Secretary (Dave Woods); Membership/Registration Officer (Dave Hamilton); Welfare Officer (Emma Parkinson)

The AGM will receive several detailed reports but a quick view of some of the highlights from my perspective would be:

Finances

After a period of perceived uncertainty, two or three years ago, the club's finances are now stable. In fact we are now in a relatively healthy financial position.

Thanks to Glenn, who will give the detail, for all the hard work.

For consideration in the coming year is how we might best target some investment into the club and its swimmers.

Swimmers

After a surge in membership numbers in the Autumn of 2014 the numbers have now returned to the "normal" levels – ie. 210-215.

Thanks go to Norman, Tracy Newcombe (who started the year as Membership Secretary) and Dave Hamilton (who took on the role mid-year) for their hard work in this area.

Like last year although we seem to be successful in recruiting new swimmers, a small number of swimmers/families have moved to other clubs - notably Blackpool. I have spoken with some of them to try to understand their motivations for leaving for other clubs.

One of the drivers was the amount of pool time. We have started to address that and have agreed additional pool time with YMCA – increasing 2 of the 1.5 hour sessions to 2 hour sessions (the costs associated with this have been absorbed by the Club). Assuming the Head Coach feels it is worth while, our strategy is to endeavour to increase our pool time further still - starting with some extra/earlier time in the mornings (providing some additional flexibility and hoping that makes the morning school run a bit easier).

Coaching

As always, we rely on the huge effort put in by our dedicated coaching team - under Elliott's leadership. They deserve a huge vote of thanks for all the work they do, and time they devote, to helping our swimmers develop and improve.

There have been some changes in the timetabling of sessions this year, necessitated by YMCAs desire to develop some of their offerings, which have

Attachment 1

impacted on coaches and swimmers. Given change was unavoidable, I'd like to say thanks to Elliott and everyone for accommodating those changes and for making it happen so seemingly smoothly.

There have been one or two changes in the coaching personnel this year. James "Radders" has taken on more of a role as has Chris Holmes and others – and we need to say au-revoir and BIG THANKS to: Pete Stanney; Jen Barcock; Simon Cole; and Christine Holding.

Elliott will say more in his report but I'm certain most of our swimmers will have set many Personal Bests in the last 12 months - and we saw several club records (some that have survived 20+ years) improved upon at the recent Club Championships.

Swim Team Performance

As a reminder.... the club has a squad that competes in the following competitions:

- **Micro-League** of the North West: where we finished 4th in the second tier (Division B) this year – as we did last year
- **North Lancs League** (aka Sub League): we were promoted last year (into Division 2) and finished second in that league this year (only 8 points behind Preston B team). Well done swimmers!
- **Arena Swimming League:** again we were promoted last year (into Division 1 – the second tier) but the loss of a couple of key older swimmers impacted on the team and (I think) we will be relegated this year (by only 5 or 6 points) – I'm sure we'll come back strong again next year!
- We also, of course, have many many swimmers that participate in Open Meetings throughout the year – we were disappointed not to be allowed to enter the recent Blackpool Lights event but credit to Alison and Ian (and others) for setting up an alternative for us to go to Bolton – which was regarded as a huge success, I understand.

YMCA

The club continues to have a very good relationship with YMCA – Barry, in particular, works hard to make sure that remains the case. YMCA are supportive of the club, and the club, provides not insignificant income to YMCA.

In the last year we have started to have more regular meetings with YMCA – at least quarterly. I think this has been a big help in enabling us to share our goals/strategies (eg. we wanted more pool time; we have had early discussions on the transitions between YMCA and the swimming club).

Fundraising

Thanks to Terry for all his hard work again this year. As I said last year, as the club finances have improved we were able to take the decision that the proceeds of the fundraising activities could be ring-fenced and used for the benefit of swimmers (ie. fun stuff - rather than subsumed into the overall pot of club funds). Terry has been managing that through his sub-committee – and will say a few words about that in a

Attachment 1

bit. From the committee's point of BIG THANKS!! go to Terry for doing such a fantastic job over a long period of time – he will be sadly missed, not least for his cheeky charm....

Committee

Final au revoir is to Julie, who is standing down as Waterpolo rep on the committee – thanks to her for all her hard work on the committee

Subject to approval at the AGM we will fill all the roles with willing volunteers – as last year, there will be some transitions but I am sure we will all help and support each other for the good of the Club. As I hope everyone knows: *everyone*, and all contributions, are always welcome.

And Finally

And finally,,,, at last years AGM I suggested we should have some clear success criteria and suggested:

- the Club remains financially viable (ie. income exceeds outgoings) - done;
- the number of swimmers qualifying for regional and/or national competitions increases year on year – Elliott will confirm
- the club provides/enables training for the coaching team – done/doing/will continue;
- the swimmer retention rate improves (ie. less swimmers leave) – seems better this year;
- the club attains and retains “Swim 21’ accreditation - done;
- the club maintains a positive relationship with YMCA - done;
- the club seeks and acts on feedback from parents and members – not done, yet

Attachment 2

Water Polo Report to AGM - 16 December 2015

The seniors have enjoyed a fantastic season ending with 6 straight wins. We once again played across two leagues, the Bolton & District League and the North Lancs League.

We finished 3rd in the North Lancs League and 6th in the Bolton & District (12 teams in the Bolton & District). We have beaten a lot of teams including Bury twice, Blackpool twice, Preston twice, Salford twice and drew with a National side Tyldesley to name a few of our highlights.

We continue to try and introduce youth into the team each season and this is something we will always fulfil so all juniors show progression, with several of our under 18's representing Lancaster.

We have also hosted the first tournament in Fleetwood history and it was extremely successful with outstanding feedback with hopes of it being an annual event. Radcliffe won the tournament and Fleetwood reached the semi-finals before going out on penalties to Radcliffe.

Overall, an outstanding season with several social events and many happy moments.

The juniors continue to train on Tuesday evenings but without the thrill of any local tournaments as many teams have lost their junior sections. Several of the older players have been invited to join the seniors for some of their less aggressive matches. The senior players have welcomed the younger players and are keen to pass on their skills. This will help with the transition to the full senior squad.

Thanks again to the coaching staff for the time taken to volunteer for training nights and the organisation needed for playing in the two leagues.

Attachment 3

Fleetwood Life Saving Report to AGM - 16 December 2015

Membership as previously stated is low and there are currently more adult members than youth members.

The community programmes are not what they were; the current programmes have limited appeal for community audiences possibly because there are no links to vocational qualifications

Vocational awards fair much better but are only accessible to candidates age 16+.

Coastal Open Water meetings

Only three were planned for 2015 at Fleetwood due to tide times/ time constraints at weekends

Inland Open Water meetings

Four Meetings were held at Debdale (Manchester)

Salford Quays

This event was organized early May by Greater Manchester Police involving the Fire and Rescue Services, RNLI, and other interested community groups .The emphasis was on drowning Prevention and included simulated rescues.

The RLSS UK was represented by the RLSS Regional Drowning Prevention Coordinator and representatives from the RLSS Manchester Branch. Most Groups had stalls /marquees on the quayside.

Unfortunately, the event was not well attended; the planners did not take into account the fact that a major sporting event was taking place in central Manchester at the same time..

Schools

Two Water Safety visits to local schools as part of the International Drowning Prevention weeks prior to the summer recess

A Water Safety Awareness Day was provided (By FLSC) for Camp Rossall during the autumn half term

Vocational

A National Pool Lifeguard Course was run for club members during the autumn half term at Rossall

For club members engaged in the teaching and leisure services sector, in service training provision is available on a monthly basis

Community

In September, a Survive and Save Course was started at Rossall and is still in progress.

S C Holt

December 2015

Attachment 4

Fleetwood Committee Members 2015 – 2016

| Position | Name |
|---|------------------|
| Chair | Colin Jackson |
| Treasurer | Glenn Wellard |
| Secretary | Dave Woods |
| Membership Officer | Dave Hamilton |
| Competition Secretary | Alison Lawson |
| Swim 21 Secretary | Carla Lucas |
| Media / Press Officer | Gary Singleton |
| Fleetwood Liaison / Workforce Co-ordinator | Barrie Rayner |
| Poulton Liaison Secretary | Norman Cowburn |
| Social / Fundraising Officer | Louise Sturzaker |
| Water Polo Secretary | Helen Waite |
| Life Saving | Syd Holt |