

SWIM ENGLAND NORTH EAST REGION LTD.

President – Chris Halliday

Minutes of the Fifteenth Meeting of the North East Region Board of Directors Held on Wednesday 3rd May 2023 following AGM

Present: D. Watson (Chairman), R. Gordon (Finance Manager), P. Court, C. Halliday (President), H. Leighton, S. Prasad, R. Palmer-Jones, G. Peters, A. Thompson

Apologies: R. Gordon (Finance Manager), B. Saunders, D. Alexander

Staff In Attendance: L. Graham, C. Leighton, J. Manners, D. Parry, S. Small, L. Tjaguns

161 Welcome and Apologies

161.1 D. Watson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

162 Declaration of Interest

162.1 Members were asked to declare any interest as and when this arose during the meeting.

163 Minutes of the Fourteenth Meeting

163.1 151.1 - Sport England Code of Governance. To re-send to LT. Swim England working with Counties at the moment re Tier 2, discussion in respect of Regions doing the same – Tier 2+.

163.2 151.2 - Safeguarding – Sport England looking to invest in Active Partnership Networks. Looking to put a Welfare Officer into these to support clubs of all sports with low level welfare issues. Swim England spoken to Regional Chairs suggesting Regions appoint a welfare officer. NER already have a welfare officer. Query whether this will be a volunteer role or paid full-time officer funded by the Region. C. Halliday informed that he has had discussions with different people also on National Welfare Forum. He personally couldn't justify spending money on full-time person (need to do cost analysis to see if can justify this). D. Watson – raised as point of discussion (volunteer or paid position). Regional Chairs meeting tomorrow night. P. Court – if Swim England trying to get in order, may be worthwhile having a discussion. He hasn't had a DBS check on joining the Board, need to protect reputation of SENER. D. Watson - to look into the process to DBS Board Members.

164 Matters Arising from the Minutes

151.2 - R. Gordon - Have Board Members read report commissioned by Sport England in respect of Swim England. No justification for appointment of full-time Safeguarding Officer in the NE Region. Recommend all to read the report.

153.5 - Water Polo – R. Gordon wrote to appropriate people with no response. Assume they are not going to levy the fine.

159.4 - Inter-Regional Water Polo event – need to contact Swim England re lack of work.

165 Report of the Regional Finance Manager

165.1 Had meeting with Grant Peters re Finance. Discussed how to authorise payments – R. Gordon gets challenged by Virgin Money on a random basis to authorise

payments. It seems difficult to get dual authorisation. Investments – interest rate from Virgin Money is quite competitive. Funding only protected up to £80K – may lose interest if move from Virgin Money. To start to develop a Risk Register/Risk Management – to review on a regular basis. G. Peters agreed that a second level approver is very important/approval limits. To discuss further. R. Gordon reported that facility hire is the biggest expense for the Region.

166 Regional Business Plan

166.1 No update at the present time.

167 Regional Agreement

167.1 The Regional Team and Richard Palmer Jones met a few weeks ago re regional business planning. Richard is attending a Swim England meeting re strategic planning. Will be able to update the Board in due course.

Swim England to launch 10 year strategy shortly.

168 Welfare Officer Report

168.1 C. Halliday – Spoken to 4 Clubs and referred 2 to Swim England for them to get Swim England support

169 169.1 Other Items for Information

None.

170 Any Other Business

170.1 None.

171 Next Meeting - tbc

ACTION POINTS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
163.2 - D. Watson - to look into the process to DBS Board Members.	DW