

Havering Sports Council

Minutes of Annual General Meeting Held via Zoom

On Tuesday 23rd February 2021

17 members were present.

The meeting opened at 8pm with words of tribute for our President Peter Bruce who sadly passed away recently after a short illness. His funeral was held today and representatives from the Sports Council attended. Peter was a founder member of our Sports Council in 1967 and had an unbroken commitment in all that time, setting up the Sports Awards in the 1970's and even quite recently when he was 87 and due to be standing down from his Presidency tonight, he was planning to carry on with running the Awards, Annual Dinner and anything else he could fit in his already busy schedule. He was involved in many types of sport over the years but was best known for being Head tennis coach at Everyone Active Havering Tennis Club and won many Tennis Awards during his long tennis Career. He was a unique individual and we will not see his like again. He will be very sadly missed.

The tribute was followed by a minute's silence.

Apologies for absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr S Miller, Eagles Badminton Club, R Cook and K Heilbrunn.

1. To confirm the AGM Minutes of 25th February 2020.

The minutes were approved by D Bredding and seconded by D Ainsworth.

2. To consider any matters arising from these minutes.

There were no matters arising.

3. To receive the report of the Officers.

a) The Chairman

Spirits were high after last year's AGM with every one looking forward to the new Season but then the Pandemic arrived and we have become used to seeing gates padlocked and empty pitches where usually sports would be taking place.

Even the usual annual Sports Awards had to be cancelled. However we did request nominations for the 'Doug Riden Lifetime Achievement Award' sponsored by Romford McDonald's, which requires nominees to be Havering residents and to have completed no less than 15 years contribution to Sport in the Borough. It was received by Dave Keeley who was a Hon Secretary for Hornchurch Athletics Society for over 25 years, has completed an A-Z of Marathons and is a prominent and valued member of the Sports Council.

The Sports Council has continued monthly meetings via Zoom and will not be charging Clubs any Subs this year due to the loss of last year's Sporting Calendar.

A decision was also taken to cease printing the yearly handbook and put all information on line.

Members of the Sports Council were looking forward to taking a tour of the new Hornchurch Sports Centre but this had to be cancelled at short notice due to tightened Covid Restrictions.

After 3 and a half year's commitment to local Sports TIME Sports Show has had to be cancelled but may be re-established when things get back to normal. Tom Goldsmith was thanked for all his endeavours to raise the profile of local sport and Clubs in the borough.

b) The Hon. Treasurer

To follow

c) The Hon. Membership Secretary

There was no charge for Subs in 2021 due to the cancelled sporting calendar but emails have gone out asking for details to be updated. There are 43 members so far with some enquiries from our Facebook page and some individual members.

d) The Hon. Press Officer

Last year's AGM was well reported - as would be expected when visited by a guest speaker from our local media. Alas a 2020 downturn in local sports activities left little to publicise. Later in 2020, we received publicity for our annual Sports Awards - surprising as we only had 1 award being contested. However it must be said that with so little sport being reported, plenty of space needed filling! December saw local radio station Time FM end an hour-long Thursday night "*Sports Show*" after 3-and-half years of broadcasting. This is a blow to local sport which had been featured with regularity. In early January the local media repeated news of our Annual Awards as closing date approached. Sadly when President Peter Bruce passed away, I was approached by our local media to write words about Peter's long contribution to local sport. I duly obliged and his sad departure was fully covered by the Romford Recorder, The Havering Daily and Time FM. I received a call from Peter's widow, Yvonne, thanking me for what I'd written. Our publicity year ended on a high note as the press wrote merited comprehensive articles about a worthy winner of our "*Doug Riden Lifetime Achievement Award*" - Dave Keeley. One hopes more local sport will soon return so we'll have increased opportunities to obtain publicity before our next AGM.

4. The election of officers to stand until the 2022 AGM

The following officers were proposed and elected to stand until the 2022 AGM

President	Position Vacant in respect for Peter Bruce
Chairman	Cllr Melvin Wallace
Vice Chairman	Graham Goddard
Secretary	Dave Keeley
Treasurer	Mary Breeding
Membership Secretary	Kay Hamilton

Minutes Secretary	Jayne Hickie
Social Media	Lisa Gaskin
Press Officer	Dave Ainsworth
Web Site Administrator	Dave Keeley
Schools Liaison Officer	Jordon Sargeant

5. To appoint members of Havering Council in accordance with the Constitution.

The appointment of Councillors from the London Borough of Havering to attend Sports Council Meetings will be announced by LBH in May.

The Annual General Meeting ended at 8.40pm.