

Minutes of the Havering Sports Council Meeting Held on Tuesday 27th September 2022

Present:	J West M.B.E	M Wallace	G Goddard
K Hamilton-Goddard	D Ainsworth	J Hickie	Cllr V Persaud
K Heilbrunn	D Braiden	S Deane	D Shewring

The meeting was opened and then a minutes silence was held in respect of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II.

Our new president Jeremy West M.B.E was then presented with his official chain of office.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from R Cook, D and A Drew, D Keeley and Cllr L Hawthorn.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on the 28th June were proposed by D Ainsworth and seconded by S Deane. .

3. Matters Arising from the previous meeting

We were awaiting notice of which councilors are to be appointed to the Sports Council and we now know that it is Cllr L Hawthorn and Cllr V Persaud.

4. Correspondence

D Ainsworth has now purchased a new Trophy which will be the Peter Bruce Lifetime Achievement Award, starting in February 2023 in honour of our past president. This replaces the Doug Riden Lifetime Achievement Award which has been awarded for 20 years and is now retained by last year's winner.

Trophyland has advised us that some Trophy's from last year's winners are still to be engraved so our bill is not yet ready. D Keeley is to be advised so that the winners can be chased up.

5. Membership Secretary's Report

We have 32 Club members and 6 individuals.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer sent in a report on current balances.

7. Information on forthcoming events and results of past events

Our President J West M.B.E shared this year's success story of his Club, Hornchurch Cricket Club on its incredible journey through the cricket season culminating in winning the ECB Vitality Club (National) T20 Cup at Wormsley Cricket Grounds beating Barnt Green by 10 runs. There were over 600 teams playing during the season so it really was an outstanding achievement. Hornchurch Cricket Club, established 225 years ago, are now English Champions and will be representing England in Europe.

M Wallace congratulated the team on their success and suggested that the council put some metal benches around the cricket ground so people can sit and watch the cricket games at Harrow Lodge Park. Also that the team should be honoured with a civic reception and he will make enquiries. D Braiden is to relay the request for benches to the relevant council office.

Next year each Premier League Game will be screened live on You Tube.

D Ainsworth thanked J West M.B.E. for such a vivid account and remarked that it was so great to see a home grown team doing so well. Lee Power from The Romford Recorder was at the match and the story was well reported by all the local media.

Ray Morgan also wrote a nice piece in the Councils Living Magazine. Available on line.

Hovering Athletic Club

The club's annual championships and open meeting at Hornchurch on Sunday saw over 200 athlete entries, two-thirds from club members to end another successful track & field season. The first full season since COVID lock downs.

The Eastern Young Athletes Team won their division and went on to comfortably win the end of season Final of the top teams in the league. The Under 13 & 15 squad retained their place in the National Youth Development League Southern Premier Division, while the U17 & U20 YDL squad just missed out on promotion to the Southern Premier Division. The senior men's & women's National Athletic League team finished fifth in their Championship (second tier) Division in the first full season of the League, while the Southern League squad were also fifth.

Individually the stand out performance came from HSC Junior Award winner Stephanie Okoro who won 400m hurdles bronze in the European Under 18 Championships in Jerusalem, setting a new UK age 16 best and UK Under 17 record (& also a club U17, U20 & senior record!). She went on to win 300m hurdles gold in the England Athletics Championships and UK School Games. Paris King won English Schools 80m hurdles silver, winning England International selection and she went on to win the England Athletics Championships in the fastest time by an U17 this year (& fourth best all -time). Jacob Blanc won English Schools Senior 400m hurdles bronze and Bobby Williams won Inter javelin bronze, earning him an England Schools vest.

Off track in July the Havering men's squad retained the Spitfire Scramble 24-hour relay title which they won in 2019 as the event returned to Hornchurch Country Park after a two-year COVID enforced break. And last Saturday the cross country season got underway as club teams won seven medals in the Essex Cross Country Relays at Weald Park with the Under 15 Boys winning gold and other teams winning five silvers and a bronze.

LBH Sports development

Rainham Leisure Centre is all on track to open in June 2023 with no set backs on the program of works to date. Works are ongoing at Central Park to improve the changing area and reception. Slight delay but should be complete mid-October.

Successful summer program of events, now working on October Half term. All term time sessions are running at full capacity or close to full to capacity.

LYG Havering finished 6th overall. Re-starts again in 2023 with cross country in November.

Mini marathon this weekend on Saturday instead of Sunday. Full team of 36 young people attending to run last few miles of main marathon route.

D Ainsworth commented on the fact that the Junior Mini Marathon that runs over the last 3 miles of the London Marathon Course will not have the same atmosphere or TV coverage this year with taking place on the Saturday before the main event. Many boroughs are not happy with the change and unfortunately this year also coincides with a national rail strike. Havering is providing a bus for our 36 entrants.

Everyone Active

There is to be a tour of the new Rainham Sports Centre for Sports Council members on the 12th October at 2pm. K Hamilton Goddard will send out an email to members.

Everyone Active is also looking for a Level 2 qualified football coach for Junior Football on a Saturday.

Hornchurch Cricket Club

A mixed season mainly due to availability problems but finishing on the 11th September by winning the E.C.B. Vitality Club (National)T.20 Cup at Wormsley beating Barnt Green by 10 runs.

Of the 112 senior matches played 39won, 10 drew, 1 tied, 1 abandoned and 61 lost.

11+ centuries scored of which four were 200 or more and 11 took 5 wickets or more in a match.

Over the season 21841 runs scored, 783 wickets taken against 21886 runs and 885 wickets lost.

On the junior front 69 matches played covering U11 to U16 winning 32 drawing 2 and losing 35.

Havering Tri

Things are back to normal now and we have had teams entered in the local 24 hour Spitfire Scramble event held at Hornchurch Country Park and in Europe with events taking place in Italy, Austria and Lanzarote. A female club member did well enough in the Iron Man race in Lanzarote to qualify for the Iron Man Event in Kona, Hawaii. We also have a Club Member that came 6th in a 10 day long Extreme Iron Man Challenge.

8. Newsletter/Website/Publicity

Peter Strings did many reports for the Sports Council but will be leaving the council on Friday due to redundancy. D Braiden will let us know who is taking over.

9. Sports Awards

February Half term in 2023 is 13th to 17th February so we will hold out Sports awards night on Monday 6th February. The closing date for entries will be the 2nd Monday in January as usual. Jack Robson our Schools Liaison Officer has been promoting the schools awards so we are expecting a higher than usual amount of entries.

D Keeley is to confirm with all sponsors that they are willing to sponsor again and D Ainsworth will contact the compere.

10. A.O.B

- i) There has been a request from an Upminster Bowling Club and Elm Park Bowling Club about intervening with the council regarding a doubling of the cost of their rent. Cllr V Persaud is to ask the question at the next cabinet meeting.
- ii) There is also a concern from Clubs that have facilities in Parks about the new council proposal to no longer lock the park gates at night. In the past parks unable to be locked have suffered vandalism to Sports facilities to such an extent that there is no longer any facilities there.
- iii) The earlier time of our meetings at 7pm to comply with the Town Halls new operating schedule is difficult for some members to attend, so it was suggested moving the venue to Hornchurch Cricket Pavilion and reinstating the starting time of 8pm. The practicalities of moving will be looked into and a decision will be given at the October meeting at the Town Hall.
- iv) Finally congratulations from all to Kay and Graham on their recent marriage.

10. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 25th October 7pm at the Town Hall. Please reserve a parking space by emailing finadmin@havering.gov.uk .