

**MINUTES OF THE HAVERING SPORTS COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 23RD JANUARY 2024**

Present:	M Wallace	D Ainsworth	Cllr V Persaud
J Robson	K Heilbrunn	D Braiden	A W Dron
D W Shewring	M Lipson	G Goddard	J Sargeant
R Cook	S Deane	D Wiltshire	

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from J west M.B.E., D Keeley, J Hickie, K Hamilton, L Gaskin and K Nutt.
2. **Minutes of the previous meeting**
Amendment requested. Paragraph 5 line 3 - fibrillation to read defibrillation.
These were then adopted as a true and correct record ; proposed Rn Cook Seconded Doug D. Shewring.
Carried unanimously and signed as a true and correct record.
3. **Matters Arising from the previous meeting**
There were no matters arising.
4. **Correspondence**
None. The Chair advised that a new Secretary is required at the AGM, as Dave Keeley is to step down. Members were asked to consider this position and also ask around their Clubs and Organisations to see if any persons might be interested in the position.
5. **Membership Secretary's Report**
31 members. Two had expired without renewal. It was reported that an easy access to become members and renew membership was available via Havering Sports Councils Website.
6. **Treasurer's Report**
The Treasurer reported on current balances. The Treasurer was thanked by the chair. The Treasurer stated that he wasn't receiving Havering Sports Council Correspondence via email. This is to be brought to the attention of the Secretary to ensure the Treasurers name was added to the master distribution list.
7. **Information on forthcoming events and results of past events**

Schools Rep

Schools Rep. Jack Robson spoke highly of a publicity leaflet which had been available at recent meetings and enquired if it would be possible to run an online version of it. To be considered. Mention was made of positive liaison with School representatives, which had resulted in enough Sports Awards nominations to provide candidates for both categories, Senior and Primary, and to see winners and runners-up in both.

Havering Athletic Club

Havering Athletic Club. 3 Essex County Masters x-country medals were won at Writtle as James Connor & Rob Warner were respective M40 gold & silver medallists with the team 2nd. At Basildon 7 medals were won in the Essex County Championship as Lauren Reed won the Senior Women's title and Freddie Rowe claimed silver in the U/15 boy's event. The 4th Essex X-County League fixture at Colchester saw wins by Freddie Rowe (U/15) and the Veteran Men's squad. A short indoor season is in progress which saw Ruby Tilson's International English Schools debut rewarded with a U18 bronze at the Schools Pentathlon in Cardiff and a team gold. Joel Ajayi made a big breakthrough when winning a Men's U/17 60m gold medal also beating his Club's U/17, U/20 and Senior marks in so doing.
His UK U/17 6.84 time was the joint 6th fastest ever by a male athlete.

Upminster Bowls Club

The Romford & District AGM held at Romford Bowling Club saw the following elected; President Dave King (Romford), Deputy President Sandy Dron (Upminster), Treasurer Phil Henshaw (Romford), Competition Secretary Tony Allen (Upminster), Match Secretary Richard Strass (Liberty of Havering) and League Secretary Conway Fleming (Kings Chase). Romford & District Bowling Association are to celebrate a centenary in 2024 with special matches being arranged.

LBH Sports development

There's currently hectic activity in preparation for half-term, an Easter break and the annual mini-marathon. A Havering Healthy Weight Strategy had been widely circulated and was to go 'live' on January 24th. It was reported that "Walking for Fitness" sessions were well supported on a daily basis. The meeting was informed that Mr. Mark Ansell was Havering's Director of Public Health. An attender suggested he might be a possible speaker at a future Sports Council meeting.

Everyone Active

A weight management programme is to be introduced.

Hornchurch Cricket Club

A successful AGM was held on 21st January during which the following were elected Team Captain's : 1st Sat & 1st Sun, Billy Gordon. 2nd Sat Frankie Jacobs. 3rd Sat Andy Roberts. 4th Sat Graeme Farquhar. 5th Sat Chanuka Mekala. The Club look forward to a new season commencing in April.

Havering Tri Club

Havering Tri Club. Outdoor triathlon training and competition is now returning to normal after a Covid break. The Club lost a few members but are heartened by successful Friday track sessions which have commenced with an impressive 25 members in training.

Broxhill Archers

A new disabled archer hit 3 bulls during her first attempt and was a good prospect. There are 2 Jack Frost handicap shoots arranged.

8. Newsletter/Website/Publicity

Local radio station TIME FM ran a feature before our awards closing date which may have drummed up late additional interest. A question was asked as to who now maintained their news coverage? This was stated to be Leanna Little.

9. Sports Awards

Awards this year were extremely high in quality so proving a difficult task to select winners and runners-up. Two categories, Senior Competitor and Volunteer has secured only 1 nomination in each, but were of high standard. For a 2nd time since the Lifetime Achievement Award was introduced in 2001, there was a tie so the shield would be shared by joint winners holding it for 6 months each. This had happened once before when Peter Bruce and Bob Loveday were joint winners. Original stipulations for a Lifetime Achievement Trophy had been unchanged since its introduction - that it should be awarded to a recipient with 15 years' service or more wasn't considered a "lifetime" as most winners were well above that time span. It was proposed that 25 years should be a guideline. This was voted on and carried unanimously.

For catering purposes attenders were asked to indicate if they wished to attend our Presentation Evening and numbers were recorded by the Chairman. It was asked for this to be minuted, so those not present could be informed they'd be welcome, with a request they notify the Chairman of intentions, with or without a guest? Notification was given that 1 attender required gluten-free catering - noted.

10. AGM

This to be held on Tuesday 27th February commencing at 8pm with a pre-meeting gathering from 7.30pm for a welcome buffet as in previous years. Business would commence with a talk by Councillor Gillian Ford, Havering Council's Cabinet member with responsibility for Sport, Leisure and Recreation. In view of much uncertainty about funding and charges which might affect the sports community, members were asked to frame their questions and also spread the word around potentially interested members of their Clubs.

11. A.O.B

A discussion took place on the future of Borough sporting facilities. This followed a detailed consultation, which Sports Council members had been urged to complete. Many had and it was thought to have been too long and detailed. Questions were asked about Upminster tennis courts, tennis courts in general and if there would be ample community time? Tennis court provision was now out to tender with an outcome not yet known. An observation was made that 2 tennis courts were out of use at the rear of the old Broxhill site. A major concern was a possible introduction of parking charges at public parks in which sporting activities were held and if implemented, what would be the charging structure? Members are worried parking charges would see vehicle owners parking in local streets, so causing problems in such areas. Further worry was that expensive charges would mean a number of parents/guardians wouldn't use vehicles to bring players to fixtures, so reducing participation levels. Havering Council appointed Sports Council delegate Cllr. Viddy Persaud advised the meeting that many were fearful of what may be charged as the Council was under financial pressure. Details aren't yet available as they are still under discussion following the aforementioned Survey. Cllr. Persaud offered to ask a question at a Council Meeting which would reflect concerns of Sports Council members. It was agreed to give Cllr. Persaud *carte blanche* to frame a question and ask it on our behalf.

12. Date of next meeting.

The next meeting will be our AGM on Tuesday 27th February 8pm at Hornchurch Cricket Club. There will be a pre meeting welcome buffet from 7.30.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

