

Havering Sports Council

Minutes of Annual General Meeting Held Tuesday 21st February 2023

24 Members were present.

Our meeting opened with D Ainsworth introducing our guest speaker Mike Brace CBE, DL. Mike is an inspirational speaker and leaves listeners in awe of his many achievements. He lost his sight at the age of 10 after a very unfortunate incident with a firework but that didn't stop him going on to be a very successful Paralympian in sports such as skiing. He has done 54 different sports over 60 years. Sports gave him a chance to extend his family and the public's perception of what he and others could achieve. He constantly extended the barriers and goals he was aiming for. In the early 1970's when he found a lack of organised sport for blind people in London he and a group of friends started the Metro Sports Club. He later went on to be chairman of the British Paralympic Association and among many other achievements, successfully coached a blind cricket team in India. He was invited and agreed to be part of the London 2012 successful Olympic and Paralympic Bid Team of which we enjoyed hearing about his escapades, on that roller-coaster of a journey.

Our chairman M Wallace thanked Mike for speaking and presented him with a cheque to be donated to a cause of his choice.

Apologies for absence

D and A Drew, D and M Breathing, K Heilbrunn, T Fletcher, T Hughes and P Hickie.

1. To confirm the AGM minutes of 22nd February 2022

The minutes were approved by L Gaskin and seconded by J Watson.

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising

3. To receive the report of the officers

a. The Chairman

M Wallace thanked J West M.B.E for completing his first of three years as president and offering us the use of his Clubs cricket pavilion for our meetings. The new earlier meeting time available at the Town Hall had meant some members were unable to attend. He then went on to thank all the committee for their hard work over the past year and J Hickie for organising tonight's buffet. Also thank you to Upminster Golf Club for hosting an excellent Awards Ceremony at the start of the month.

b. The Hon Treasurer

M Wallace thanked M Breathing in her absence as she is no longer able to attend meetings as sadly her husband D Breathing is very unwell. Mary will be standing down as Treasurer due to her caring commitments. The account balances were reported.

c. The Hon Membership Secretary

Our membership numbers have not recovered to pre Covid levels and we stand currently at 28 Clubs and 4 individuals listed. It is still £5.00 for a Club and £2.00 for an individual to join.

d. Hon Press Secretary

We have had a very good year with lots of local media coverage and are also featured in the Councils Living Magazine. There was very good coverage of our Sports Awards both before and after the event. The Romford Recorder has changed from how it used to be and is now also available to read on line. Lee Power has now returned and is once again Sports Editor. M Wallace thanked D Ainsworth for all his hard work on our behalf throughout the year.

4. The Election of Officers

The following officers were proposed and seconded to stand with the exception of J West M.B.E whose President position is starting the second year of a three year term.

President	year 2 of 3 year term	Jeremy West M.B.E
Chairman		Melvin Wallace
Vice Chairman		Graham Goddard
Hon Secretary		Dave Keeley
Hon Membership Secretary		Kay Hamilton-Goddard
Hon Minutes Secretary		Jayne Hickie
Social Media Secretary		Lisa Gaskin
Hon Press Officer		Dave Ainsworth
Web Site Administrator		Dave Keeley
Schools Liaison Officer		Jack Robson

The position of Hon Treasurer is vacant and a nomination has been received from G Goddard proposing Myron Lipson of Havering Tri Club. This was seconded by D Ainsworth. M Wallace then requested a vote from the members present which was agreed by all. Welcome to Myron Lipson our new Treasurer and banking details will be updated in due course.

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

Cllr V Persaud was present and has agreed to continue. Cllr P Middleton was also attending and accepted our invitation to be our second appointed councillor. This replaces Cllr L Hawthorn who will be standing down this year.

The Annual General Meeting closed at 9pm