



**FIRESPORT UK
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

29th Dec 2020 @ 14.00hrs – Online via Zoom media Platform (Due to COVID 19 National restrictions)

1. **Present:** 17 Members of the Association were present online and recorded in the Official Attendance Register.

Apologies

Apologies were received.

- Nathan Travis- Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service
- Joanne Wilson- Hampshire FRS
- Irene Kema: Berkshire
- Conor Byrne: Berkshire
- Michael Graham – CFO NIFRS
- Sean Comerford: Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue
- Ludo Macaulay: Walking & Mountaineering section
- Dave Waywell: NW District

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting (July 2019 – previously circulated)

The Minutes were agreed. With the following amendments:

- Both Alan Pendleton & Eddie Parry had been co-opted onto the National Executive Committee for the year ahead.
- Sean Comerford had been proposed to receive the highest accolade, The Meritorious Award for services to FSSAA/FSUK over 11 year's tenure in the role of Honorary General Secretary of the Association.
- The written report from the Golf section had also been submitted.

3. Matter Arising

- Matt Thompson clarified that the Golf section has submitted a Section grant application in Oct 2019 for 19/20 yr., and it had not been paid. Narrative suggested no application submitted. (This application to be processed asap)
- Chris Belki (Table-Tennis Section) indicated that their section had received no grants for the past x3 years and had submitted on every occasion. Communication to be re-established to ensure this didn't happen again.

- Alan Pendleton wanted to clarify if Andy Williamson was on record as the Merseyside FRS because subs were available for collection, but no request followed. The narrative suggests arrears.

4. Chair's Address

Chair's Address

Paul thanked all those who had made the effort to attend via the Zoom platform for the 2020 National FSUK AGM. He acknowledged that the meeting was significantly late but necessary to establish the current state of the Association and re-establish those links between the committee and the various sections. Paul alluded to the dreadful year that many have had to endure due to the global pandemic that could never have been foreseen. He indicated that this had a detrimental impact on the vast majority of sport across all FRS UK and various sections representing FSUK. He thanked all those that continued to govern within the various sections and are ambitious for the future.

Paul mentioned the process that had already begun from the 2019 AGM; both Conor Byrne & Irene Kema (acting very professionally) in the Treasurer's role for the Association had decided to transition the role to the agreed & incoming Paul Drakes from the Squash section. Paul thanked both Conor and Irene for their long years' service to the role, and the various mechanisms they created to ensure accountability was paramount and supported both Sean & Ronán in their respective honorary secretary roles. Paul thanked Ronán as honorary general secretary for his commitment to the role, and despite a very challenging 18 months from personal family impact, he managed to address the core elements of the role. Paul mentioned that the ambition of the Association was to cement better working relationships with the NFCC, but this was not a working objective currently. He did support the possibility that with changing personnel in the NFCC there may well be better opportunities in the future and he would be more than willing to facilitate any arrangement with the support of FSUK.

Paul confirmed that he wrote to all FRS CFO's in late 2018 reaffirming their support for sporting activity within UK FRS and ensuring that their service had honoured the commitments to pay respective Subs payments to FSUK if outstanding. He also wanted to establish a concrete contact with each service going forward so subs could be returned in a timely fashion.

Paul.....

5. Honorary General Secretary's Report

Firstly can I thank you for coming online to our Firesport UK AGM, I was anxious about the challenge of Zoom and how that might develop but I'm encouraged that so many have taken time out from their holidays period to support FSUK.

Ronán confirmed as Paul had mentioned that more recently he had not given the same commitment to the role as he would have preferred, with the changing lifestyle habits and the sheer impact of COVID had allowed some pressing issues that needed to be addressed to but put back. He did mention that personal circumstances had compounded availability of time to concentrate on the secretary role from time to time. Ronán wanted to thank personally the professional attitude to the Treasurer role from both Conor & Irene and wished them well in their respective roles in Berkshire FRS. "They had been a great help to me to understand the role & duties along with my former Sean Comerford, I do appreciate their help as the national experience was a new arena for me". Ronán also thanked Chairperson CFO Paul Fuller for his continued support to the association and persistence to address the outstanding subs issue via other principal service officers.

Ronán thanked Paul Abbott (FSUK Media officer) for his help to promote various section activities and info from the Association throughout his tenure. Ronán was not planning on seeking re-election to the role as personal commitments were still a priority and welcomed new interest to consider committing. He made a personal apology to Golf Section for not following up request for additional resources for a Golf invite internationally, but he indicated that the demanding circumstance of significant subs outstanding nationally had consumed a substantial time and he had unfortunately not got round to looking at available options for the section, therefore not addressed. Ronán was very encouraged by the interest received in more recent times by two potentially new sections, and he had furnished them with relevant guidance and areas to consider before making a formal request to become affiliated. Ronán wished Paul

Drakes well in the new role as Treasurer and confirmed that Paul Drakes had always been available to ensure there was a smooth transition.

6. Treasurer's Report

FireSport UK Narrative Report 20/21

Summary of Grants for 19/20

We paid out £13,023 in Grants between Nov 19 and Mar 20;
Additional £1,600 loan was paid to the Football section on the 12/02/2020, additional £1,500 was paid to Bowls for their 18/19 grant. Bringing the total grant payment plus Loan for 19/20 to £16,123.

The 20/21 Grant Application forms are still pending, they have not been sent out yet. However, £1,000 was paid to the Triathlon section as agreed by Ronan.

Summary of Subs for 19/20

The Total Subs expected for the 19/20 was £30,930

We have so far received a total of £21,160 in Subs payments bringing the total outstanding payment for 19/20 to - £9,770

Outstanding Subs

Please see the list below;

1) 2015/16 Outstanding Subs: £439

Avon Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2015/20	£439
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2) 2016/17 Outstanding Subs: £580

Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2016/34	£290
Leicestershire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2016/37	£290

3) 17/18 Outstanding Subs: £1,809

Cleveland Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2017/2	£327
Lancashire Fire & Rescue	SUBS/2017/11	£494
North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue	SUBS/2017/13	£494
Avon Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2017/20	£494

4) 18/19 Outstanding Subs: £4,104

Bucks Fire Service & Rescue Service	SUBS/2018/2	327
Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2018/6	494
Staffordshire Fire & Rescue	SUBS/2018/15	494
Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2018/16	327
Durham & Darlington Fire & rescue	SUBS/2018/19	327
Cornwall Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2018/34	327
Lincs Fire & Rescue	SUBS/2018/38	327
Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2018/44	494
Hertfordshire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2018/47	494
Merseyside Fire & Rescue	SUBS/2018/56	494

5) 19/20 Outstanding Subs: £9,770

Bucks Fire Service& Rescue Service	SUBS/2019/3	327
Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2019/6	494
West Sussex County Council	SUBS/2019/12	327
Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2019/16	327
Durham & Darlington Fire & rescue	SUBS/2019/19	327
Avon Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2019/20	494
Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue	SUBS/2019/21	327
Hampshire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2019/25	494
Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2019/29	327
Scottish Fire Rescue	SUBS/2019/33	3699
Lincs Fire & Rescue	SUBS/2019/38	327
Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2019/40	327
Cheshire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2019/43	494
Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service	SUBS/2019/44	494
South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue	SUBS/2019/52	494
Merseyside Fire & Rescue	SUBS/2019/56	494

Account Balance as at the 31/10/2020:

Current Account: £16,380.31

Savings Accounts: £5,702.1 + £1,512.6 = £7,214.70

Total Bank balance as at the 31/10/2020 = £23,595.01

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 October 2020

31 March 2020		Income	31 October 2020	
£	£		£	£
	27384	Affiliation Fees		494
		AGM Income		
		Weather Lottery		
		Magazine Adverts		
	25.23	Bank Interest		8.79
		Less Tax/Bank Charges		
	<u>27,409.23</u>		<u>502.79</u>	
£		Expenditure	£	
1600		Angling		
500		Athletics		
		Badminton		
3000		Bowls		
		Clay Target		

1400	Cricket	
1800	Cycling	
3600	Football	
	Golf	
2223	Ice Hockey	
	Hockey	
	Netball	
	Rugby	
	Sailing	
1000	Squash	
1000	Swimming	
	Table Tennis	
	Triathlon	1000
	Volleyball	
	Walking	
	<u>16,123.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
4499	Insurance	
	Temp cover for Cadets Swimming	
	Affiliation/Subscription Fees	
	AGM Expenses	
	Meetings/Administration	
2604	Website/Publicity	
	Landseer	
	Returned cheque	
171.00	miscellaneous	
	Awards & Engraving/Frames	
	<u>23,397.00</u>	<u>1,000.00</u>
	<u><u>4,012.23</u></u>	<u><u>-497.21</u></u>
	Net Surplus/(Deficit)	

Fire Sport UK 2020/21

Balance sheet as at 31 Oct 2020

31 March 2020	Current Assets	31 October 2020
£		£
16886.31	Bank - Current A/C	16380.31
7205.91	Bank - Deposit A/C	7,214.70
	Debtors	
<u><u>24,092.22</u></u>		<u><u>23,595.01</u></u>
	LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	

Creditors

24,092.22

23,595.01

REPRESENTED BY:

20,079.99

Accumulated Fund B/Fwd

24,092.22

4,012.23

Surplus/Deficit for the year

-497.21

24,092.22

23,595.01

*Signed
Irene Kema
23/12/2020*

- Matt Thompson (Golf Section) requested that their genuine submission of 2019/20 grant application could be processed; Ronán confirmed that this would be the case when he could contact Irene/Conor & Paul Drakes to direct.
- Chris Belki (Table-Tennis Section) had requested that his section was made clear of the outcome of any future grant submissions as he had made several submissions in the past with no response.
- Chairperson suggested that the remained of subs outstanding for 19/20 should be recovered without delay and attempts to recover the historical subs before that should also continue.
- Paul Drakes made it clear that until he had full access to the Association accounts online, he was not in a position to govern adequately in the Treasurer's role. He would peruse with those currently authorised to access accounts and hoped the mandate change could happen soon.
- It was agreed that an amendment to the Instrument & Rules, (Association Constitution) Section 5 will omit the requirement for all assembly officers to be serving. Now reading:

The Assembly of the Association

5. a) The Management of FireSport UK shall, subject to any other express provision contained in these Rules, be undertaken by the Assembly which shall consist of members appointed annually as follows:-

- In terms of accountability of payments made from the organisation, agreed terms that all transactions would be made electronically, and the Treasurer would request approval for payments from minimum of one of the following; Chairperson and/or Honorary General Secretary.

7. FSUK Awards – Recognition of Service to the Association

There were no nominations for recognition in advance of the meeting.

8. Installation of the Chair and Presentation of the Badge

Paul Fuller (CFO Bedfordshire) was voted in as the Chair for the coming year. Paul indicated that it was prudent to have an assistant chair as there had been no willing nominations in recent years.

10. Presentation of the Vice-Chairs Badge

The AGM had a proposal from Samantha Nicholson (T&WFRS) for **CFO Chris Lowther** (T&WFRS) to support the chairperson's role. Chris was provisionally approved for Vice Chairperson's role.

11. Sports Personality of the Year

There were no nominations.

12. To Receive Recommendations from the National Assembly

- The Grant application forms for 20/21 had not yet been sent to the respective sections and therefore none approved. This was due to the executive not meeting to approve financial standings of various sections and approving grant requests due to COVID 19. The late timing of the AGM in 2020 therefore now needs to ensure applications are distributed to the various sections interested in grant assistance.
- Agreed that sections must contact the Treasurer (Paul Drakes) to request payment of grants 2021; otherwise, no payment will be made.

13. Appointments of the National Assembly, President & Vice- Presidents - Generic list

14. Appointments of the National Executive Committee

Honorary Chairman **Paul Fuller**
Honorary Vice Chairman **Chris Lowther** (provisional)
Immediate Past Chair **Jason Thelwell**
Honorary General Secretary **Paul Abbott**
Honorary Assistant Secretary: **Samantha Nicholson**
Honorary Treasurer **Paul Drakes**
Public Relations Officer
Honorary Technical Officer
WebMaster (Co-Opted) **Paul Abbott**
Co-Opted Elected Members:

David Farries
Samantha Nicholson
Ronán O'Reilly
Sean Comerford
Alan Pendleton
Eddie Parry
Chris Lowther

Auditor
Solicitors **Mr M Barnes, West Yorkshire**

These nominations were voted on and accepted unanimously

15. Website

Paul- I will leave you to enter what contribution you want to be noted from the meeting. Below is the previous submission if you want as prompt.

Paul Abbott has continued to report events and section activities on the various media platforms. Paul, unfortunately, could not make the meeting, but he did pass on that even though Sections hadn't managed to host info directly to the FSUK media on occasions, he was regularly monitoring the various sections FB/Twitter accounts to link to the main site. This ensures that most of the events were still getting hits/exposure to greater membership.

*Paul was keen to acknowledge the 50-year history of the Association by posting the following image on the main webpage.



16. Précis of Sports Sections Reports from Representatives

- The Chairperson, CFO Paul Fuller had asked all those present to forward the various timelines and activity reports from section to the Honorary Secretary to collate. These could then be published on Association media outlets or for those requesting info. (Due to time constraints via Zoom meeting, it was deemed the preferred option)

17. AOB

1. Raised by Cricket Section- Query over retired members eligibility to represent/avail of FSUK benefits, if they are not directly involved with their former respective FRS/Brigade.

- Decision made after discussion, as per Trust Deed rules, a serving member should have to serve a minimum of x5 years before being considered by their respective Service to represent the brigade in FSUK events (If they retire from service.)
- It was also endorsed that some services offer honorary membership to retired members (without a subscription) to represent in FSUK events.
- If a member resigns from their respective service, it will be at the discretion of that service/sports association to offer that member honorary membership only after 3 years' service. It would therefore be the responsibility of the member to contact their former service sports if they wish to represent in a sporting capacity either as a team or individual.

2. Affiliation with NFCC.

- It was previously outlined from the Chair, that this was working progress.

3. FSUK Patron relationship/communication.

Bearing in mind the sensitive nature of this subject area, and recent media reporting, the Association would respond to Buckingham Palace confirming the Patron's intentions to cease activity associated with Patron roles and request the Palace, if they wish, to propose a suitable replacement for FSUK in the future.

4. Amanda Holloway from Hampshire FRS- Requested info on assembling a new section: CrossFit & Powerlifting. Dan Fearn; Suffolk- British Firefighter Challenge Team (Proposed new section)

Ronán (Outgoing general secretary) confirmed that he had recent correspondence with both individuals representing proposed new sections for

FSUK. Ronán confirmed that he would ensure they had an understanding of the necessary criteria to be fulfilled before making a formal affiliation request. Both Paul Abbott & Samantha Nicholson would also liaise with both proposed new sections to ensure the association was content with the direction of activity and would thereafter present findings to an Executive meeting in 2021.

5. Matt Thompson (Golf) queried the existence of the FSSAA/FSUK magazine that used to be produced?

The consensus was gathered that it had not been produced within the last 5 years and currently no eagerness to revive.

There being no other business the meeting was closed.

Ronán O'Reilly & Paul Abbott/Samantha Nicholson

Honorary General Secretary outgoing & Incoming