

**Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors  
Held on 21 May 2018  
at the Sport Wales National Centre**

**Present:** Carol Anthony (Chair), Matt Newman (CEO), Bernie Plain (BP), Angharad Mair (AM), David Roberts (DR), Nicky Lewis (NL), Ron Odunaiya (RO), Sue Alvey (SA), Christian Malcolm (CM) Neil Emberton (NE)\*, James Williams (JW)\*, Scott Simpson (SS)\* & Alan Currie (AC) (minutes).

\* for part of meeting.

**1. Welcome and Apologies.**

Welcoming those present Chair noted that there were no apologies as there was a full attendance.

**2. Declarations of Interest.**

None were declared.

**3. Minutes**

Draft minutes of the previous meeting (26 March 2018) had been circulated and a small number of corrections made. The revised minutes were accepted as a true record.

**4. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising that were not covered in the agenda.

**5. Sport Wales Matters**

1. NE reported that an announcement on the appointment of a new Sport Wales Chair is imminent.
2. A Joint Action Plan, drafted by Graham Williams, is being submitted to the Welsh Government. Its proposals will be circulated to all interested parties.
3. A high-level Strategic Intention document will be finalised by November.
4. A corporate Planning paper, coinciding with the annual investment cycle, will be published in April 2019.

5. Sport Wales are seeking interested parties as potential partners for North Wales, to carry out Sport Wales activities at regional level. The meeting felt that input from athletics on the content of the role is essential. A balanced view of all sporting requirements is necessary so that there is no bias toward any particular sport to the detriment of others.

## **6 WA Strategy 2019-24**

MN made a presentation on the Welsh Athletics long term vision and a five-year strategy for 2019 to 2024. This is a departure from the usual four-year cycle based on the Commonwealth Games.

1. The Sport Wales document *Our Vision for Sport in Wales* will be given due consideration when drawing up the strategy.
2. UKA is in discussion with the Home Countries in creating a collaborative approach to formulating their new strategy. Meetings of Home Countries Chairs and CEOs have been held with UKA. A forum will be held in Belfast which will be attended by the CEOs of the Home Countries.
3. The Welsh government is drawing-up long-term plans on health education and physical activity.

## **7 Commonwealth Games Review**

An independent consultant has been appointed to conduct a review of all aspects of the recent Commonwealth Games. The aims of the review will be confirmed and all necessary contacts established.

Board members will be able to meet the consultant and will be given an opportunity to input their views. Once it is finalised an appropriate method of presenting it to the Board will be determined.

NL highlighted a possible conflict of interest within this review.

## **8 Governance Review**

A comprehensive Governance review had been led by NL and its proposals were included in the agenda package.

It was noted that the final proposals will need to be presented to the membership for approval and that this may require the holding of an EGM in advance of AGM.

The final document would require alterations to be made to the Articles of Association, copies of which were circulated.

It was agreed that the proposals would require greater scrutiny than was possible at a Board meeting and that all directors should study them thoroughly and then submit any comments and observations to NL

Views are required by the end of this week.

## **9 Updates and Reports**

All updates and reports were included in the agenda package.

### **1. Coaching and Performance**

SS reported that the international event on 23 June, will not include athletes in the U20 age group.

His Commonwealth Games report was nearing completion. When it is finalised it will be circulated to all directors electronically. It will inevitably include some matters of a confidential nature and once approved by the Board an edited version will be produced for general circulation, while the original, unabridged version will be retained in house.

### **2. Operations**

JW said that a scheme to help modernise clubs is being progressed on an experimental basis. Cardiff AAC and Swansea Harriers were selected as pilot clubs.

RO requested greater detail on the current state of clubs. The increase in members is to be welcomed but does not indicate areas of potential weakness.

Applications for a new Run Wales Manager have now closed.

A review of disciplinary procedures, both internal and external, is under way.

The importance of all clubs appointing Welfare Officers, both male and female, was stressed. This is not a matter affecting only those clubs with young members. It is essential that candidates of the right calibre are selected, and appointments must be carefully vetted. Clubs must be constantly alert to the possibility of undesirable people being inadvertently selected by using devious means.

WA offers all clubs a free-of-cost training scheme for all appointed personnel.

### **3. Finance**

All necessary finance reports have been circulated. The 2017/18 report is nearing completion, showing a deficit. The reserve is still strong.

The portfolio investment realised a modest return and it was suggested that expert advice be sought on any future investments.

### **4. Run 4 Wales Trustees**

No report

### **5. Welsh Schools AA Trust**

No report

**6. UKA (UKMC)**

The next meeting will be on 29 June

**7. Welfare and Safeguarding**

No report. Welfare matters were covered earlier

**8. General Council**

The most recent meeting of GC included a presentation by Amanda Bennett which was very well received.

**10 Correspondence**

None received

**11 Any Other Business**

No other business raised

**12 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be the joint Board/General Council meeting on Thursday, 5 July. The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, 24 September 2018