

MINUTES

Meeting: *Annual General Meeting*

Date: *Thursday 12th March 2020*

Venue: *Pavilion Stormont*

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from;

Ms Gillian Lynas

Mr Cliff Radcliffe

Mr David Jackson

2. Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes of the 67th AGM (2019) were adopted by agreement of all present.

3. Annual Report 2019

The CEO, Mr Kelly reported on the key achievements of the Association during the year which were set out in the 2019 Annual Report and he confirmed that a full and more detailed copy of the Annual Report was available online for information.

In particular he highlighted several achievements including; the recruitment of 927 members and the growth in membership which ended the year at 8417 including 1097 NICS Social Club and 251 Activ members. He also reported that the membership team had delivered 16 centrally organised events and delivered 37 roadshows in workplace clubs.

Under Community Outreach the Association achieved 9180 PlayBall bookings, raised over £770k for local and national charities and accommodated 5 school holiday programmes for over 500 participants.

Under the WELL Programme the team had delivered over 39 mental health events, 17 nutritional events, 42 personal development events, 48 physical health events and trained 66 new workplace WELL Champions.

On the activities front the Association delivered 16 membership events including the Easter Extravaganza, and numerous pantomimes, theatre and day trips throughout the country including shopping trips to Kildare and Dundrum. The Pavilion hosted numerous events during the year including Camp Yolo with 500 participants, cricket events involving Ireland and Afghanistan and numerous Ulster Hockey fixtures for schools and clubs.

Under facilities the Social Club hosted over 349 conferences, 351 sporting & recreational dinners and social events, and over 10,313 lunch, dinner covers and birthday parties.

Mr Kelly also reported that the sports clubs at the Pavilion continued to grow, develop and compete at top level within their respective sports.

The adoption of the Annual Report was proposed by Mr Billy Gamble and Mr David Reilly.

In response to a question by Mr Dennis Millar about how the Association would deal with the challenges presented by the emerging Covid-19 situation, Mr Kelly responded by explaining to the AGM that staff have met on numerous occasions to discuss the approach to dealing with pandemic which would be influenced by the guidance from PHA, Governing Bodies and the NICS. Mr Kelly confirmed that he had taken a number of immediate measures to mitigate financial and health risks including cancelling events such as Easter Extravaganza, and meet and greet sessions as part of the membership recruitment process. He also confirmed that he had developed a risk register based on the current situation. Mr Kelly reassured the AGM that all necessary precautions were in place and that he will continue to monitor the situation on a daily basis.

4. Honorary Treasurer and Auditor's Report

Mr Michael Carson, Honorary Treasurer provided an overview of the financial performance of the Association in 2019.

The following points were highlighted by Mr Carson;

- *Income and expenditure remained static during 2019. The net result was a surplus of £59,000 for the year.*
- *The balance sheet showed that the Association's fixed assets have continued to depreciate and that the reserve continues to grow.*
- *Bank loans are being paid off on time which puts the organisation in a good financial position to borrow in the future. Mr Carson also outlined to the AGM that the remaining balance on the loans was £294k, a considerable drop from £2.3 million in 2003.*
- *PlayBall continues to be an important pot of income, however something that we need to continue to monitor.*
- *In terms of expenditure, costs are tightly controlled and are on a downward trend year on year.*

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Mr Colin McWhirter and seconded by Mr Tom May.

5. Election of Honorary Treasurer

Mr Michael Carson was re-appointed to the position of Honorary Treasurer. This was proposed by Mr David Ferguson and seconded by Mr Dennis Millar.

6. Election of Auditor

PGM Accountants were proposed and appointed as the Association's Auditors by acclamation. Mr Kelly thanked Mrs Elizabeth Tohill from PGM for her support during the year.

7. Election of Members to Council

Ms Heather Cousins reported that six positions existed to serve on the Council and that six nominations had been received for those positions. Therefore the nominees Mr Colin McWhirter, Mr Brian Murphy, Ms Lynda Sloan, Mr Val Russell, Ms Caron Alexander and Mr Tom Kennedy were elected.

Only one nomination was received for the position of Pavilion Based Clubs Representative. As a consequence Chris Heatley was duly elected.

All were accepted by acclamation.

8. Motions

Motion 1:

Proposal to Increase Subscriptions

Mr Carson briefly outlined the case for an increase in the membership subscription rate in July 2020. He explained that the rate was increased by a modest amount over the last few years. He confirmed that there is a clear business case to generate additional income to sustain the range and volume of activities by NICSSA to its members as well as to keep pace with inflation and fund future capital development.

It was proposed to increase the subscription rate by £1.08 per year.

The motion to increase membership subscription rates by £1.08 per annum (9p per month) to £5.96 per month with effect from 1 July 2020. The £20 annual rate for junior membership in the 16-18 age category will remain unchanged. The £10 subscription for under 16-year olds will remain unchanged.

Ms Heather Cousins asked for an acclamation for the proposal and it was a unanimous decision to increase the subscription rate by the recommended amount from July 2020.

Motion 2:

Proposal to amend the Association's rules

Mr Kelly explained that the amendments to the rules would have to be presented at a later date by way of a Special General Meeting as there was insufficient number of members to form a quorum.

9. Any Other Business

With no further business Ms Heather Cousins closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.