

Regional Management Board

Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 31st March 2014, commencing at 1900
Guildford Spectrum, Guildford

Present:	Roger Prior (RGP)	Chairman
	Jim Boucher (JB)	Board Member
	Ray Hedger (RH)	Board Member
	Ivan Horsfall-Turner (IHT)	Board Member
	Alan Lewis (AL)	Board Member
	Roger Penfold (RFP)	Board Member
	Shelley Robinson (SR)	Board Member
	Geoff Stokes (RGS)	Board Member
	Chris Lee (CL)	Board Member
	John Davis (JD)	Board Member
	Darren Wilmshurst (DW)	Board Member

Also in attendance (non-voting):

Alison Usher (AU)	Divisional Business Manager
Geoff Lawrence (GL)	Minute Taker

27 Apologies

Apologies had been received for:

Gary Shields (GS)

28 Minutes of meeting held on 16 February 2014

The Minutes from 16 February were agreed as a true record with corrections to the following:

23 11.1 'the' to be changed to 'this'

Action: BG

29 Matters Arising

1. Communications Group to prepare a strategic communications plan for the Region – In progress
2. Decide the format for the next Regional Handbook – In progress
3. Governance – Produce an outline plan for implementation – In progress

Action: RFP / Communications Group

30 Hampshire Facilities Report

Alison Usher presented the findings on the Hampshire Facilities Research Project. Key points were highlighted in the PowerPoint presentations.

This project had been undertaken in Hampshire as work had already started there. However, it was agreed that the Region would also support similar projects in other sub-regions. AU agreed to come back to the next meeting and report back on progress.

The matter of capital funding for replacement/additional pools was raised. AU informed the Board that some local authorities had money set aside, as well as links with commercial partners. Sport England money is also still accessible.

RGP asked for the Hampshire and South East Region logos added to the facilities' report.

Action: AU

31 Affiliations & Resignations

New Affiliations

None

Resignations

None

Enquires

None

Transfers

None

Change of Name

None

32 DBM Report

Arising from the report, reference was made to a meeting in Henley, on 27 March 2014, concerning the development of open water swimming clubs. Open water swimming events were growing in popularity, with 40-60 new events starting up each year. However, these events are being run outside of any ASA or FINA involvement, so the large participation numbers could not, for instance be added to ASA participation figures. JB spoke about his experience of open water events run by the ASA and non ASA events. He said that the ASA events were too formal and "over the top" for the type of people who were being attracted to these new events, stating that, at one ASA event, people had to register 5 hours before the swim started.

It seemed that the ASA was seeking to "corral" these events and swimmers, and that the pilot establishment of clubs might be rolled out nationally, if successful. A variety of points were made, e.g. a reduced open water membership, given the limited length of the season, the development of strategies and guidelines for the independent organisers of events to follow, the offer of insurance to clubs/for events. It was suggested that the ASA should open talks with the British Long Distance Swimming Association on this subject.

33 Correspondence

There had been one response to the advert regarding becoming an ASA friend - from Ian Bond. It was agreed that Ian should be nominated to join the other friends from the Region - George Adamson and Eddie Lyne. RFP to notify Ian and BG to send the relevant information over to Ian

Action RFP/BG

The letter from the City of Oxford Swimming Club seeking financial support for AOE equipment at the new pool in Oxford, was discussed. It was decided that more information

is required including; a cost break down and who would own the equipment. AL suggested that a concession on future hire of their pool might also be an idea to help with funding. AU was asked to contact City of Oxford SC and provide RFP with more information so that Finance Group can discuss this on the 30th April 2014.

Action RFP / AU

34 AOB

Diving – The [national] Beacon diving programme now solely reports to Jane Nickerson. It was highlighted that the programme appeared not to be achieving its targets. RH requested a formal letter to be written to ASA asking for a review on the Beacon programme. JB commented on how pleased divers were with the Region Driving Programme at Southampton.

Action: RFP/JD

Press release – Moving forward David Sparkes will be the Chief Executive of British Swimming only, with the ASA recruiting a new CEO.

ASA ACM – All members of the Board were encouraged to seek election as delegates to the ASA ACM on 18th October.

35 Matters Raised by the Chairman Elect

Agreed that RH to continue in the office of Vice-Chairman until the ACM.

SR suggested GS for the Board Member responsible for Finance. This was seconded by AL. The decision to appoint GS was unanimous.

It was agreed to wait to fill the 2 vacancies for Board Members until the ACM, but not to turn anyone away if they enquire.

A date for an “away day” was agreed - Sunday 23 November 2014.

The Board put on record its appreciation of the service of Roger Prior as Chairman of the Regional Management Board from the inception of the Region.

36 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 12 May 2014 at 1900 at Guildford Spectrum.