

Overton Community Pool (& Lordsfield Swimming Club)

Annual General Meeting & Public Meeting

Sunday, 13th March, 2022, 3pm @ St Mary's Hall, Overton

Thanks to Mark Winter from St Mary's Hall for arranging recording of the meeting. A recording of the meeting can be found online at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tavfw8C5JQ>

Minutes: Karen Fidler

Refreshments: Amy Mosdell

Attending:

Trustees & Management Committee

Janice Stott (Chair of Trustees & Plant Operator), Janella Thow (Trustee & Secretary), Lauren McCann (Trustee & Comms), Nicola Williams (Finance), Polly White (Membership), Becs Fitchett (Membership), Tania Bridge (Trustee), Alan Tombs (Trustee), Martin Lebentz (Trustee), Lin Parker (Trustee), Anne Hogan (Finance)

Jeff Wells (Plant Operator), Sheila Wells (Plant Support), Amy Mosdell (Training Officer)

Public

Lynn & Paul Wake, Mary Reid, Lee & Jo Verney, Andrew Davies, Bridget (Bitsy) Blackburn, Jane Beckman, Mike Lamb, Emily Zealley, Anne Pereira, Izzie Kater, Marje Schillern, Trudy Lines, Lannah (Café Pueblo), Bill & Chris Batten, Lesley Sims, Helen Forsey, Mindy Noble, Martin Fleider, Mary Reid (Mindy's mum), Susan Clifford, Dave Cox, Kirsten Griffiths, Isla Robinson, Alfie Nixon, Colin Fowles, Jessica Pitt, Sam McCouglan, Rachel Turner, Karen Fiddler, Jackie Courtney, Gail Wakeham, Tina Webster, Lisa Bracken, Jane & Sheldon Jowett, Ruth Williams, Simon Ryan, Sam Lomax, Sue & Simon Hope, Michael Newton, Colin Philimore, Andy Buckley, Karen Hogan, Richard & Emma Daniel, Duncan Thow.

Apologies were received from a number of people (too numerous to record!)

Introduction and Welcome – Janice Stott

Janice welcomed all who had come to the meeting, and noted the excellent turn out. Janice had good news; Overton Pool is now recognised by Basingstoke & Deane BC as a community asset.

Looking to the future, and the key purpose of today's meeting, the pool needs a considerable amount of work, whether it's a repair job to last another couple of years, or a refurbishment, and the funding needed to accomplish it.

PART 1: AGM

Chair of Trustees Report – Janice Stott

2021 had been a good season, with all necessary Covid 19 compliance. The pool had had family bubble swims, teen swims, Aquarobics, early morning swims, and even a baptism. It had been used by all ages, from under 1 to 90+. Challenges were successful with 55 completions, of which 15 were Tiddlers. The introduction of online membership had been popular. Janice reminded everyone that the pool is run by volunteers; pool plant, poolside and garden maintenance, First Aiders, Pool Rescuers, fundraisers, desk support, greeters. Every job poolside is important, and needs people to do them, particularly Pool Plant Operators.

Finance Report – Nicola Williams

Nicky reported on the Club's financial position. *Please see attached financial report.* 2020 the pool had not been open. 2021 generated £16,387 in income (excluding grants and donations). A lot of trained posts had expired (first aiders, pool rescuers, and Pool Plant Operators), plus a commitment from new volunteers, meant a substantial cost for training and DBS checks £4,162.99.

The club received around £31,000 in grants and donations, including a £17,000 Covid grant from B&DBC, and £1,000+ from Martin Lebentz' London Marathon. Thank you, Martin.

The club currently has £82k in the bank and needs to maintain a reserve of £20k. Whilst this leaves £60k, there is a lot of work that needs doing at the pool.

Pool Management Update & Elections – Janella Thow

Trustees: providing a strategic overview of the club's operations, the trustees meet 3-5 times per year. One third of the trustees are required to resign each year. Janella Thow, Tania Bridge & Jon Pritchard were unanimously re-elected as Trustees.

Pool Management Committee: all of the team offered to stay in post with the exception of Fundraising Co-ordinator; Lauren McCann stepped down. Toria Cowan sharing with Mindy Noble was elected as Fundraising Co-ordinator. Toria will report to the Management Committee. Mindy Noble & Karen Fiddler are looking at funding opportunities and grant applications. If anyone wanted to run an event to fundraise, that would be welcomed too.

Appreciation was given to those who support the pool in a non-committee role: particularly the Pool Plant Operators, Janice Stott, Dave Lancaster, David Edwards, Jeff Wells, Sheila Wells (support), and Helen Harden. Without their tremendous plant work, the pool simply wouldn't run.

PART 2: PUBLIC MEETING

Pool Refurbishment – Jeff Wells

Jeff Wells has spent time with a firm of pool consultants looking at refurbishing the pool with reference to the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group (PWTAG). The desire is for a deck level pool, with poolside lighting to assist early morning and evening swimming:

- The deck-level filtration system circulates water over the edges of the pool and ensures the uniform and effective capture of impurities. The system maintains utmost cleanliness even with high levels of usage.
- The poolside lighting will extend pool use time, and improve visibility.
- Vacuum points so the pool can be cleaned without requiring access to the Plant room,
- An additional emergency knock off button by the kitchen.
- On a wish-list will be an automated pool cover.

Questions:

Cost? £100k -£150k, as a best estimate. This sum includes a new pool liner, and excludes an automated pool cover.

How will it be contracted? It would go to tender to specialist firms with expertise.

How long will it take? If it started this October, it would be finished for 2023's reopening.

It was noted that Lordsfield Swimming Club is working with Sustainable Overton to investigate the possibility of ground source heating, and with Testbourne Community Energy for solar panels for the changing room and plant room rooves.

What does this mean for the club? – Lauren McCann

To refurbish the pool will require a commitment from the community, and a guarantee of volunteers for the next few years to make it worth the investment. Refurbishment will mean at least an additional four Plant Pool Operators (PPOs) would be needed to help share the load.

Pool refurbishment was voted for unanimously, in preference to a two year pool repair plan with a handback to Hampshire County Council.

Lauren ran through the volunteer opportunities. Roles that require training include; First Aiders, Pool Rescuers, Pool Plant Operators, and, Water Testers. Non-qualified volunteer help includes; fundraising, e.g. events, admissions desk support, website & multi-media content, general supervision, gardening, maintenance/DIY, kitchen & refreshments, merchandising and a poolside shop.

With the current level of support from the community, and a guarantee of continued commitment from volunteers, current and new, we are operational for this year. It is planned to open the pool on 30th April, and run until October, about 20 weeks. The ethos remains to keep swimming affordable, especially for young people. Fees will increase a bit this year, to recognise the longer operating period, and to generate a little income ready for the refurbishment.

The club is in a good position: there are 800 members, 43 Pool Rescuers, 39 First Aiders, 5 PPOs (could do with more); 150 volunteers.

Accompanying slides to the meeting (for those with a club email address only):
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LCr_4Bs5P2q3tohoW7bsV7oSCE-EXtOg/view?usp=drive_web

Karen Fidler, 14 March 2022