

# Volleyball England Annual General Meeting 2018 - Minutes



Saturday 21st July 2018 @ 14:00

Playground Meeting Room, SportPark, 3 Oakwood Drive, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE11 3QF

**Present:** Adam Walker (AW), Claire Francis (CF), Freda Bussey MBE (FB), Steve Matthews (SM), Jefferson Williams (JW), Ian Wall (IW), Lauri Chandler (LC), Seyram Atubra (SA), Simon Griffiths (SG)

**Staff members:** Janet Inman (JI), Stewart Dunne (SD), Samantha Jamieson (SJ), Macauley Allen (MA), Rob Payne (RP)

**Apologies:** Keith Nicholls, Vicky Widdup, Richard Harrison, Nick Heckford, James Murphy, Steve Evans, Bartek Luszcz, Lenny Barry, Nick Shaffery & Kevin Hamblin.

**Members Present:** Sam Yip (Maidenhead) (SY), Brian Stalker (Honorary Vice President) (BS), Douglas Barr-Hamilton (Coach) (DH), Brian Kendall (Merseyside Volleyball League) (BK), Alan Bell (Wirral VC) (AB), Charlie Orton (London) (CO), Cisel Ormanci (Little Giants) (CO), Tim Godson (Yorkshire Volleyball Association) (TG), Carol Gordon (Malory Eagles) (CG), Richard Callicott (Honorary President) (RC), John Goalen (Richmond Volleyball) (JG), Bryan Youlden (Preston Panthers VC & Bolton VC) (BY),

<b>MINUTE</b>	<b>ITEM</b>	<b>ACTION BY</b>
1/1	Welcome, & all board members asked to introduce themselves to the attendees	<b>AW</b>
1/2	Outlining agenda	AW
1/3	<b>Present &amp; Apologies</b> These are as above.	AW
1 / 4	Call for minutes silence as tribute for former members	<b>AW</b>
1/5	<p>Opening remarks and thanks to volunteers and board members:</p> <p>Stated by addressing the challenging position VE was in upon the new board taking over. Previous issues of the decline in HUB staff, redundancy programme. Congratulations and thanks for keeping the 'Business as usual' for the past year despite issues surrounding VE.</p> <p>Background on last year:</p> <p>Sport England funding significantly reduced, significant distance away from being compliant with SE 12 months ago, financial robustness of VE was also far from compliant, significant decrease in HUB staff &amp; business as usual was expected with half the workforce.</p> <p>Now, VE is significantly more financially robust than 12 months ago, stated that without telling exact figures, approximately £500,000 shift in financial position over last 12 months, re-built bridges with SE and the relationship is much better than before, SE are now directing other NGB's to VE in regards to the best practice with the way VE are working, mention of keeping 'business as usual' going as best as possible, maintaining most key departments and projects going despite major staffing cuts VE made positive steps to improving communication with members via displaying board minutes and other documents on the website, satisfied with the levels of trust VE have built over</p>	

# Volleyball England Annual General Meeting 2018 - Minutes



	the last 12 months with its members. Emphasis on how VE are not yet out of the woods and trouble, however, VE are significantly improved, and everything is now about developing and moving forwards as an organisation. AW hopes in the next year to be more visible to its members.	
1/6	Rob Payne (RP) and Douglas Barr-Hamilton (DH) appointed as tellers to support the voting process	
1/7	Proposed change of agenda: Item 10.0 (Election of officers), to be discussed before item 8.0 (Articles)	AW
1/8	<p>Confirmation of eligibility to vote and voting process: as of 12 noon on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2018, 13 authority to vote had been received, 5 proxy votes were given to the chair, 0 proxy votes given to alternative proxy holders, 8 votes given to appointed representatives of the clubs, with 2 of those stating their clubs voting wishes. No applications were rejected; however one was received over 24 hours after the deadline, and was therefore rejected.</p> <p>One of the voting members was absent from the AGM which may mean the majority number may change slightly. Currently, 9 members hold 12 votes.</p> <p>There is a 75% majority set for resolution under 10.0, and 50% for all other votes.</p> <p>Brian Kendall (BK) – stated that voting and proxy’s was down 50% on last year</p> <p>Stewart Dunne (SD) – States that everyone was mailed multiple times. Added that the reduction may be down to there not being as many resolutions needed, and less actions/matters needed to be voted on such as elected officers.</p> <p>Janet Inman (JI) – Stated that the AGM won’t be held on the same weekend in future AGM’s to ensure other members have the opportunity to attend</p>	SD
2/1	<p>Call for any observation or concerns with the minutes of 2017 AGM –</p> <p>BK – date was unclear on last year’s minutes</p> <p>No other issues raised.</p>	AW
2/2	<p>Call for presentation on areas of the Annual report from members on the top table.</p> <p>JI – Overview on Annual report and current position of VE.</p> <p>RP – Overview on Higher Education Volleyball Officer (HEVO) programme</p> <p>SJ – Technical and Talent, Core Market overview</p> <p>SG – Club Survey, 25% response rate which VE are happy with, next step is to interpret what the survey results mean. Reiterates that there was a need for the club survey, having not conducted one for over two years, and there was a need to be seen to be engaging with its members. SG also states that having briefly looked at the results, there is opportunity for future products and services that VE can offer to help clubs moving forwards both on and off the court. States the importance of transparency with the club survey results.</p> <p>Eager to repeat similar activities with the members in order to engage and learn more about the members, with view of talking with coaches/officials/clubs</p>	AW
2/3	Call for comments or observations on the Annual report (AW)	

# Volleyball England Annual General Meeting

## 2018 - Minutes



John Goalen (JG) – Thanks for the help of disclosing documents on the website, in particular the funding guide, which answers all questions and needs of the user.

JG – Q regarding the HEVO, and potential blockers for HEVO's setting up clubs, and asking whether future conferences will be livestreamed or recorded in the future?

RP – No plans to livestream, however, eager and willing to share the resources and presentation of the conferences.

Same attendee – It is nice to be able to be at the event/conference for the natural and human feel of the speakers, rather than watching an online presentation.

SD – VE have been developing the livestreaming technologies and are now producing their own livestreams in oppose to paying outside parties to do this for VE. Regarding HEVO conferences, difficult to livestream due to the nature of the conference in terms of moving from room to court.

Question from different attendee – regarding gender of HEVO numbers displayed in presentation, to BUCS numbers in presentation.

SJ – Numbers don't correlate with each other.

Question regarding notes in financial section of Annual report, SD directed to answer this in the financial section of the AGM

Question from Tim Godson (TG) – Seeking clarification on wording for similar statements made by SJ and AW regarding collaboration and building VE from the bottom.

AW – Responds with emphasis on collaboration and calls for members to inform staff (board and HUB) if they are not emphasising collaboration on matters with its members.

JI – Defends the aspect of collaboration by indicating the use of the club survey, to collaborate with its members in order to improve as an organisation.

BK – Questions regarding HEVO programme, and the focus on social volleyball rather than on volleyball club?

He also asks for the members and local clubs to be made aware of who the HEVO's are

Also voices concerns over who the club survey was sent out to and said that when he heard the news of the survey going out to only club secretaries, he was met with the thoughts of VE lacking transparency.

AW – chose two of the three questions and delegated to board to answer – HEVO contacts, and club survey point.

RP – VE take on the advice of BK and agrees that maybe the HEVO details could be more widely shared and states the GDPR compliance with the statement received by the HEVO's regarding data sharing.

# Volleyball England Annual General Meeting

## 2018 - Minutes



	<p>SD shares the name and tagline of the HEVO programme 'HEVO into club' to emphasise the direction in which HEVO aims to take participants post education.</p> <p>SG in response to the club survey concerns – VE chose an audience for the survey which they knew they could access and stand by the decision as the club secretaries represent the 'buying community' of volleyball. He states that in future surveys or information gathering programmes, the stakeholders BK mentioned may still be contacted.</p> <p>SG also defends the point of BK saying that VE took the easy route of contacting only club secretaries, by stating that club secretaries have been stakeholders who have been seen as 'gatekeepers' in the past.</p> <p>SA adds that the target audience of the survey was specifically designed for that audience as they hold or can access the information regarding the benefits, products and services that are needed for the clubs they represent, and that for this specific survey, the club secretaries were the correct audience.</p> <p>AW – States to BK and the room that the points raised will help VE learn and improve from in the future and encourages more constructive comments in future.</p> <p>SG – Defends the communication activity regarding the club survey, stating that he was happy with the activity conducted surrounding it.</p> <p>Pete Bragg (PB) – Question regarding clubs wanting and needing to know if they have access to HEVO's.</p> <p>JI – In the current transition of HEVO's going into the community, they will be contactable via private email addresses unlike before.</p> <p>BK – Asks if the AGM was holding a 'matters arising' section.</p> <p>AW – Responds saying they will not be holding 'matters arising' as it is not on the agenda.</p>	
<p><b>2/4</b></p>	<p>AW - Opens up the floor for questions on the VE accounts</p> <p>Q from Alan Bell (AB)– Material uncertainty and criticism on financials in the annual report.</p> <p>SD – States that in the Annual report that the accounts included what money came in and from whom, and where the money had been spent by VE.</p> <p>AB – Responds saying that more detail is needed, and uses the example of the HEVO programme, VE Beach Tour, NVL and the costs and returns of the programmes.</p> <p>LC – Having joined VE in November 2017, there were no management accounts, no reliable data. Then emphasises that today is the start of better future practice after the following progress throughout the last 12 months:</p> <p>VE since 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2018 – have had to produce 3 years of statutory accounts, 3 external audits, and filing of all documents. LC then emphasises that to move forward with the organisation, all of the work had to be completed, and ensure it is all legalised, and compliant.</p>	

# Volleyball England Annual General Meeting

## 2018 - Minutes



	<p>AW – Agrees with the point of AB and says that the board will be in a better position to perform all of the points next year.</p> <p>AB – Voices frustration of asking the same question as above for the last few years, however, is proud of the progress that has been made in the last year.</p> <p>LC – States that the information and financial details had been provided in the last few years, she would have doubts about its eligibility and reliability, so now that VE have been made compliant, the future information that will be provided will be accurate. Also emphasises the progress that VE have made financially over the last few years, and that now the numbers and accounts are correct and accurate, they can be shared to members and club in order for them to make correct decisions.</p> <p>AW – He adds further, by saying the as well as some members, the board is proud of where VE have recovered from. He also calls for members to call the organisation out on issues such as this one, throughout the year, and not only at AGM's.</p> <p>AB – Asks for clarity that when the information is available regarding more specific spending and return for specific programmes are available, will it be shared with the members?</p> <p>AW – Thinks that sharing the information will be a good thing and allow further for transparency.</p> <p>AB – Question on material uncertainty, is there a contingency scheme?</p> <p>LC – VE is working on contingency schemes, and certain aspects must become compliant before other schemes can be produced.</p> <p>DH – Question on note on accounts in Annual report.</p> <p>JI and LC – State that the details are in the annual report.</p> <p>Attendee – Offers congratulations on current position in comparison to last year's AGM.</p>	
<b>2/5</b>	<b>Concludes the financial and account section</b>	<b>AW</b>
<b>2/6</b>	<p>8.0 – Appointment of auditors</p> <p>Proposing that VE have delegated authority to go out and tender new auditors.</p> <p>Approved, no objections.</p>	
<b>2/7</b>	<p>10.0 – Articles</p> <p>Votes:</p> <p><b>LC position of the board</b></p> <p>For:12</p> <p>Against:0</p>	

# Volleyball England Annual General Meeting 2018 - Minutes



	<p>Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Core market director (FB)</b></p> <p>For: 12 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Competitions and events (SM)</b></p> <p>For: 12 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Technical Director (RH)</b></p> <p>For: 12 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Officials Lead (NH)</b></p> <p>For: 12 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Children's and young people Lead (NS)</b></p> <p>For: 12 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Beach Volleyball Lead (PS)</b></p> <p>For: 12 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p> <p><b>Regional Lead (Brian)</b></p> <p>For: 12 Against: 0 Abstain: 0</p>	
<p><b>3/1</b></p>	<p>AW Informs audience that the other three roles advertised received no applications, so they will be re-advertised. Subject to the articles being approved, the positions will be approved as non-portfolio holding roles.</p>	

# Volleyball England Annual General Meeting 2018 - Minutes



<p><b>3/2</b></p>	<p>Voting: Special resolution in relation to the new articles.            Call for observation or comments on new articles:            Question from attendee – In the summary regarding clarification regarding honouree roles.            CF – Changes with the honouree president roles, SE stated that only 12 members were required to be on the board, meaning one role was removed to comply with this.            No further comments.</p> <p><b>New articles voting:</b>            For: 12            Against: 0            Abstain: 0</p>	
<p><b>3/3</b></p>	<p>Special mention from AW and FB for Keith Nicholls who has recently retired and left the VE Board.</p>	<p><b>AW</b></p>
<p><b>3/4.</b></p>	<p>Thanks to Steve Evans and Brian Kendall for work in roles.</p>	<p><b>AW</b></p>
<p><b>3/5</b></p>	<p>Conclude AGM</p>	<p><b>AW</b></p>
<p><b>3/6</b></p>		
<p><b>3/7</b></p>		
<p><b>Close</b></p>		