

1. Welcome & Steering Group Update	ACT
<p>Chair, Ian Jankinson (IJ) welcomed attendees, gave an overview of the agenda, introduced the Steering Group Members, the panel for the Q&A session and SBC Officers that support the Forum:</p> <p><u>Steering Group</u></p> <p>Geoff Halls Cliff Warren Dave Bell Mike Benson Mark Hows Colin Arch (not present)</p> <p><u>Panel</u></p> <p>Roger Bryne – SBC Head of Leisure Martin Hambidge – SBC Head of Parks Juliet Rayden – Partnership Development Manager – School Sport Partnership Ben Humphrey – SBC Ability Sport Development Officer</p> <p><u>Other SBC Officers</u></p> <p>Rob Allan – Sports Development Officer Steven Woodman – Leisure Development Manager Helena Robinson – Leisure Strategy Manager</p> <p>Bernie Brannon, Director of Housing and Leisure sent apologies, as did Keith Williams our new Lead Member</p> <p>The Steering Group meet 4-6 weeks to develop sport, working on suggestions and ideas from the Forum's. The formal launch took place in Feb, with an inspirational speech from Anna Hemmings, World Kayak Champion.</p> <p>The Forum have organised and delivered a number of coach and club education courses – they are still courses and spaces available. Speak to Rob for more details (01793 511033)</p> <p>The Steering Group investigated setting up a suppliers contract –giving local Sports Forum Clubs the chance to buy at discounted rates. After investigation, it seems that clubs can get reasonable rates and online ordering by registering themselves with the 'Consortium'</p> <p>The Steering Group are still working with the Borough on the website for sports clubs. This will be a single source for sport and physical activity - a searchable</p>	

John Prowse – Coate Water Sailing Trust

Are there any plans to increase the usage of water at Coate? RB to speak to Martin Hambidge, Head of Parks.

There are currently no plans to increase usage at Coate, although if an approach was made which fitted in with the overall long term plan for the site, MH would be happy to discuss options.

Coate Water Sailing Club to contact Martin

Steve Langley – Tigersharks Swimming Club

What is the timetable for introducing Free Swimming for All, as per the Government initiative? Club members keep asking when they will be able to swim for free. Also, how are the plans progressing for the Oasis and Link refurbishments?

Swindon BC were not able to sign up to the U16 swim initiative. They were only offered 93k from the government to cover the costs across the town's 6 pools. The council takes over 200k per year at the Oasis alone. SBC have however signed up to the Over 60's free swimming.

John Prowse – Coate Water Sailing Trust

Is Riverside Park being taken over by Cotswolds?

Answer still unknown – RB and MH to consider

Mark Hows – Espirit Gymnastics

Government are pumping £780M into school sports, which sounds a lot but in reality works out at 10p per child for 3 hours out of school activities. What support will be given to clubs to deliver this?

The School Sports Partnership (SSP) has a limited amount of money available to deliver sports outside of the curriculum. The 5 hour offer is a government agenda to get young people involved in 2 hours curriculum, 1-2 hours outside curriculum and 1-2 hours in the community. This can be sports clubs or recreational sessions in the local leisure centre. Funding is available for developing school to club links, after school or lunchtime clubs or similar initiatives. Anyone interested should contact Juliet – 01793 729549. The SSP can advocate a club to a school and help bridge the links.

Phil Tonks – KC Cricket Club

Do any of the panel members know how many cricket pitches are available for hire in the Borough, that are fit for club cricket or how many are available, regardless of standard? Only 2.

Martin Hambidge explained that we have a couple of grass wickets and 1 artificial. There has a decrease in demand over the years and so we have been unable to justify keeping underused pitches open/refurbed when budget cuts

MH/RB

have been made. This is also true of clubhouse and changing facilities. We appreciate it is a 'chicken and egg' situation and a challenge to the cricket clubs is to identify a demand.

Geoff Halls is writing to all clubs, asking for confirmation of their issues.

Shanti De Silva

The lights at Croft are not fit for purpose but there is no funding from the cricket governing body for improvements unless it's for junior cricket.

Mike Benson stated that the Football Foundation will fund pitches 80% football and 20% cricket. Any funded pitches will be made suitable to play on working on drainage, surface etc. Their strategy is for pitches to be used for football in the winter and cricket in the summer months.

Martin and Geoff have met and other clubs may find this opportunity useful. There is a will to create partnerships between the borough and the clubs to help minimise the decline in usage and improve the situation with pitches.

HR to arrange a cricket meeting and invite SWebb from Lydiard.

HR

Introduction to Panel and New Questions

Ben Humphrey's role to get more people, more active, more often, specifically helping people with disabilities/impairments to access sport and physical activity. Ben is responsible for the ParaChallenge annual event and wants to encourage more clubs to be inclusive.

Ben's presentation is attached to the email.

Juliet Rayden supports schools to develop opportunities for participation in sport and other physical activity. She manages 12 sports co-ordinators, based in the secondary schools. The school co-ordinators are based on the school site and work two days a week in the coordinator role (the other 3 is spent teaching). They work with the primary school clusters. The SSP's remit is: coaching, competition, PE teacher training, gifted and talented, school to club links, swimming.

Martin Hambidge is responsible for: parks and open spaces (with the exception of Lydiard). This includes: cemeteries, crematorium, allotments, play, outdoor pitches and country parks.

Roger Byrne is the strategic lead for leisure, overseeing the management of the leisure centres, STEAM Museum and the sport and physical activity agenda.

Item 1:

Mike Benson (Wilts FA) raised an issue on behalf of Sunday league clubs playing football on council pitches. It seems there have been policy changes to the booking arrangements. MH was not aware of any changes but would consult with colleague in Swindon Commercial Services.

<p>Since the meeting, Martin and Mike have been in touch and have resolved the issue - Nothing has changed re payments for pitches. Some clubs pay weekly, others with sponsorship deals pay for a number of games in advance – there are VAT advantages to the club to pay for a number of games in advance but we do not insist on it. Apparently we have lost a number of teams because they claim that our pitches are now too expensive following a price increase from £58 to £60 in April. Mike confirmed that discussions between the league and the borough have taken place and the matter is resolved.</p> <p>Item 2: Town Garden Bowls Club have drawn up plans to improve the borough owned facility that they use – they wish to replace the wooden framed windows. They have been told this requires planning permission and they are happy to oblige. However, they have found some resistance to the process and have found it difficult to move forward. The club are frustrated and want the Forum's help in facilitating the discussions. Martin Hambidge is happy to meet with the club.</p> <p>Item 3: Gladys Barr (Leisure Services) informed the Forum that we have a number of young leaders and level 1 coaches who would appreciate some mentoring from local clubs. This would be a great opportunity for clubs to recruit new coaches and support succession planning and coach development. Anyone interested should contact Gladys – 01793 512828</p> <p>Item 4: Mark Hows (Esprit Gymnastics) expressed the desire by his club to support children with disabilities into mainstream gymnastics. However there is cost associated with sending coaches on the specific training modules required. Mark asked if there is any funding available to support this.</p> <p>Awards for All, Grass Roots grant, Sports Forum grants are all opportunities. Clubs should contact Leisure Services to discuss potential sources of funding and typical projects. Inclusion is a priority for leisure services and support for clubs is a key part to this work.</p> <p>Item 5: Shirley Charles (Downlands Roller skating Club) need more Level 2 coaching courses and help with funding these awards. The NGB is responsible for delivering coaching courses and wherever possible Leisure Services will help facilitate a course locally. Leisure Services however cannot deliver the courses themselves. Shirley also asked about facilities available for roller-skating. RB will investigate what facilities are available.</p>	<p>SC/RB</p>
<p>3. Funding Announcements</p>	<p>ACT</p>
<p>Geoff Halls gave an overview of grants that are available from the Sports Forum:</p> <p><u>Sport Forum Grants</u></p> <p>SBC receive £20k per annum (until 2012) from SBC and STFC's Community Initiative Fund. 3k per year goes towards the running costs of the Forum, with the 17k distributed to local clubs. Last year the Forum under spent by 10k and so will be roll this over into this year's round.</p>	

This year the 27k allocation will be as follows:

- o £17k for club development (from £250 - £1,200)
- o £4k for projects to increase participation (£250 - £500)
- o £6k for individual athletes through head coaches (up to £500)

Applications are now open and the closing date is the 31st Aug 09. Applications will be done electronically this year. Copy of form and details attached.

Cheques will be presented at the October Forum.

MB congratulated Swindon Rockets on being the first wheelchair football club in the country to receive their chartered standard. Power chairs for the game cost £4k each, or an existing chair can be converted for £500 per chair. As an example, the Swindon Rockets could be eligible for two of the grants (although the maximum grant they can receive in anyone year is £1,200)

Clubs were reminded that as a minimum, they need level 1 accreditation in order to receive a Sports Forum grant. This is a straightforward process and clubs can access help from Rob Allan, Sports Development Officer – 01793 512828

SBC Grass Roots

Mark Feeney reminded clubs about the Swindon Borough Council Grass Roots grants:

Payments are made four times a year (April/June/Sept/Jan). There is a six-week lead-time from the application submission to receiving grant. A club can receive a maximum of £1k per year. Clubs have to be constituted and have turnover of less than £50k p/a. Recurring costs won't be funded e.g. facility hire. Clubs need to have approval and a signature from a local councillor before submitting their application.

Link to web and paperwork attached

4. Safeguarding

ACT

Steph Mcquade is the local authorities Manager for safeguarding and quality assurance. She has a particular role around allegations made against individuals (staff and volunteers in the local community)

In terms of the voluntary sector, it is important that procedures are in place to prevent people who aren't suitable to work with children accessing them. Individuals working with children should also have a CRB – ideally an enhanced one. It is important to remember that the CRB's are only a snapshot and time bound – it can only be one tool that we use – only a small % of people who abuse get caught.

<p>We need to put safer recruitment procedures, training and support in place in order to minimise risk. Safer recruitment includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any advert should show a commitment by the organisation to the protection of children/vulnerable adults • Interview questions should probe and explore motivations • A safer culture should be apparent throughout organisation – this means that people know that poor practice and behaviour will be challenged <p>Steph introduced two documents that will be of interest to clubs and clubs are encouraged to read them. There will also be elements in each document that should be used as part of the clubs procedures. It was acknowledged that there is a lot of detail to get across and it would be useful to organise some workshops to discuss both subjects.</p> <p>RA/HR will organise workshops and promote to clubs</p>	
<p>6. Date for Your Diary</p>	<p>ACT</p>
<p><u>Next Sports Forum (inclusive of AGM)</u></p> <p>Wednesday 21st October 2009 6pm-9pm STEAM</p> <p>(Buffet included)</p>	<p>ALL</p>