

**Minutes of ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of sportMoray, held in Moray College, on
Monday 18th June, 2007 – 7pm**

1.0	<p>PRESENT</p> <p>Ronnie Sim – Exec Committee Member Gordon Henderson – Exec Committee Member - Aberlour Bowling Club Patsy Fraser-MacKenzie – Exec Committee Member - Forres Gymnastics Club David McConachie – Chairman – Boys’ Football Ann Rossiter – Vice-Chair - Forres Academy – Badminton Moray Bill Flett – Exec Committee Member - Buckie Cricket Club Caroline Coomber – Secretary - Moray Figure Skating Club Kim Paterson – The Moray Council – Sports Development Steve Blacklaw – Elgin Golf Club/Elgin Boys Club John McMulkin – Active Schools Allan Tait – Exec Committee Member – Elgin Amateur Athletic Club J Sutherland – Aberlour Bowling Club N Anderson – Moray Wheelchair Curling Club M McKenzie – Moray Wheelchair Curling Club K Holmes – Moray Wheelchair Curling Club Gill Dolphin – Development Partners/HIE Moray Craig Fletcher – Elgin and District Soccer Sevens Isabel Spence – St Andrews & Urquhart Bowling Club Ann Walsh – St Andrews & Urquhart Bowling Club. Gareth Jenkins – Moray Roadrunners A Walker -Elgin Amateur Athletics Club Eileen Bush – MVSO Mark Russell – Focus Tae Kwon Do Gregor Ewan – Moray Wheelchair Curling Club Christine Ewan – Moray Wheelchair Curling Club Kenny MacPhee – Rothes Golf Club Hamish Cameron – Forres Harriers Peter H Robertson – Forres Cycling Club Alan White – Forres Cycling Club M Durkacz – Elgin Ice Hockey Club Mark Houliston – Elgin Cycling Club Callum Sword – Moray Mountain Bike Club Iain McDonald – Buckie Cricket Club Peter Goodfellow – Highland Gliding Club</p>	
2.0	<p>WELCOME AND APOLOGIES</p>	
2.1	<p>After a short press photo call where Elgin Ice Hockey Club and Elgin Boys’ Club received grant cheques, David McConachie, Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Apologies were received from Carol Flett, Margaret Dunbar and Hamish McBain.</p>	
3.0	<p>STRUCTURE OF SPORTMORAY</p> <p>Present structure is made up of 9 or so individuals who meet every 6 to 7 weeks to discuss business and authorise grants. The aim is to support clubs in the Moray area to promote sport and schools are also supported. There is a constitutional obligation to have certain organisations represented on the committee. Committee needs to be more effective in raising awareness of sportMoray. Funding is received from The</p>	

	<p>Moray Council each year and the committee decide how this should be spent. sportMoray have recently been given the responsibility of dealing with sport related Community Development Grant applications therefore structure needs to be changed to make it more accountable. The organisation needs to be made stronger with a structure more akin to the Rotary which works on a sub-committee basis.</p>	
3.1	<p>It is proposed to create 5 sub-committees each chaired by an exec Committee member. These would deal with Events, Awards, SALSC, Funding and Press. Non-exec committee members can sit on these sub-committees and any volunteers would be appreciated.</p>	
3.2	<p>The Awards Night is always very successful and helps to promote sport in the area and individuals who have done well. It is slightly elitist but those in the background are recognised too.</p>	
3.3	<p>Grants system needs to be more robust and forms need to be modified.</p>	
3.4	<p>There is also a responsibility to work to an action plan which Ann Dunn devised just before she left the employment of The Moray Council.</p>	
3.5	<p>Exec. Committee will still have over-all power over sub-committees with each sub-committee providing progress updates at each Exec Committee meeting.</p>	
4.0	<p>PRESENTATION AND QUESTION AND ANSWER RE FUNDING AND POTENTIAL CLUB SUPPORT</p>	
4.1	<p>David explained that recently he met with HIE Moray with regard to funding and had a very positive meeting. HIE recommended Gill Dolphin and have financed a day of her time to help sportMoray , with the possibility of them funding more than a day if required. He then introduced Gill.</p>	
4.2	<p>She explained that she was employed by Development partners and contracted to HIE Moray to work with voluntary groups across Moray.</p>	
4.3	<p>She explained that HIE were an enterprise company and had a vested interest in economic bases in Moray. They recognise that if communities fall apart, everything falls apart.</p>	
4.4	<p>Gill helps groups with matters like setting up a legal structure, having the right people on the committee, advice on funding etc. She can't award money she can only advise groups/individuals (or several of these together) where they can go to access money. She can help with the completion of forms, making sure that all the criteria are met, the buzz words to use and the jargon. She can then check through application forms before they are sent off but she cannot guarantee that funding will be given.</p>	
4.5	<p>She helped with obtaining the funding for the pavilion in Forres and Cullen Tennis Club redeveloping their courts. She does not get involved in every stage of what a group does.</p>	
4.6	<p>She doesn't have an open remit. She has to keep going back to HIE as ideas and requests come up.</p>	

4.7	The groups Gill helps aren't charged at all. Meetings can be arranged anywhere including at the HIE offices by Forres.	
4.8	Ronnie Sim asked why sportMoray are no longer receiving funding from HIE. Gill couldn't answer this but she is willing to refer highlighted minutes back to those who can.	
4.9	Time Gill spends with each club differs depending on what is required eg to help source funding - 2 hours approx.	
4.10	David plans to contact affiliated clubs and ask them to contact sportMoray if they have a specific project or idea in mind. This can then be taken to a meeting and discussed with Gill. Up to Gill to then request more time from HIE. So far HIE have never turned her requests for extra time down. SportMoray need to think about how as an organisation they use Gill.	
4.11	St Andrews and Urquhart Bowling Club mentioned that they are a very small club with around 25 members who don't generate much income. Applications for funding have been submitted but they are never successful. They feel that it is because they are a small group. Gill explained that size of group didn't make a difference. Groups applying need to know what the funding provider wants to hear. How will awarding a grant bring members of the community in etc etc. Gill knows the 'buzz words'.	
4.12	It was suggested that sportMoray develop a service for their clubs whereby funding applications can be checked before they are submitted. Gill added that she is willing to glance over all applications but stressed again that this does not guarantee that money will be awarded. Clubs are to be asked to write into Caroline (secretary) with a few lines outlining any ideas they may have for a project then Gill will look at it.	
4.13	The Bowling Club then mentioned that in their experience it was almost as if funding providers were looking for any excuse not to award a grant. In fairness to funders though, they receive so many applications that they have to be ruthless at times. Applicants must reduce the reasons for them to do this.	
4.14	The poor standard of sporting facilities in Moray was mentioned and the suggestion that maybe sportMoray could help get something done about it.	
4.15	The more funding successes you have in an area, whether small or big, the more funders will want to help.	
4.16	Focus Tae Kwon Do suggested that a few clubs should get together and come up with a project then sportMoray can apply for the funding. Gill replied that in her experience, clubs applying individually worked better.	
4.17	David thanked Gill very much for her helpful presentation.	

5.0	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	
5.1	<u>Approval of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 19th June 2006</u> These were approved. Proposed by Ronnie Sim and seconded by Steve Blacklaw.	
5.2	<u>Matters Arising</u> None	
5.3	<u>Chairman's Report</u> David explained that it had been a busy year for sportMoray and he went on to thank the committee members for their commitment and hard work.	
5.4	He mentioned the annual sportMoray Recognition Awards which are always well organised and well attended and are always successful despite being run on a shoestring. They have the potential to get bigger but sportMoray don't have the resources - would be easier to keep it as it is. He said that despite the poor quality of sports facilities in Moray there was a wealth of local talented athletes and that clubs should put these people forward for recognition if they have any worthy of nomination.	
5.5	Various events ran this year under the banner of sportMoray eg Secondary Schools Cross Country, Badminton, Tennis and Golf and it is hoped to develop these further.	
5.6	He went on to say that many clubs and individuals benefited from grants over the past year. Ideally sportMoray would like to pay out more but money is very limited. The grants scheme tends to favour the promotion of coaches rather than single elite athletes. Important to ensure that money is spent as wisely as possible	
5.7	Various SALSC events ran last year including sporting tournaments and various committee members attended the annual conference. SportMoray are generally very good at supporting SALSC events held in other areas but there is a growing trend whereby sports councils tend to want to spend their money more locally.	
5.8	This year sportMoray wants to concentrate on making a difference to certain clubs. If 2 or 3 are helped this year, perhaps this could increase to 6 or 7 next year and so on.	
5.9	<u>Treasurer's Report</u> David handed over a bottle of wine to Steve Blacklaw as a thank you for auditing the accounts and saving sportMoray approximately £700!!	
5.10	The matter of insurance was brought up. SportMoray are required to have insurance to cover events that they might hold. Insurer is Perkins Slade and sportMoray have taken out the minimum premium.	
5.11	£10,000 was received from Awards for All for Sports Festival.	
5.12	ASDA bag pack brought in £368. It is hoped that this will be repeated in the future.	
5.13	Quiz night also raised funds through the raffle although income from this will show on 2007/2008 accounts.	

6.0	APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS:	
6.1	Steve Blacklaw kindly agreed that he would again audit the accounts under the banner of Bank of Scotland, free of charge.	
7.0	AFFILIATION FEES	
7.1	It was agreed that the affiliation fees for the year 2007-2008 remain at £30 for clubs but that the individual membership fee should be changed to £15 for individuals. It was pointed out that the minutes from last year's AGM read that individual fee should be £20. No-one sure if this was the case or if it is a typing error. There are very few individual members. Having a per capita affiliation fee was mentioned as well as increasing the fees. It was decided that this will be debated over the next year and re-considered at next AGM. Proposed: Ann Rossiter and seconded by Ronnie Sim	
8.0	APPROVAL OF NEW CONSTITUTION AND GRANT FORMS	
8.1	David highlighted the changes and these were approved. Proposed: Katie Holmes and seconded by Gregor Ewan.	
9.0	AOCB	
9.1	Concern was expressed that no Councillors attended the AGM. It was pointed out though that the 2 councillors allocated to sit on sportMoray Committee hadn't been decided on yet.	
9.2	Copies of revised Constitution will be issued to every affiliated club and individual.	
9.3	A member of Forres Cycling Club announced that Peter Ettles had won a British Gold Medal and was going to Australia for World Championships.	
9.4	Clubs were asked to let sportMoray know about any elite athletes they may know of with the possibility of arranging press coverage. SportMoray have good relationship with Northern Scot and there is a need to raise the profile of these athletes. May also bring in additional funding.	
9.5	Volunteers are needed to come forward to produce a quarterly newsletter. Anyone interested should contact Caroline.	
9.6	Website at a standstill just now due to changes in sportMoray structure etc. Hoping to get back on track soon. It was pointed out that the website currently states 'No Wheelchair Access'. This will have to be changed as there are quite a few disabled members.	
10.0	DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING Thursday 12 th July, 2007 at 4.30pm at Campbell and McConnachie offices, Shore Street, Lossiemouth. (Grants meeting will take place at 3.30pm).	