

**Eastern Region Rowing Council
Friday 25th November 2022**

Minutes

I. Attendees

Andrew Blit (Chair), Sudbury RC
Seb Walker, City of Cambridge RC
Mark Goddard, Isle of Ely RC
Tracy Muir, Sudbury RC
Imogen Grant, CUWBC
Stephen Wyborn, City of Cambridge RC
Paul Ashmore, St.Ives RC
Gary Gilbey, St.Ives RC
Vicky Parry, Isle of Ely RC
Tony Nelder, City of Cambridge RC
Paul Breheny, Broxbourne RC
Jo Baxter, Lea RC
Teresa Aslett, Isle of Ely RC
Nix Marston, West Norfolk RC
Daisy Attley, Oundle Town RC
Jennifer Garioch, South Broads RC
Dave Brown, Broxbourne RC
Oliver Lancashire, Anglia Ruskin University BC
Jeff Elms, (BR Staff liaison), Boston RC
Kate O'Sullivan (Deputy Chair British Rowing), Tees RC

2. Apologies

Paul Gurbutt, Lowestoft RC
Joanna Cotgrove, Isle of Ely RC
Martyn Rooney, St.Neots RC
Mike Arnott, Sudbury RC
Mark Bavington, Bedford School BC
Simon Murray, Broxbourne RC
Nick Hubble, Peterborough City RC
Simon Murray, Oundle Town RC
Jason Foster, Star BC

3. Minutes of Meeting of Annual General Meeting 25th November 2021

The Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

4. Annual Accounts to approve

The Chair presented the annual accounts, noted the ongoing credit balance carried forward and looked forward to finding sustainable ways of exploiting this.

The meeting accepted the accounts as a true and accurate record.

5. Appointment of Hon. Auditor

Stephen Wyborn proposed the engagement of Robin de Vere Green (Beccles RC) as Honorary Auditor. There being no objections this motion was carried.

6. Election of Officers

6.1 Regional Chair

Andrew Blit explained that he is stepping down as Chair. Seb Walker is prepared to stand as Chair. Seb introduced himself to the meeting and explained his vision for the role.

The nomination being in order the meeting welcomed Seb as Chair from 1st January 2023.

6.2 Regional Representatives

Two Representative posts were to be decided.

Seb Walker's first three year term has come to an end. He is willing to stand again. The meeting agreed to his continuation in the role.

Stella Isaac's work has taken her away from the region (to an aircraft carrier).

Jason Foster had expressed willingness to take on the role, but a nomination form had not been submitted. The meeting agreed to adopt him as Rep subject to the production of a satisfactory nomination form.

6.3 Officers of the Council

Andrew Blit is prepared to stand as Secretary to the Region

The following Officers were proposed en bloc and accepted by the meeting:

- Stephen Wyborn, Treasurer
- Lydia Swift, Events Committee
- Dave Brown, Junior Rowing
- Jo Baxter, Masters Rowing
- Teresa Aslett, Recreational Rowing
- Nina Crouchman, Coastal Liaison

The following are co-opted rather than elected:

- Mark Goddard, Rowing Safety Adviser
- Vacant
- Joanna Cotgrove, Regional Umpires' Committee

The Executive will continue to co-opt Nick Hubble in his role as Chair of BR Sport Committee.

Vicky Parry is stepping down from her national role as Chair of National Coaching Committee and Vice Chair of ERRC. Andrew Blit expressed his great thanks to Vicky for her work and personal support.

7. Guest speaker: **Imogen Grant**

Imogen Grant gave an inspiring presentation on her sporting journey from very ordinary beginnings to Olympic glory with emphasis on the support she had received along the way. Positive coaching and kindness were important elements to her success. Joy is critical to her love of rowing.

Andrew Blit thanked her for the presentation.

8. Guest speaker: **Kate O'Sullivan**

Kate O'Sullivan introduced herself, described the structure of British Rowing, and gave a presentation on the current policies of the National Governing Body – slides are available [here](#).

Discussion of the structure of competition and the role of British Rowing in the lack of tiers. The meeting explored the challenges to providing a platform for young people who are not able to commit and the resistance of some parts of the sport to change.

The new membership offer from British Rowing is still in development.

9. Regional awards

Winners of Regional Bursaries were announced being:

- Laura Burton of Cambridge 99 RC (J19 World Championships)
- Lara Grant, Rob Roy BC (Coupe de la Jeunesse)

The coaches of the athletes were also recognised and commended by the meeting.

Andrew Blit presented and congratulated all those from within the Region who had won awards in the national and regional process. The list of the winners is available [here](#).

10. Chair's Report

Andrew Blit presented his report to the Region. A copy is available [here](#).

There was further discussion of the structure of competitive events within the Region.

11. ER Officer reports

Copies of reports are available on the Regional website [here](#).

Teresa Aslett and Tracy Muir presented their reports verbally.

12. EAYR Report

Tony Nelder reported on the East Anglian Youth Rowing project and gave an update on the latest state of play in the various settings.

13. AOB (to be notified beforehand)

None.

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