

Friends of Peterborough Lido
Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on
Tuesday 6th March 2019 at 6.00 pm

at the Key Theatre, Embankment Road Peterborough

Present:

Committee: Janet Martin (Chair), Maggie Divers (Treasurer)
Clare Marshall, Richard Baker, Sue Godfrey

Vivacity: Jon Marsden, Steve Luker, Sam Hickman, Josh Aylett

Members: David Godfrey, Wendy Eagle, Bronwen Parr, Isabel Knipe,
Trish Halstead, Dave Hopkins, Paul Carter, Monica Ilett, John
Peach, Isabel Knipe, Mike Basketeer, Jeanne Butler,
Nick Carter

1. Introduction and Overview

A welcome and outline of the agenda and meeting objectives was given by the Friends' chair, Janet Martin.

2. Apologies for absence: were received from Pete Shorey (Committee), Howard Marshall, Mike Henchy, John Reynolds, Keeley Mills, Karen Brine, Linda Graves, Sean Whittaker, Bill Marriott, Tom Measures, Pat Goodliffe, and Ruth Shortland

3. Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 27th February 2018

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record; proposed by Maggie Divers and seconded by Janet Martin.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

4. Report from the Chair

5.1 Members retiring from the committee - Irene Johnson, Richard Ferris and Pete Shorey – were thanked for their support and input over the last year.

5.2 Thanks were given to members of Vivacity staff who have supported the Friends' activities during the year, including the provision of meeting venues and refreshments, and ongoing inclusion in discussions regarding developments at the lido and within the Vivacity organisation.

5.3 Membership of the Friends for 2018-19 was 88 – an increase from 62 members in 2018.

5.4 Input from the Friends during the year had included

- A suggestion/recommendation that early morning swims are offered to those wishing to swim before going to work
- The suggestion that members of the Friends willing to undertake lifeguarding duties on a voluntary basis could do so in return for free-of-charge lifeguarding training; one member had subsequently undertaken this training, although completion of administrative procedures is still awaited before his deployment can be scheduled
- Assistance with pre-opening maintenance work

5.5 The Friends' website had greatly improved information exchange with pool users – thanks were expressed to Monica Ilett for her hard work with this.

5.6 Membership year – although the Friends have always welcomed new members joining at any time during the year, experience has shown that on occasions individuals had joined on the post-season swim date purely in order to obtain a late, extra swim. These ‘members’ have rarely re-joined the Friends during the following year, and this practice is not felt to be within the spirit of the privilege offered to members by Vivacity as a “thank you” for support during the year (particularly since the cost of joining the Friends is currently less than cost of a regular adult swim). The committee had therefore agreed that joining at this post season swim would no longer be permitted.

6. Treasurer’s Report

Copies of the accounts to 31st December 2018 were circulated to members, reflecting the Friends’ current balance as £447.00, represented by –

Balance at Bank	£440.00
Cash in Hand	£7.00

7. Election of Officers & Committee

A schedule of members nominated for committee and officer posts, duly proposed and seconded in accordance with the Friends’ constitution, was shown. All nominees were elected unanimously by those present, as follows:

Committee Chair	- Janet Martin
Treasurer	- Maggie Divers
Committee	- Clare Marshall, Sue Godfrey, Richard Baker, Dave Hopkins, Tom Measures, Trish Halstead

The election of Janet Martin as Committee Chair was presided over by Jon Marsden.

The position of Secretary once again remains vacant.

8. Review of 2018 Lido Season (Steven Luker, General Manager for the Lido)

- Steve commenced by thanking members for their support and contribution to the running of the pools. In particular, the feedback obtained from day-to-day conversations with lido users had been useful, and is appreciated.
- Income from the season was approximately £225,000, largely driven by a very warm summer, representing an increase of £21,501 over the 2017 season
- Admissions for the 16-week season had totalled 39,792 (an increase of 21,501 from the 2017 season), with an average weekly admission of 2,484

9. Plans for 2019 Lido Season

Steve then outlined plans and developments for the coming season:

- Events successfully held during 2017 will be repeated, including the Solstice swims, additional midnight and early morning swims, and Pride events. Vivacity may also participate in the UK-wide programme of skinny dips. A calendar of events is being prepared to assist advance publicity for all events
- It is noted that the lido is a member of the Historic Pools of Great Britain network, which provides opportunities for exchange of information and expertise between member pools across the UK.

- A 'fast track' entry scheme is to be trialled (utilising guidance and experience from Woodhall Spa lido); this will require online pre-booking of places, and should help to ease pressure on entry during busy times
- Josh Aylett, who has worked at the lido for a number of seasons, will work full time as lido manager for the 2019 season
- Future projects include the installation of two outside drench showers, albeit this will depend upon both funding, and the capacity of the existing drainage system, and an upgrade of the café facilities, again with a view to reducing service wait times.
- A new catering manager has been appointed, and a wider range of food will be on offer
- Plans to sell lido-branded merchandise include car stickers, pens, and postcards.

Members' Pre-Season Swim The pre-season swim for members of the Friends will take place on Friday 25th May – details of opening hours (likely to be 11.00am to 3.00pm) will be confirmed to existing members and those who have expressed an interest in joining during the winter period. Members of the committee will be present at both the pre-swim and the opening day to sign up members for the 2019 season; the cost of membership will remain at £5.00.

10. Any Other Business

The following queries and concerns were raised by members.

- Update on Pool Leakage Jon Marsden reported that he was reasonably confident the leakage from underground pipes had now been addressed, with conclusive tests to be run during April. Where possible, the old cast iron pipes will be replaced with polyethylene piping.
- Signage – recommendations were made regarding signage to clarify ladies' and gents' changing areas.
- Clouding of pool water – is largely due to the application of sun screen immediately prior to entering the water; pool capacity is reduced when this occurs, due to lifeguards not being able to see the bottom of the pool at the deep end.
- Waste Recycling – efforts will be made to improve the volume of recycling of food and drink containers, with better signage of bins. New waste disposal contractors will be asked to focus on this aspect.
- No Smoking Area – this is sited to the side of the grass area, next to the staff room; it is felt that this is the most suitable position, and there are no plans to relocate it.

All members are encouraged to discuss issues as they arise, in order that they can be addressed promptly; the Friends Committee are usually available daily, and are always willing to raise issues with members of the management team when asked to do so.

Postcard Design

Ten different images of the lido, past and present, were then displayed for members to select their "top three" choices. These images will be forwarded to the Vivacity Marketing Team for production as postcards to be sold at the lido and Regional Swimming Centre.

The meeting closed at 7.30pm, after which members were provided with refreshments in the Key Theatre bar area.