



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Essex AA Executive meeting held remotely via Microsoft Teams Video on Monday 7th June 2021 at 19:30 hours

Participants:

Andy Catton (Chair), Claire Levey (Secretary), Gerry O'Doherty (President), Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary), Kaye Merrywest, Paul Merrywest, Diane Wooller, Chris Akehurst, Paul Mingay, Gary Floate, Hayley Pegg, Keith Palmer, Jean Tierney, Claudia Rabess (joined at 20:00), Peter Bates, Alistair Gillan, Allison Gillan, Ray Pearce, June Cork, Melanie Peddle.

1. Apologies for Absence

Gary Chandler (Treasurer), John Weir, Peter Cassidy, Nick Burston, Linda Bates, Scott Darney, Brigid Wallen (due to connectivity issues)

2. Minutes of the last meeting of 26th April 2021

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 26th April 2021 were **approved** as a true record of that meeting.

Proposed: Diane Wooller Seconded: Paul Merrywest

3. Matters Arising from last meeting

Agenda Item	Matter	Update
5.	Essex representative volunteer sought for co-option onto the England Athletics East Region Council	Volunteer still sought; all clubs requested to canvas support from their membership.
10.	Venue for 2022 Essex 20 mile road championships	See road running below
11.	Essex County Trophy secretary post vacancy.	Volunteer still sought; all clubs requested to canvas support from their membership to take on this important role.
11.	Andy Catton to advise Gary Chandler the number of County medals that he collects from Mike Emms sister to enable him to decide whether we need to order any additional stock	Andy Catton has collected medals from Mike Emms sister. Audit undertaken. Stock is considered sufficient for the year; good split held of gold/silver and bronze medals.
15.	Welfare Policy	Still outstanding; matter is being progressed.

4. Treasurers matters

Gary Chandler was unable to attend the meeting. He sent in a written report to the committee.

Treasurer's matters:-

- Gary applied for, and has received confirmation, that Essex AA has been awarded a £500 grant from England Athletics towards the costs incurred at Track & Field Championships.
- Alistair Gillan has been reimbursed £72 to cover the cost of the County website domain name for the next five years
- No other transactions apart from monies being received from entries into the track & field championships.

5. Correspondence

Letter received from Susan Deaves, Track & Field Chairman, SEAA:-

“South of England U15/U20 Inter County Championship

Further to my recent letter, we have received mixed responses from those Counties who did actually reply.

Whilst some felt that this event should not be held this year, there were others who were keen that it played an important part in their young athletes' competitive programme and wished to see it taken place in 2021.

What we feel is the most practical way of going forward is to say that we shall stage the event, as planned, on Saturday, 11th September at Oxford, providing we have a sufficient number of Counties prepared to give us a **Commitment to Participate** by the end of July. This is the only way we can judge whether it would be a meaningful competition.

We shall require a formal notification of the intention to compete, either by email or snail mail, on headed paper and signed by a County Official – Chairman, Secretary etc. The entry fee will be £35 per team.

Following this, we will make a decision quickly – in the next week, beginning 1st August, so that there is time for you to prepare your teams, if necessary.

I do hope you will appreciate that we are anxious to provide relevant competition for athletes in our Area.”

It was the view of the meeting that there is a desire to participate in the event and the Team Managers will be contacted to confirm that they are happy to select and co-ordinate the County's team.

6. Networking

Nothing to report.

7. England Athletics Regional Reports

London – Please refer to Appendix 1 for a copy of the draft minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 19th May.

East – Nothing to report.

8. Track & Field

- Outdoor championships

To date, 184 entries received; month to go before closing date and historically there has been a late surge of entries near the actual closing date.

Hayley Pegg has obtained the relevant licence.

Discussions have been taking place about speeding up the posting of results online, as quickly as possible, once they have been verified. There is a cost involved. It was unanimously approved by all those present at the meeting to support this cost (subject to being within the £500 grant recently agreed by EA; if the cost is higher than £500 then the request would be referred back to the committee). Entrants would be given a link to access the web site where the results will be posted. It is hoped that a timetable for the championships will be agreed by the end of the third week of July.

- 5k Track championships

Entry limit is circa. 102-108

As at the date of the meeting – 70 entries received. (Female 12, Male 58)

Hayley Pegg has obtained the relevant licence.

Dependent upon total entries received there may be 5 races rather than the planned 6.

Competitors have been advised in the entry details that they must pay attention to the rules governing permitted shoes for track races. These rules must be adhered to and competitors that bring shoes which are not on the approved list will not be allowed to wear those shoes on the day. There will be a check at the registration desk and on the start line.

Congratulations go to Jess Judd who has qualified for Team GB in the 10k track event at the Tokyo Olympics after running 31:20:84 at the British Championships.

9. Cross Country

Fixture meeting for 2021/22 is still to be arranged. It is anticipated that this will take place sometime during July.

10. Road Running

5 Mile championships at Pleshey. Nearly sold out only a few places remaining.

20 Mile championships. Gary Chandler has been in discussion with Active Training World about them putting on the event at the Carver Barracks next March in the absence of another club coming forward to host.

It would be a 5 lap course; venue could accommodate around 1500 entrants.

Likely entry fees could be circa. £15 for Essex qualified runners and £23 for non Essex.

Active Training World would organise the entire event for the County.

Paul Mingay mentioned that he will chase up Colchester Harriers to ascertain whether they would be prepared to host this event in 2022.

11. Fell Running

It has been agreed that County will consider selecting runners for the Inter Counties Fell Championships in 2022. Selections will be based upon the previous 12 months form for all age categories.

12. Trophies

There remains a vacancy for the County Trophy secretary role. A volunteer would be welcomed. ALL CLUBS – please can you approach your members to ask whether they would be willing to take on this important role. If anyone would like any additional information about the duties of this role please contact Andy Catton by email at ilfordacsec@gmail.com

13. Walking

Nothing to report.

14. Officials

Diane Wooller confirmed that she has sufficient officials to cover the Saturday at the Outdoor Championships but additional volunteers would be welcome for the Sunday. Refreshments will be provided for officials at the County Track & Field championships.

15. Schools

The Essex schools athletics championships will take place on Saturday 12th June at Melbourne Park, Chelmsford.

All schools have been sent an information pack. Athletes must achieve an entry standard in their event. Entry forms need to be sent to Mr Richard Casey and the closing date is Friday 21st May. Confirmation of entry will be sent to schools.

Track events will be based on a one race time trial format.

Only one spectator per athlete is allowed as they have to limit the number of people at the venue. Once athletes have finished their competition they will need to leave the stadium.

16. Any Other business

The track at Havering has now been awarded TrackMark accreditation.

Summary of Actions

Agenda Item	Matter	Action required	By whom
3	Essex representative volunteer sought for co-option onto the England Athletics East Region Council	All clubs requested to canvas support from their membership for a volunteer to represent Essex at the EA East Region meetings.	All clubs
3.	Essex County Trophy Secretary vacancy.	All clubs requested to canvas support from their membership to support the County with this important role.	All clubs
3.	Welfare Policy	To be added to the Essex County AA website	
5.	U15/U20 Inter Counties Track & Field Champs.	Team Managers to be contacted to seek their support in selecting a team and co-ordinating County participation in the event	Hayley Pegg
9.	Cross County Fixtures meeting	Date to be arranged.	Allison Gillan/Chris Akehurst
11.	Host for the 2022 Essex 20 mile championships	Colchester Harriers to be approached to ask whether they would be prepared to host.	Paul Mingay

Meeting finished at 20:20

Draft Agenda for the next Executive Committee meeting to be held at the clubhouse Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford on Monday 12th July 2021 (Subject to Government restrictions). Start time 7.30pm

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the previous meeting – 7th June 2021.
3. Matters Arising
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Correspondence
Club & Committee Register Changes
6. Networking
7. Regional Reports
8. Track & Field
9. Cross Country
10. Road running
11. Fell running
12. Trophies

13. Walking
14. Officials
15. School's Liaison
16. Any other business
17. Date of next meeting

Appendix 1.

Draft Minutes London Regional Council

Wednesday 19th May 2021

Online 7.30 pm – 9.00pm

Attendees; Elected Councillors; Adrian Day (Chair) (AD) David Clarke (DC) Nadia Williams (NW) Tony Ganio (TG) Mark Purser (MP), Mick Bond (MB), Paul Miller (PM), Ismail Islam (II), Mara Yamauchi (MY)

Invited/In attendance; John Gandee (JG) representing SEAA Competition, Chris Mallender (CM) Club Support manager, EA, David Ralph (DR) representing Kent County AA, Dan Isherwood, Head of Operations, EA (DI)

Apologies for Absence; Ivor Wiggett (IW) Middlesex County AA; Paul Merrywest (PM) representing Chair, Essex County AA,

1. Welcome/ apologies/declarations
Chair welcomed MY and II as co-opted members
2. Minutes of April meeting
Discussed and agreed
3. England Athletics strategy
DI presented the new purpose, vision and strategy. Q and A followed with questions on KPIs and progress reporting
4. Club Support Manager update
CM updated the group on facilities grants (to be announced soon) and asked that Councillors encourage Clubs to register athletes with EA. Over 60 clubs joined the recent online conference with a presentation by Clapham Chasers
5. Chairs update.
AD discussed the recent successful councillor inductions and encouraged all to post facebook updates. He asked for suggestions for potential councillors to represent accessibility interests.
6. Meeting focus

We discussed the shape of future Competition Planning and London Council meetings. It was agreed quarterly meetings for both, with hybrid mix of online and face-to-face meetings. Face-to-face meetings could be held at a Club/event. MY suggested inviting Parkrun leaders to a meeting. AD to draft a recommendation incorporating feedback from Competition Planning meeting attendees.

7. Counties and SEAA updates. DR reported on a successful Kent champs: JG welcomed a normal summer of competitions
8. Councillor updates. Each Councillor gave a short update; MY welcomed suggestions for articles for World Athletics; PM mentioned need for more Under 11 meetings – AD to raise at National Council
9. Next meeting To be addressed in separate Meeting Review document