



Minutes of the UK Deaf Sport (UKDS) AGM held at Stifel Offices, London on 23 November 2019

Present: (UKDS Board of Directors)

Piers Martin (Chair and Director)
 Tim Chapman
 Graeme Knight
 Peter Fitton
 Andy Mawdsley
 Jacqui Traynor

In attendance:

Valerie Copenhagen (Executive Director)
 Philip Gerrard (UKDS Honorary Vice President)
 Guy Finney (UK Deaf Athletics)
 Rod Oaten (England Deaf Golf)
 Jo Hitchings (UKDS Secretariat)
 Interpreters x 2

Apologies Received:

Craig Crowley MBE (UKDS Honorary President)
 Vincent Dickson (UKDS Honorary Vice President)
 Stuart Harrison (UKDS Honorary Vice President/ England Deaf Golf)
 Lara Lill (Senior Independent Director)
 Tom Seabrook (UKDS Board Member)
 Brendan Foley (UKDS Board Member)
 Gareth Hunt (UKDS Board Member)
 James Dixon (Athlete Representative)
 Claire Stancliffe (Athlete Representative)
 Jan Lishman (GB Deaf Athletics)
 Oliver Eadsforth (EDF)
 Sean Noone (England Deaf Football)
 Jennifer Lynch (England Deaf Futsal)
 Catherine Fletcher (National Deaf Tennis Coach)
 Alex Gibbons (London Sport)
 Rod Wilkinson (GB Deaf Athletics)

REF	MINUTE	ACTION
1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION	
1.1	The Chair welcomed everyone to AGM. The Chair thanked GH for providing the meeting facilities.	
2.	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2.1	The Chair noted the apologies received and highlighted the three proxy votes submitted to UKDS prior to the AGM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deaf Tennis • Deaf Swimming • England Deaf Football 	

3.	MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM	
3.1	<u>The minutes of the AGM meeting of 10 November 2018 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting: proposed by Guy Finney and seconded by Philip Gerrard.</u>	
4.	ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 2018-19	
4.1	The UKDS Annual Report and Unaudited Accounts to 31 March 2019 were received and noted.	
4.2	The Chair invited any questions on the Annual Report and Unaudited Accounts 2018-19. There were no questions from attendees.	
5.	CHAIR'S UPDATE	
5.1	The Chair thanked VC, Board members, Honorary President, Vice Presidents and volunteers for their support for UKDS in 2019.	
5.2	The Chair explained that following a recruitment process, VC was appointed Executive Director of UKDS with the Executive Chair role moving to a Chair role. A small working group from the Board has been overseeing this transition process which was completed on 1 October 2019.	
5.3	The Chair explained that positive progress has been made with Governance, with UKDS meeting the Code for Sports Governance requirements, which included activity around updating of policies and procedures, equality and diversity, safeguarding and recruiting a new skills based board focused on a clear organisational strategy. Additionally, the new membership system has been implemented and a new financial services provider is in place.	
5.4	The Chair highlighted that a key focus for UKDS in 2018-19 has been on delivering activity related to SE funding. The Chair explained that the sustainability of the organisation has been reliant on SE funding. Going forward UKDS is looking at fundraising and other commercial fundraising sources to enable the organisation to further grow.	
5.5	The Chair highlighted that recruitment will shortly commence for current UKDS Board vacancies. UKDS is engaging with Sport England and Sporting Equals focused on ensuring Code for Sports Governance and International Federation compliance and the right balance of gender, diversity, BAME, BSL and skills required.	
6.	ORDINARY RESOLUTION: TO AGREE THE ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION	
6.1	The Chair explained that the UKDS Articles of Association were outdated and have now been updated and meet the requirements for the Code for Sports Governance. The Chair thanked Board members for their support in updating the Articles, alongside the legal support funded by SE.	
6.2	VC summarised the key changes in the Articles and explained that once finalised the Articles will be posted on the UKDS website.	
6.3	<u>The updated UKDS Articles of Association were approved.</u>	
7.	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE	
7.1	VC explained that 2018-19 was a busy year for UKDS with exciting progress being made in the organisation. VC provided an overview of following key activity from the last year: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continued delivery of a range of activities including delivery of training and education and research aligned to the participation strategy through the three strands: Support, Lead and Grow - SE funding secured for 2019-20 and successful applications made securing other funding sources such as Comic Relief - New Commercial and Fundraising plan devised, and implementation commenced 	
7.2	VC outlined some of the key priorities and focus areas for 2020-21 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivery of SE programme including capturing the impact and difference made from work/ programmes - Continuing to raise awareness of UK Deaf Sport activity - Establishment of a newly constituted Athletes Commission 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UK Deaf Sport International Group continuing to provide international influence - Planning for 2021 Summer Deaflympics Games - Continuing governance progress - Ongoing implementation of the Commercial and Fundraising plan 	
8.	AOB	
8.1	Following a request that the updated UKDS Articles of Association are made available in BSL, VC confirmed that the plans are underway for key sections of the updated Articles to be made available in BSL.	
9.	CLOSE	
9.1	There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 13.45.	