**Essex County Archery Association Council Meeting**

held on Wednesday 03 March 2021 at 8pm online via Zoom

**Attendees:**

Alex Purser (Chair) Mick Pearce (VC) Deb Horn (Secretary) Martin Skinner (Treasurer) Richard Pilkington (Webmaster / VP) Mark Lawrence (SRO / VP) Kevin Juniper (General Member) Sharon Lawrence (Team Manager) Tony King (Ass. Team Manager) Stuart Hames (Phoenix) Chris Higgins (CTRA) Phil Dredge (RTAC) Chris Lowe (Ardleigh) Janet Lowe (Ardleigh) Marion Saville (Direct Member) Dennis Saville (Direct Member) Maggie Pearce (Direct member) Clare Felgate (Woodford) Alan Munson (Blue Arrow)Paul West (RTAC)Wendie King (Mayflower) Sean Fortune (WEB) Louise Fortune (WEB) Asha Chumber (Braintree) Joe Cordaro (Abbey) Brian Lock (NHA) Steve Davis (Deben) Richard Willoughby (Deben) Matt Prior (Mayflower) Emma Broxholme (Braintree) John Willson (RTAC)

**41.21 Apologies for Absence**

Anna Heaven, Roy Hutchins, Paul Clark (President).

**42.21 Additional matters for Any Other Business**

**43.21 Chairman’s Remarks**

Alex thanked everyone, it was lovely to see new faces, he thanked all the outgoing officers and welcomed the incoming officers. It has been a difficult but positive year, today we are hoping for fruitful discussions and wish everyone good shooting for the upcoming season.

**44.21 Election of Minutes Secretary: Louise Fortune**

Nominated by Alex Purser (Chairman) Seconded by Deb Horn (Secretary) passed nem con by all members.

**45.21 Election of three SCAS Representatives for the three Council Meetings, plus Annual General Meeting**

Alex Purser, John Willson and Brian Lock, seconded by Mick Pearce and passed nem con by all members.

**46.21 Development**

Alex Purser suggested that in order to get things moving in the right direction this year a small but focused sub-committee should be appointed with the appropriate officer, plus one member of the exec, plus one or two ordinary members. For Development that will be Sean Fortune (DO) with Kevin Juniper (Gen. Member) for Coaching Anna Heaven (CCO) with Deb Horn (Secretary) and for Juniors Brian Lock (JDO) with Mick Pearce (VC) Maggie Pearce also expressed an interest at being involved with the Junior sub committee. Any other members who wish to be involved at a later date should contact Deb Horn.

A discussion was had covering what direction these committees should take with the main themes being, aiding the novice archer, developing the beginner into a shooter, developing the archer into a competitor and engaging the archer. The whole premise is about targeting groups of archers and developing a balanced approach. Retention of archers is also an issue not just from beginners courses but from juniors to seniors.

**47.21 Coaching**

Are Coaches within county supported? A discussion followed which asked whether clubs have access to coaches at different levels and of different bow disciplines, what resources are available ie: refresher training, should coaches be given subsidised membership rates. Where higher level coaches exist is it possible to have them seconded out to other clubs? More should be done to encourage junior members to take up coaching and Judging. Deb Horn reported that there are a surplus of level one coaches and that only a few level two coaches and only three above level two.

**48.21 Juniors**

Difficulty getting teens to engage with the sport once their interests change between 15-18. Issues arising were; the difficulty in getting teens to transition to senior archers, keeping juniors engaged on both a sporting and social level due to external commitments. Suggestions included the setting up of a junior league, teaching bow maintenance, encouraging confidence in scoring and submitting scores.

**49.21 Leagues**

Will there be any this year?

 The Albion League - a schedule for the summer will be posted once restriction lifting protocols are known. A discussion was had regarding archers who were unable to shoot the Albion distances still being able to shoot alongside the Albion archers, still 108 arrows but shooting shorter distances. Alex Purser suggested that a Windsor round would be the resolution for this.

Due to existing COVID restrictions, the first Albion match may have to be shot at home as a postal shoot, as travelling may not be an option. Alex and Marion to confirm.

Portsmouth league - still running as is the SCAS postal league.

Compound League – This is a postal, one division, set for June-September

Longbow League – Postal starting in May

Masters League – Postal 60m, final in person as a head to head. Wendie in discussions with AGB as to its potential for over 50’s with a Master, Master bowman classification.

Alex Purser suggested the potential of a cadet league, for which publicity would be needed.

Indoor League – Not up for discussion yet.

Bray – going ahead as planned

**50.21 Tournaments**

**Indoor** – Hoping to start Nov 2021

**Clout** – Metric 25 July possibility of a Masters category

**County 1440** – 18 July

**Imperial** – proposed for 29 August

**Field Championships** – Dates TBC with Panther

**Target Championships** – June all three Judges confirmed

Wendie donated a trophy to be used at the 1440 – Wendie to write to Deb Horn re: citation.

**51.21 County Team**

National Team Championships on 24th September 2021 – aiming to get a team together for this

**52.21 Insurance**

This is currently being investigated by Martin Skinner (Treasurer) Alex Purser asked if it would possible to have this sorted by May ?

**53.21 Any Other Business**

**Juniors claiming senior records – clarification**

Paid to enter as a junior – junior record only

Paid to enter as a senior – senior record

**Senior Record Claim – Richard Burgess from Hillingdon on 5.12.20**

Double WA18 - Two sessions shot on same day, don’t have to be consecutive sessions, must be on same day not consecutive days.

**Masters League –** Wendie suggested the introduction of a new league for the Masters category. This could possibly be a postal league with a face to face final.

**Masters Records -**  county already holds Masters category records for Recurve, |Compound and Barebow where they are appropriate. Longbow records are not held as WA does not recognise the Longbow category.

**Field taster day at Panthers –** interest to be gauged

**Meeting ended at 21:55**

**Date of Next Meeting TBC**