

**EXETER GYMNASTICS CLUB – TRUSTEES
GRANT APPLICATION MEETING**

Wednesday 26th March 2014

Present: Tim Johns (Chair) Alain Cook Alan Cleave
 Mike Euridge Michelle Hamilton-Kendall

In attendance: Helen Honnor Ian Honnor

1. **Apologies** Richard Franks Yvonne Budd, , Meriel Fry.

2. **Grant Application**

In order to proceed with any grant application there is still the issue of “not for profit” part of the organisation. Mike and Trustees are in agreement that changes to the business side and charity are taken forward, not just for this grant application but fundamentally for the future. Helen has put together a letter that could go with this application explaining that changes are due to take place and asking if they would consider our application. It was agreed this would be a good way forward, as we could get feedback from the council in terms of changes and what we need to do to progress with any future applications.

3. **Governance**

Ian and Helen had circulated documents which gave clearer details of what is expected of organisations with regards Governance issues. Tim thought there were some Governance already in-situ within the lease of the charity. However, there would need to be a clause within the document of transfer of any assets as well as succession statements and transfer of lease. The group discussed this and all the Trustees agreed this would need to be looked into and changes and wording made appropriately. The Trustees would be given access to read the lease as it stands at present, as most of the Trustees had not seen the document. Tim would check with Yvonne if it is available electronically to be emailed to Trustees. Tim expressed that this is a confidential document.

Some other gymnastics clubs had recently been put forward as centres for good practice of governance. It was proposed that Tim, along with some other Trustees, would look to arrange a visit to these clubs and have an opportunity to speak to their Trustees about their set up and governance. These could be Barnstaple, Yeovil and Swindon. It is hoped Helen or Ian could join these visits as well.

Alan asked that on this basis we need to decide the type of organisation we want to become, then sit down and make it fit for that criteria. Any future changes would mean the way the Trustees run the charity would change significantly with an active role within future planning and management. Alain and other Trustees were in agreement that this would need commitment from everyone to take things forward.

Mike was in agreement that changes are necessary, but he obviously wants to ensure his business interests are met as well. Mike will contact his solicitor to move things on. Helen and Ian have already had access to Mike’s business accounts and he is happy to have their input in the future. It was agreed that the Trustees should have independent advice from a lawyer who deals with charities and businesses. Tim offered to find out who could do this for us and approach them.

4. Survey Results

Frank had emailed a summary of the survey results for information, which Michelle circulated to Trustees. Tim will circulate a brief update from the survey and ongoing issues, which can be put up on notice boards. More detailed information can follow later.

Michelle would arrange to put better notices up advertising the coffee shop.

11. Any other business

St Luke's: Mike updated group on the academy at St Luke's. He has had some positive feedback on how the school will help with providing nutrition advice, psychology and medical support. In terms of the plot of land, the discussions are very promising and all being well the school will donate the land to us; we will build on it and run the gymnastics academy. This will take time but is good progress.

12. Date of next meeting

TBC