

Friends of Bude Sea Pool 2025 Annual General Meeting - Minutes

23 March 2025, 15:00, The Surf Life Saving Club, Bude

Trustees: Sarah Moore, Chair (SM); Chris Cannon, Vice-Chair (CC); Lisa Bragg (LB); Sean Collins-Powell (SCP); Martyn Holehouse (MHo); Kelly Kemp (KK)
Honorary President: Paul Tilzey (PT)

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME – SM

SM opened the meeting. With more than 10 members present (see Appendix 1), the meeting was declared quorate.

SM welcomed all attendees and thanked all members and volunteers for their support for the pool in 2024/25. She particularly welcomed Esther Stacey who has taken on the role of Treasurer, and Jodie Harper and Steve South as new staff members.

SM commemorated Sue Bennett, who acted as Treasurer until her sudden death in January 2025, for her significant contribution to the FoBSP.

2. APOLOGIES AND MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST AGM 23 MARCH 2024

Apologies received: See Appendix 2

Matters arising from the 23 March 2024 AGM: There were no matters arising from the 2024 AGM. Approval of the 2024 AGM minutes will take place later in the meeting.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT - SM

A copy of the draft accounts for the year ended 31 October 2024 was presented to all attendees.

SM outlined the financial performance of the pool in 2024/25, noting a small surplus, compared to a deficit in the previous year. She drew attention to the significant costs of maintaining the pool, which over the last seven years, have amounted to £200,000. SM also noted that salaries are paid only to a very small number of staff, and to the pool crew who are employed during the summer season.

4. FOBSP STRATEGY - KK

KK presented the vision, mission and values of FoBSP which have recently been developed in order to guide the strategy and operations at FoBSP. KK outlined the key pillars underlying the strategy, being education, fostering a community, health & wellbeing, and operational effectiveness. KK noted that documents explaining the strategy will be on the FoBSP website and comments and suggestions from Members are welcomed.

5. FACILITIES UPDATE – MHo

MHo echoed SM's thanks to volunteers who have assisted maintain the pool facilities during the year. MHo was pleased to report that there have been no major issues or incidents during the year

6. OPERATIONS UPDATE

EV highlighted the success of 2024's Channel Challenge, which was very well attended and raised over £3,000 for FoBSP. The event will be run again in October 2025, and will continue to have a focus on inclusivity, so that swimmers of all capabilities are able to take part.

SCP highlighted the new pool thermometer, which was supported with funds raised by BOWS. SCP noted the technical challenges in setting up the thermostat in the pool and was pleased to report that it is now working successfully. SCP thanked the numerous individuals involved in making the project a success.

SM noted that the pool's centenary is approaching in 2030. A project group has already been set up to plan a range of inclusive events over the year. Ideas from Members for events are welcomed.

MHo emphasised that FoBSP could not operate without the help received from volunteers and expressed sincere thanks for the many hours of work put in over the year.

7. RESOLUTIONS – CC

The following resolutions were put to members:

7.1 That the following Trustees be re-elected and/or elected to the following roles:

Sarah Moore – re-elected as a Trustee and Chair.
Chris Cannon - re-elected as a Trustee and Vice-Chair.
Martyn Holehouse – re-elected as Trustee
Kelly Kemp – re-elected as Trustee

That Sean Collins-Powell and Lisa Bragg, who were appointed Trustees in February 2025, are elected as Trustees.

The above elections were approved by all attendees eligible to vote.

7.2 That the following members be elected to the Committee

Mick Gates
Mark Henderson
Jan Lathem
Esther Stacey
Elaine Viner

The above elections were approved by all attendees eligible to vote.

7.3 That the Minutes of the AGM of 23 March 2024 be approved

The minutes were approved by all attendees eligible to vote.

7.4 That the Accounts for Year ending 31 October 2024 be approved

The accounts were approved by all attendees eligible to vote.

8. AOB

8.1 SM introduced Graham Taplin (GT) from the Surf Life Saving Centre. GT noted that he has a new role as the RNLI Water Safety Officer for Bude. He and his team, Janet Miller and Ivo Berg, will be based at the RNLI shop premises at Summerleaze Beach, and will be happy to liaise with individual Members who would welcome further information on water safety.

8.2 SM highlighted thank you letters received during the year from pool visitors. SM echoed pool users expressions of gratitude to BOWS, which has now been replaced with a new group, Bude Seals, for the extensive work done to promote and encourage cold water swimming and support the sea pool, including significant donations to FOBSP. SM also read out a thank you letter from the High Sheriff who had visited the pool in early 2025 and was extremely impressed with the facility and how it is managed.

9. CLOSE – SM

SM reiterated appreciation due to all pool staff, volunteers, business supporters, friends and staff, whose commitment ensures that the pool will be free to use for years to come.

SM also thanked the Surf Life Saving Club for use of their premises for the AGM.

The meeting closed at 15:33.

APPENDIX 1

Members in attendance (31)

<p>Trustees (6): Sarah Moore - Chair Chris Cannon - Vice Chair Sean Collins-Powell Lisa Bragg Martyn Holehouse Kelly Kemp</p> <p>Committee (4): Mark Henderson Jan Lathem Esther Stacy Elaine Viner</p> <p>Staff (4): Jodie Harper Chris Menlove-Platt Deb Rosser Steve South</p> <p>Minute taker: Ros Stow</p>	<p>Friends (16): Alison Judge Andy Bird David Stacey Deb Stokes Graham Taplin Jane Watt Janet Miller Jeff Palmer Jim Butcher Margaret Burch Paul Smith Steve Watt Sue Read Zoe Greenwell</p> <p>Guests: Ivo Berg</p>
---	---

APPENDIX 2

Apologies received

Bob Jack

Fay Hargreaves

Janet Jack

John Lawler

Lindsay Thorne

Mick Gates

Paul Tilzey

Ronnie van der Ploeg

Sarah Blake