

# Tiverton Swimming Club

AGM 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2016

## Chairman's report for 2015/6 – Sara Dilks

Hello, thank you for coming along this evening to hear the report about the activities TSC has achieved in the last year, from March 2015 to now. Last year we saw many changes and updates occurring in the club and I am mostly speaking about the achievements the **previous chair -lan Jones** and his committee made. I have much to thank lan for improving the clubs financial status, implementing direct debits for fee collection, modernising and sourcing the club kit, creating all of the TSC banners and noticeboards and particularly keeping it all going when Dave Clift announced he was leaving in July last year.

For **2015** the club focused on:

1. Financial issues –to be able to pay our bills, aiming to break even.
2. Promoting swimmers though the pathway in the club
3. Maximise the number of swimmers in each group
4. Continuing the club calendar
5. Repeat and improve on the previous year's success
6. Appointing a new head coach & promoting the club externally

I'm pleased to say we have delivered on most of these priorities

We are more **financially** viable – however we do not make enough income to support the head coach paid role (after paying the pool fees and club administration costs), so are still totally reliant on additional fundraising to ensure we do not keep losing money each month.

**Fundraising** still proves to be difficult- we are looking for a new fundraising co-ordinator to take this role and run with it for the club- any volunteers?

**Publicity**- we have done well with regular articles in the Gazette, Express & Echo and Star, and Mandy Aldridge is sending out the sporting reports for the club after I cajole children into taking a photo at poolside! The website is a good place to look for information, items are posted on the club Facebook site and twitter is being used, and there is a newsletter issued every 2 months.

**Club competitive objectives** –We have entered the new club competition calendar with great results at meets, and at Counties and are on target for Regional swimmers achieving fast times in May, plus we have introduced a raft of young swimmers into mini league, offered Arena league opportunities to competitive swimmers and held a L3 meet and club championship plus many open meets have been supported by the club locally

**Coaching Investment**- Unfortunately we have not been able to appoint a head coach to lead the club forward, but the daily swim squads and competitive calendar have been admirably supported by the volunteer Coaches, teachers and officials who keep this club going- and I can't thank them enough.

I would like **to thank the committee** for their continued support of the club and myself. I really appreciate their efforts and the endless hours they put into the club there are new members who have had a handover by the outgoing parents:

Secretary – Julie Jones and now Natasha Attwood-Groves

Treasurer – Claudia and now Tony Follett

Competition Sec – Sally Tovey

Membership – Michele Swanston and now Anna Marie Southcott

Welfare – Lucy Walton and now Denise Bennett

Swim21 – Sue as ever!

Press secretary -Mandy Aldridge

Website & IT guru- Tony Dilks

President & official extraordinaire Terry Fullick

and Emrys Owen on the poolside.

Also let's not forget the **coaches and teachers** who make this club function daily: Garry Arrowsmith, Teresa Smith, Lorna Burston, Lucy Walton, Emrys Owen, John Bennet, Karen Fullick, Alison Williams, Helen Wilson, Steve Radford, Lyn Olsen, Nathan Muggerridge, Alistair Gibbins, and young volunteers Jake Stoneman, Rosie Jones, Jas Swanston, Katie Walton and Gemma Owen all brilliant at giving time and effort to the club.

Plus our team of **TSC officials** who we take everywhere with us when we compete- Terry Fullick, Alison Williams, Teresa Smith, Jim Loosemore, Rebecca Jenkinson and Sue Haigh!

I took the role as club Chair in January, as Ian Jones stood down, and have the following **development plans for the club for 2016/17**

1. Appoint a Head coach
2. Gain Swim 21 accreditation for the club
3. Strengthen the competitive nature of the club for swimmers to reach their potentials
4. Increase the workforce- Coaches and teachers plus parent volunteers
5. Increase the communication occurring within the club
6. Increase the non-swimming social events for TSC members
7. Maintain and improve the financial status of the club

This last point about financial status is important, as we have a new management structure at EVLC, the Local council has decided to increase the pool hire charges again this year which will have an impact on every swimmer. We have negotiated with the Leisure centre management committee and will have to pass the pool hire increases onto swimmers to remain functioning as a club in the future.

Thank you- do you have any questions?

Sara Dilks

Tiverton Swimming Club Chairman.