

Walsall Swimming and Water Polo Club
Annual General Meeting
Thursday 3rd December 2015
Manor Farm Community Centre 8pm

Before the meeting there was a moments silence in memory of longstanding officer and Life Member, Mavis Fox.

1. Members Present G. Davies in the chair, T. Brindley, L. Williams, V. Davies, M. Trowman, C. Jones, C. Somerfield, B. Hewkin, B. Davenport, L. Williams.

2. Apologies: Mr. R. Beresford, Mrs. J. Powell.

3. Minutes of the AGM 2014

Passed as a true record

4. Annual Report 2015

We began the year very concerned about our financial future having already decided to raise our fees across the board. We have always been very reluctant to do this as we realise what an expensive sport swimming can be. However, needs must, so up went the fees. No one resigned and the sun came up the next morning. As the year progressed we also reduced some training sessions and waited anxiously to see if we would pull through. Our Treasurer was cautiously optimistic and I hope you will be pleased with the outcome later in the meeting.

Sadly year by year the numbers of administrative staff seem to get smaller so whilst we eagerly welcomed two new members of the committee – we lost two and so still need to boost those numbers from amongst the current set of parents. There are rumours of interest!

We also need to find ways of boosting our membership numbers, we still have too few swimmers. It also has to be emphasised that we are a competitive swimming club. We are not just coaching children to keep fit, we are providing many hours of training in the hope that we will have a strong team willing to turn out regularly for events at weekends.

On a more personal note I cannot leave 2015 behind without mentioning the loss, in October, of Mavis Fox, Life Member, Treasurer and friend. Mavis, despite her rapidly failing health, continued to run a very tight ship for most of this financial year, reluctant to the last to let anyone do it for her. She was a superb administrator for the club, the county and at national level. Her skills kept us from disaster on several occasions in the last thirty years. As a former member said to me recently, ‘ we would often be gathered on poolside worrying about something and look up to see Mavis arrive in the balcony and know it would be alright now she was here.’ She and I have had many a disagreement over those long years but I’ve always had huge respect for Mavis and will really miss her. I hope she would have been pleased that her final year didn’t turn out so badly after all.

With Mavis’ death at a critical point at the end of the financial year the club owes a huge debt to former member, Sue Mason who has been able to tie up all the loose ends and is currently guiding us through this tricky transitional period. Mention must also be made of Caroline Jones who not only kept a close eye on Mavis when she was so ill but has also been helping out with all the banking and money collection. Thanks both. VAD

5. Financial Report 2015

Full Accounts available to senior members on request.

Income: £36,035.87 Expenditure: £31,474.42 Surplus: £4,561.45

6. Swimming Report

(separate page)

7. Water Polo Report

No longer a water polo section since the end of 2014

8. Election of Officers for 2016

President:	Mr. R. Beresford
Chairman:	Mr. G. Davies
Treasurer:	Mrs. V. Davies
Secretary:	Mrs. V. Davies
Swimming Sec:	Mr. T. Brindley
Water Polo Sec.	

9. To be elected to serve for two years until the end of 2016:

Mrs. C. Jones,
Mrs. M. Trowman,
Mr C. Somerfield

11. Appointment of Independent Examiner for 2016:

Mrs. S. Mason