

# *National Council April 2016*

## *Contents*

---

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| <b>Attendees, Chairman's Opening.....</b>  | <b>Page 2</b>     |
| <b>Declaration of Interest, Approval of Minutes &amp; Matters Arising.....</b>       | <b>Page 3</b>     |
| <b>Report by Table Tennis England Chairman 16-2-1 &amp; Board Report 16-2-2.....</b> | <b>Page 3</b>     |
| <b>Report by Chief Executive 16-2-3.....</b>   | <b>Page 4-5</b>   |
| <b>Report by Treasurer /Head of Operations 16-2-4.....</b>                           | <b>Page 5</b>     |
| <b>Report by Head of Marketing &amp; Communications 16-2-5.....</b>                  | <b>Page 5-6</b>   |
| <b>Report by Head of Development 16-2-6.....</b>                                     | <b>Page 6-7</b>   |
| <b>Report by Head of Performance 16-2-7.....</b>                                     | <b>Page 7-8</b>   |
| <b>Report by Head of Workforce 16-2-8.....</b>                                       | <b>Page 8-9</b>   |
| <b>Discussion Topic: Anti-Corruptions Presentation.....</b>                          | <b>Page 9</b>     |
| <b>Affiliation Fees 16-2-9.....</b>  | <b>Page 9</b>     |
| <b>Agenda for pre AGM Meeting.....</b>   | <b>Page 10</b>    |
| <b>Any Other Business, Circulated Papers &amp; Date of Next Meeting.....</b>         | <b>Page 10-11</b> |
| <b>Action Appendix.....</b>  | <b>Page 11</b>    |
| <b>Appendix 1.....</b>   | <b>Page 12-13</b> |

**NATIONAL COUNCIL**

Minutes of the National Council Meeting held at The Mercure Hotel, The Approach, Two Mile Ash, Milton Keynes MK8 8LY, on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2016, commencing at 11:15am

---

**PRESENT:-**

**COUNCILLORS:** DL Hockney (Avon), Mrs V J Murdoch (Bedfordshire), CG Dyke (Berkshire), RR Washington (Buckinghamshire), BR Freer (Cambridgeshire), Mrs KM Tonge MBE (Cheshire, Regional Chair North West and BTTAD), AE Ransome OBE (Cleveland), LA Chatwin (Derbyshire), P Goulding (Devonshire), LJ Smith (Gloucestershire), DB Turner (Hampshire), H Jutle (Herefordshire), DJ Edwards (Hertfordshire), S Clarke (Lancashire), GE Tyler (Lincolnshire), M Close (Middlesex), T Vincent (Norfolk), R Barr (Northamptonshire), N Hurford (Oxfordshire), C Dangerfield (Shropshire), JM Burtenshaw (Somerset and South West Regional Chairman), R Loxley (South Yorkshire), D Sherratt (Staffordshire), A Catt (Sussex), E J Williams (Warwickshire), CN Sewell (Wiltshire), MG Clark (Worcestershire), RB Hudson (Yorkshire)

**DEPUTY NATIONAL COUNCILLORS:** None Present

**STAFF:** Mrs S Sutcliffe (Chief Executive), J Bruck (Head of Operations), Ms E St John (Head of Development), S Mills (Head of Talent & Performance), G Yarnall (Head of Workforce), Miss A Gabb (Office Administrator/Minute taker)

**REGIONAL CHAIRMEN:** D Turner (South & South East), JM Burtenshaw (Somerset and South West Regional Chairman), Mrs KM Tonge MBE (Cheshire, Regional Chair North West and BTTAD), B Davison (East), R Hudson (Yorkshire Regional Chairman)

**INVITED:** Mrs DM Stannard (President), Mrs S Deaton (Chairman), Ms S Hughes (Deputy Chairman), K Thomas (Treasurer), TV Purcell (Director), M Smith (Director and BUCS), Ms K Skeggs (Director), Mrs A L Tazartes (Director), Mrs KM Tonge MBE (Cheshire, Regional Chair North West and BTTAD), K Muhr (Representing Kent on behalf on N Le Milliere), Mrs L Reid (VETTS)

**APOLOGIES:** Miss M Fraser (Surrey), S Pound (Deputy Councillor Sussex), G Sanders (Leicestershire), N Le Milliere (Kent), M Allsop (Nottinghamshire), Mrs DM Jermyn (Cornwall), K Fudge (Deputy Councillor Cornwall) J Donnelly (Northumberland), A Thompson (Durham), LT Whittaker (Dorset), Mrs S Pickering (Leicestershire and Regional Chair East Midlands), P Huggon (Director), A Nixon (Director), S Hastings (London Regional Chairman), C Davison (North East Regional Chairman), N Wheatley (West Midlands Regional Chairman), C Clemett (Rules), S Griew (Directors), J Arnold (ESTTA)

**1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING**

Tony Catt (AC), Chairman began the meeting with a minute's silence for a number of significant people involved with table tennis over the years.

Brian Brumwell, who was an ex-England international, influential in Essex. Alan Bennett and Fred Garbet, Thames Valley league officials. Mike Barry, Treasurer of Surrey Schools

TTA and London South Schools TTA for a total of 25 years. Neil Houghton, coaching in Derbyshire. Keith Rodgers, ex-Scottish international based in Cleveland.

The meeting began at 11:20 with a video clip from the PG Mutual National Championships.

#### **1.1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Chris Dangerfield - Table Tennis 365. CD left this meeting before the affiliation fees paper was discussed in the afternoon due to his conflict of interest.

#### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD 30.01.16 (7685/2/AMG)**

**2.1** Stan Clark mentioned that his name appears in both the attending and apologies sections of the paper.

#### **2.2 MATTERS ARISING NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE IN THE AGENDA**

No matters were raised.

#### **3. REPORT BY TABLE TENNIS ENGLAND CHAIRMAN – Paper no. 16-2-1**

**3.1** Sandra Deaton stated that she did not have anything to add to her written report and welcomed any questions.

**3.2** Alan Ransome provided an update regarding the new Commonwealth Table Tennis Federation Ranking List. He stated that it has been approved and there are a number of England players on the list, including Liam Pitchford who is number 3 on the men's list. Paul Drinkhall is number 8 and Sam Walker is number 11. The ladies list includes Joanna Drinkhall, despite not playing recently, at number 9. Kelly Sibley is number 12 and Tin Tin Ho is positioned at number 20. AER thanked Malcom Macfarlane for doing all of the work on the ranking list.

AER mentioned that there has been concern about quotas at the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. It has been clarified that table tennis will not be hit with specific quotas although each country as a whole will be urged to set their own. Table Tennis England will ensure there is full representation at the Commonwealth Games.

**3.3** SC stated that there are too many acronyms used in each report and it is difficult to understand.

**3.4** Estyn Williams stated that it would be useful to write the words in full the first time they are used in reports, and then acronyms can be used thereafter. SD confirmed the point was noted.

#### **4. BOARD REPORT FROM 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – Paper no. 16-2-2**

**4.1** SD stated that despite some opinion within National Council, the Board gives great consideration about the views expressed at National Council meetings. It features as a standing agenda item for the Board meetings.

**5. REPORT BY CHIEF EXECUTIVE - Paper no. 16-2-3**

- 5.1** Sara Sutcliffe mentioned that she had no updates to add to her report and opened the floor to any questions
- 5.2** Tony Catt asked about the plans to join location with Badminton England. SS responded that there has been no development since January. Badminton England are still pursuing their redevelopment plans and she hopes that we will continue to work closer with them.
- 5.3** AER referred to the ITTF report, and said how the World Championships have reduce the number of teams and participants. It was reduced to 96 teams in Kuala Lumpur now 72 in the next team championships in Sweden. AER said that whilst this is unlikely to affect England, our neighbours (i.e. Home Nation Countries) are likely to be excluded and these are the players that play in a lot of the English competitions which could be a concern.
- 5.4** SS said that his comments have been noted. It is very complex however we will continue to work closely with the other Home Nations
- 5.5** Neil Hurford questioned the impact the Sport England Strategy will have on table tennis and asked where it is going.
- 5.6** SS said that the Government strategy came out just before Christmas, the Sport England strategy is the implementation of their part of the Government's strategy which is an 'active nation'. Sport for sports sake doesn't feature as highly and Governing Bodies are pushing this within Sport England. SE are figuring out how they will measure the impact of some of the new outcomes. Sport England are putting their money into the organisations which they feel will best delivery the desired outcomes.
- SS is meeting with the relationship manager where she will get an insight of what is going to be released on 17<sup>th</sup> May. It is spread across 7 themes now instead of a Whole Sport Plan, meaning you can focus on certain parts of the plan and put bids in on the parts which you think will work best. In order to apply for core funding, more delivery will probably be required rather than a limited focus. In preparation, SMT have 3 days planned to meet and discuss the plan.
- 5.7** AC questioned how much preparation has been done for this.
- 5.8** SS said that it is important to remember that as a sport we have set our own strategy meaning we need to work out how this will fit into the new strategy. SS said that they will need to establish what aspects of our current approach can be used to support Sport England's strategy. They are aware of what the key themes are and what is required, so they are already prepared for the release. SS also added that the Board are meeting 12<sup>th</sup> May to do a sense check and to ensure all bases are covered in the strategy which was agreed on a year ago.
- 5.9** EW mentioned that table tennis is a sport which can be played by practically any age, which is key to the sport and this aspect should be optimised. To which SS agreed.

- 5.10** Martin Clark asked where the 2017 Youth Top 10 will be hosted. SS advised that current plans were that it would be at the University of Worcester Arena.
- 5.11** SS said that a bid was put in for the Worcester Arena which is a great new build venue where European Wheelchair Basketball Championships were hosted last year. The dates are currently being decided on, so contracts have not been signed yet.
- 5.12** AC asked if any events will be publically aired again, like the Nationals.
- 5.13** SS said that there was a wash-up meeting with the commercial agency. The viewing figures (over 120,000 live viewers) were very positive and ITV were impressed by the production values. SS stated that there is a possibility for future TV exposure.
- 6. REPORT BY TREASURER/HEAD OF OPERATIONS WHICH INCLUDES FINANCE REPORT & AFFILIATION FEES PROPOSAL - Paper no. 16-2-4**
- 6.1** MGC submitted various questions prior to the meeting, as requested at the previous meeting. Please see *appendix 1*. The questions and responses were supplied on each table for National Councillors.
- 6.2** MGC asked how much the Nationals cost in total.
- 6.3** SS stated it was showing as a £20,000 deficit which excludes TV production costs. JB added that a deficit was predicted.
- 6.4** MGC questioned why the miscellaneous income is much larger than forecast, to which JB and KT explained that it is because of the BTTAD payment in respect of admin cost that was now set off against staff costs. MGC did not consider that to be correct as such payment was deemed no longer to be in actual, budget or forecast. He suggested that it was in relation to Instant Ping Packs (IPP) sales and the stock of IPP at the end of the year needed to be taken into consideration.
- 6.5** AER referred to the budget for the National Senior Championships. He said that the numbers are concerning and this also applies to other ones such as the Junior Cadet and Under 14 Championships. Referring to the restricted entries for these events, being a large portion of income, AER questioned what effect this has had on the budget.
- 6.6** SS confirmed that the income was down in terms of the entry fees, this was compensated with the additional ticket sales, which were over treble the amount that was produced last year. The National Championships is an elite event and therefore the deficit has been taken into consideration. By making it an elite event, it has made it more appealing to potential sponsors and is a completely different package from what it used to be.
- 7. REPORT BY HEAD OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS – Paper no. 16-2-5**
- 7.1** SS reiterated that Gerry Cronin left Table Tennis England at the end of last month, therefore she will be presenting the report for Marketing and Communications written by herself along with Paul Stimpson and Amanda Robinson, in Gerry's absence. SS also highlighted that the new Head of Commercial, Mark Taffler from British Canoeing, will be joining the team 9<sup>th</sup> May and will be at the next National Council Meeting.

SS explained that the Communications team, has been putting in a lot of work to build relationships with journalists and with the BBC to gain coverage for the events, as we don't get as much publicity as we should. This resulted in numerous interviews with radio shows along with published coverage in articles online. There were 120,000 live viewings of the Nationals on ITV4, which doesn't include the ones who viewed the event On Demand or on the Plus 1 channel. Including these factors it was predicted that in total there were around 150,000 viewers which is an extremely positive figure. SS explained that, in comparison, it is about treble what Badminton or Netball gets on Sky which demonstrates the benefits of not using a paid channel service.

- 7.2** EW noted that there is a huge amount of useful information which has been put on the website and it is clear that Jamie Gordon and Paul Stimpson have put in a huge amount of work. EW expressed that their efforts have been very well received by all.

EW also asked if there is a different job specification for the new Head of Commercial position, compared to the previous title, Head of Communication and Marketing. He questioned what his new roles will be.

- 7.3** SS explained that 80% of the role will remain the same, however Mark was selected because of his background in Commercial. It is hoped that he will monetise as much as we have, bringing in more revenue streams.

- 7.4** Ken Muhr said that the National Championships were very well presented on the television however he said that he wonders if it would have been beneficial to have had group play as opposed to the team event.

- 7.5** SS explained that the 19 page Wash-up Report is analysing every aspect of the event in order to improve it for next time. A vast amount of feedback has been received which will be taken into account.

SS mentioned that a table tennis player called Zak Abel, who is now a music artist, has released a new music video in which he is playing table tennis, called 'Everybody Needs Love'. SS also spoke about the programme on 'How to Stay Young' where table tennis was featured as a positive health benefit. SS said that we will be optimising the recently publicity for table tennis as it is providing a lot of great opportunities for the sport.

- 7.6** AER referred back to the National Championships, where he offered a congratulations for the successful event and to the team who organised it all.

- 7.8** SS thanked everybody for the positive comments about the National Championships and welcomed anybody who wanted to send their feedback to herself or Amanda.

- 7.9** SD shared some background detail about Zak Abel before his new music video was played to the National Councillors

## **8. REPORT BY HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT – Paper no. 16-2-6**

- 8.1** Emily St John mentioned that there is a proposal within her report which she would be grateful if the National Councillors could offer their input on.

ESJ summarised that a free club membership tier, a basic registration, is going to be introduced in the coming new season. Currently there is a PremierClub scheme which allows clubs to gain a certain level of accreditation, however some clubs feel that their scheme isn't appropriate. Therefore this new scheme opens up more opportunities for them, and provides Table Tennis England with a more accurate picture of clubs across the country.

Secondly, ESJ asked National Council about the proposal to cease the direct 10% reimbursement of Premier Club fees to the counties which is set out in her paper. Instead of saving (£500-600 per annum) would be added to the club development budget.

- 8.2** AER said that he doesn't believe this change to be a great loss to the clubs therefore supports the proposal.

AER questioned what difference there would be between being a PremierClub and the free club membership?

- 8.3** ESJ explained that there will be a large amount of recognition and accreditation for the Clubs, they will be given their own logo as currently, online club finder and management tools amongst other advantages for the accredited clubs. The benefits package will be improved in order to make paying the registration fee worthwhile.

- 8.4** Colin Dyke expressed that he agrees with the proposal and that the more that is invested in clubs the better. Every club is different and they all need the most help they can get to be successful.

- 8.5** Michael Close questioned how the change will affect the usual procedure and if clubs will be accepted into local leagues. To which ESJ explained that the intention isn't to interfere with league regulations and criteria, so this shouldn't be affected.

- 8.6** ESJ clarified that National Council fully supports the proposed change, to which they confirmed they do.

- 8.7** ESJ proceeded to discuss the paper which was produced by AC and AER from the last National Council meeting during the discussion session around Clubs, Volunteers and Priority Zones. She stated that the paper was being put forward to the Board for consideration, as they review the whole strategy, on the 12<sup>th</sup> May at their meeting. ESJ welcomed any questions or comments on the paper before it is submitted.

- 8.8** Phil Goulding questioned if the paper was collectively from National Council or if it was produced by AC and AER. AC confirmed that he produced the summary with the ideas which were put forward from National Councillors, and the paper was therefore created as a representation of the group discussion.

- 8.9** SD stated that the paper will become part of the overall strategic analysis by the Board.

**9. REPORT BY HEAD OF PERFORMANCE – Paper no. 16-2-7**

**9.1** Simon Mills shared two updates, the first being about the Olympic qualifications. Unfortunately Liam and Paul didn't directly qualify at the Tournament in Halmstad however they are track to go through should the rankings not change.

His second update was regarding the new Talent Pathway Manager, Marcus Gustafason, who has been recruited starting in June. He will also be attending the Junior and Cadet Nationals.

**9.2** AER offered positive comments about the Commonwealth championships and emphasised the success of Talent Centres.

**9.3** KM expressed that he fully supports AER's comments, however there is concern regarding the talented individuals who are unable to fund their progression, therefore restricting their potential.

**9.4** SM said that funding has gone towards training and competitions for certain talented players, it is a difficult scenario however the upmost support will always be provided.

**9.4** SC registered the fact that the top England players train abroad, as there are no facilities in England encouraging them to stay, which is disappointing.

**9.5** AER mentioned that it has always been this way, Desmond Douglas being a prime example. The most important aspect is the ethos, values and support which is offered from England for the players. SD added that, unfortunately the funding to provide such high quality facilities and training is restricted, in order to initiate this in England, however we are working towards it for the future. All of the support from Table Tennis England, including a national coach and training camps are the main factors that enhances their world rankings, not the location in which they train in.

**10. REPORT BY HEAD OF WORKFORCE – Paper no. 16-2-8**

**10.1** Greg Yarnall asked if anyone had any questions about his report.

**10.2** CGD referred to the volunteer section of the report, elucidating that volunteers aren't fully appreciated or recognised. Parent volunteers are always short term, which is usually due to their child losing interest in the sport therefore the parent consequently drops out. Moving forwards, volunteers should be recruited from the clubs which will result to them staying for a more substantial amount of time and subsequently will spark more interest. He acknowledged this it is difficult to find the right people to volunteer.

**10.3** GY agreed that CGD made some good points and that the plan is to learn from all of the clubs, paying attention to which ones got it right and learning from this. The aim is to make volunteers feel valued and important which will hopefully encourage them to commit for longer periods of time.

**10.4** AER said that he welcomes the changes to coaching licenses. The changes will encourage the coaches to work hard to achieve their license and it has admittedly has got more difficult over the years. The coaches which don't appear on the new database, will need to be motivated to obtain their license and complete all of their credentials.

- 10.5** GY said that the number of coach licences are continuing to increase on a weekly basis. Having the new coaching portal, Azolve, in place is a much better system and has made the process of applying for a license a lot easier. Some of the credentials can now be done online, videos can be sent to them for training purposes rather than having to travel various miles to attend workshops or courses. Additionally there will be 22 CPD workshops available online in the near future. GY said they are going to continue to promote the portal and encourage coaches to utilise it allowing them to develop as a coach.
- 10.6** KM acknowledged the value of optimising the use and availability of social media/websites and questioned whether Table Tennis England could provide training and support for clubs.
- 10.7** GY agreed that social media is important and referred to Club Matters which is beneficial and provides guidance for clubs. Certain elements will be put online to offer additional support for those who need it.
- 10.8** AC questioned how all of this will be communicated to the clubs as there is a lot of help and information online which some people may not be aware of.
- 10.9** GY explained that there are regular newsletters and emails sent out to clubs where this information can easily be communicated. Social media is also used as a method of communication, which is more of an instant way of contacting clubs and targeting the right people.

After the lunch break, a video was shown from the recent ITV coverage of the National Championships which showcased the whole Championships success and featured player/staff interviews. It was a positive start to the afternoon session.

## **11. DISCUSSION TOPIC. ANTI-CORRUPTION PRESENTATION**

- 11.1** JB presented an anti-corruption presentation which was given in paper form to each National Councillor. A new regulation has been passed by the Board and will be uploaded on the website.
- 11.2** AER questioned if the ITTF regulations consider anti-corruption, to which SS stated that it is included in chapter 6 of the ITTF handbook.

## **12. AFFILIATION FEES – Paper no. 16-2-9**

- 12.1** Keith Thomas introduced the discussion topic of affiliation fees to the meeting and welcomed any comments. AC informed the meeting that Chris Dangerfield had left the meeting as he had a conflict of interest in this discussion.
- 12.2** Numerous National Councillors spoke in favour of increasing affiliation fees over the 5 year plan, including NH, KM, EW, CGD, DE and EW. It was commented that they think the strategy is sensible and a non-controversial proposal and is an essential step to take.
- 12.3** MGC said that he supports the affiliation fees increase and highlighted that this was the same policy he put forward at the commencement of the WSP in 2013 that was not carried forward, however, the concern lies with convincing the members of the need for the

change. They will question why the fee has increased and ask what additional benefits they will receive. MGC pointed out that the members feel that the proposed benefits don't always apply to them, therefore they consider the inflation unnecessary.

**12.4** KT agreed that communication with the members is very important, all of the feedback from the members have been taken into consideration and will be used to detail and enhance the benefits of their membership with Table Tennis England.

**12.5** Concern was raised by George Tyler about particular leagues disagreeing with the inflation and may threaten to disengage with Table Tennis England. Should this appear to materialise, contact with Senior Management/Board is necessary to try to diffuse it.

**12.6** It was considered as a practical approach to put the increase in fees in two separate motions, which were as follows:

1) £2 increase to membership affiliation this current year (16/17 season).

2) The principle of a £2 increase to be made on each of the next 4 years (5 years in total). This figure is provisional and could be subject to change depending on budgetary requirements against improvement plans in any of the 5 next years.

**12.7** SD thanked National Council for the discussion and support. She said the Board would consider the dual motion proposal.

**12.8** The discussion was concluded by clarifying the majority of councillors are in favour of the increase and affiliation fees strategy.

### **13. AGENDA FOR PRE AGM MEETING**

**13.1** The next National Council meeting is to be held on the morning of the AGM on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2016 in Birmingham.

**13.2** AER noted, referring to the circulated AGM timetable, that he thinks a week isn't long enough for the return of propositions and asked if it is possible of the AMG timeline can be amended to suit.

**13.3** JB explained that the reason is because the AGM is a week earlier than usual, however he will review it and get back to National Council.

**13.4** AC acknowledged that the agenda for the next meeting is likely to only allow time for the delivery of the departmental reports and the election of the Chair of the National Council for the coming year. AC stated that he would be willing to be re-elected as Chair of National Council but encouraged others to contact JB to put nominations forward as well.

### **14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**14.1** Val Murdoch pointed out that whilst looking at the membership breakdown report, it is surprising that 37 leagues haven't returned their AFF2 forms. To which SS assured they are being directly contacted to obtain their forms.

**14.2** AER asked where the Regional Chair meeting will be held considering the next meeting will be held in Birmingham. SS said she will discuss with the Chair of Regional forum.

**15. The following papers were circulated but were not for discussion**

- i. Written report by England Schools Table Tennis Association (JA)
- ii. Written report by British Table Tennis Association for Disabled (KT)
- iii. Written report by Veterans England Table Tennis Society (LR)
- iv. Written report by British Universities and Colleges Sport (MS)

**16.** AC called the meeting to a close at 15:03.

**DATE AND LOCATION OF THE NEXT MEETING**

July 2nd 2016 (including AGM) at Hallmark Hotel Birmingham Strathallan, 225 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B16 9RY

***Action Appendix***

---

| <b>Minute</b> | <b>Description</b>                                       |
|---------------|--|
| 2.1           | Attendees to be amended on previous minutes.             |
| 3.3           | Produce a glossary of acronyms used in reports.          |
| 14.2          | Confirmation of Regional Chair meeting location in July. |

## Appendices

---

### Appendix 1

Questions submitted by Martin Clark, in response to paper 16-2-4, for period 11<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

'At this time of the accounting year one would expect forecast figures to be fairly near to ultimate actual figures unless some extraordinary unforeseen change were to arise in the subsequent 4 weeks that had transpired by the reporting date. Bearing that in mind:'

**Question 1:** Performance forecast net expenditure, having taken into account the additional extra spend allocated to enhance the potential of Paul & Liam's qualification to Rio, is £118,500 whereas the Actual net expenditure to the end of February is greater at £127,589. Assuming then that part of the £31,948 additional forecast expenditure from budget is still to be made; a substantial additional level of income must still to be received. Is that correct, if so, how much and from what source, bearing in mind that it is not supported by Sport England?

**Answer:** There is some additional income of £10k to be received from BTTF and £5k from Derbyshire Sport partnership, these adjustments and any other prepayments adjustments will be made in March for year end.

**Question 2:** Children & Young People is currently showing actual net income of £1,377, whilst the forecast net expenditure is £49,140, indicating net expenditure in the final month of the financial year in excess of £50,000, being an additional 25% of that already spent. Does the programme illustrate that to be the case?

**Answer:** Approximately £30k of the Jack Petchey grant is being carried over to 16/17 which has been recently agreed with the Jack Petchey foundation. Along with some yearend adjustments to be made in March accounts, the forecasted net expenditure would therefore be significantly lower.

**Question 3:** There are a number of instances within Development that illustrate a shortfall in net expenditure to date compared to forecast. Overall this amounts to just short of £1/2 million or a quarter of the year's forecast expenditure to be spent in March. Is this correct?

**Answer:** The shortfall in net expenditure mainly relates to the capital programme which will be fully spent by yearend. There will be some underspend carried forward in other areas of Development, but for the most part, the majority of the budget is still planned to be spent by year end.

**Question 4:** Competitions. We have a net actual expenditure for 11 months of £31,063 as distinct from forecast net expenditure of £142,726. Does this suggest that £111,663, 26% of the years forecast expenditure, is to be spent in period 12?

**Answer:** A large number of events occur at the end of the financial year, these include the Senior Nationals, Senior British League Premier Division Junior National Cup, Cadet, and U12 National cup, and Junior British League plus a number yearend adjustments will ensue that the competition forecast expenditure to be spent in March.

**Question 5:** Other Income is currently forecast at a net £1,500 whereas the Actual to date is £5,835. Is there an explanation for this anomaly?

**Answer:** The forecast was reduced to £1,500 due to the treatment of BTTAD income as previously advised by Brian, however looking further into the items in other income, the majority of the £5,835 is made up of sales of IPP packs.

**Question 6:** There is mention within the report that there are many cost centres where there will be an underspend of Sport England Grant to be carried forward to 2016/17. Bearing in mind that seems to be an annual chestnut, it begs the question as to why, when Sport England's grant allocation is based on the programmes TTE have provided. Does this imply that multiple programmes are not being fulfilled in the year in which they are intended? If so, why?

**Answer:** The programmes being implemented by Table Tennis England are not annual programmes, but are based on 3 year delivery, many of which were initiated or inherited by a new team 2 years ago, many of which were not at full capacity for a further 6 months. The 3 year cash flow and delivery plan were based on best, but informed guesses and Sport England are aware of this and accepted that there may be movement towards final year of funding for spend and full implementation of these programmes. Programmes are on target to be delivered.

**Question 7:** The actual funding received thus far is indicative that based on current forecast that has been adjusted for underspend, £489,687 is still to be received. Is that correct?

**Answer:** Sport England funding is received over the course of the year, so we would expect to receive a further payment in March. This will include the outstanding capital monies described above and the new award in respect of the new Talent Development Centres received based on the success of these.