

**DRAFT**  
**Middleton Harriers AGM Minutes**  
**Held on Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**Attendance & Apologies:** 27 members attended. Apologies were received from Rose Rowson and Paul Whydall.

**Minutes of the previous AGM:** Agreed

**Chairman's Report:** Peter Gilligan welcomed everyone to the AGM and expressed his pleasure that Middleton Harriers had had another successful year with some very good results for the Road Championship Races, Fell Races and now concluding with the Cross Country Season. Eddies Revenge Fell Race took place in June and was a great success. There was a lot of work involved before the event and our thanks go to Craig Sutherland who organised the race. The club was again involved in the Rochdale MBC in organising the Rochdale Half & 10K along with Rochdale Harriers and Rochdale Tri Club. The club covered the 10K route and great support came from our members in covering all the marshal points. The presentation night held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Feb was a great success and the members who attended had a very enjoyable evening. We have welcomed new members throughout the year, some being made aware of the club through the excellent website which is kept up to date by Elaine. Some new members came from the Couch to 5K training session held in Heaton park in the summer months in Heaton Park which was a great success and thanks must be given to the members who ran the events. Peter thanked all the members who had acted as marshals and given help in the events the club had been involved in. Particularly the Cross Country race which we put on in Heaton Park for the south East Lancs League and the Rochdale Half and 10K. Lastly Peter thanked the members of the Committee for their work during the year on behalf of the club and expressed his hope that the coming year would be as successful.

**Secretary's Report:** Craig Sutherland reported that the club had had another successful year in the terms of development, coaching, training nights. The club continues to develop and build on the fantastic work done by Jo Lynch and Rob Bishop in the Couch to 5K development programme. Last year over 80 people joined the course with well over 40 completing it. We also put in place a programme to encourage those who completed the course to progress to 10K and beyond. This has been successful and this has been reflected in growing membership figures and in attendance on our regular training nights. Jo and Rob led on this and Craig took the opportunity to thank them and all the Middleton Harriers who assisted on the C25K. The club enabled a number of members to attend leadership and coaching courses, and in the previous 12 months, and 4 members qualified as Leaders in Running Fitness, taking the total number to 6. This has given the club a depth of talent which can be drawn on, and allowed the club to expand its commitments. These courses cater for both track and off track development and are open to all club members and Craig encouraged anyone wanting to develop their skills to participate. Training nights attracting good numbers. Janice Pugh has a group on Wednesday at 6:45, speed and hill sessions with Jason Cunningham on Mondays, a developers group organised by Vicky Whiting on Monday and Wednesdays there is also the regular Wednesday evening Club Run evening club runs with Craig, Steve Bassam and Mick Buck and Alan Garvey. Thursday evening fell sessions with Michelle Fuller continue, and finally track sessions on Fridays at Boggart Hole Clough with Rob Bishop and Paul Whydall. Our thanks to all of them.

The Hopwood Trot race was another success and is gaining in popularity and is a great income generator. Thanks to Elaine for organising this very successful event and to all the members who helped make this event run very smoothly. Next years race is already on the racing calendar. The Club Handicap event is primarily for Middleton Harriers although guests are allowed. This event takes as much organising as any other event and our thanks go to all those involved in setting up and marshalling the course. It is a revenue generator as well as being great fun and a chance to get a 5K PB over a very fast course.

As part of our contribution to SELCC League MH host the Heaton Park event. Our thanks to Peter Gilligan and the course marshals.

This year we participated in SELCC and MACC League, participation figures are high with 18 men and 18 Ladies competing in at least one race this year. We are also sending a runner down to Nottingham to participate in the National Cross Country championship. Hopefully we can build on this in future years.

Thanks were given to Cathie Murphy for administering the club kit and dealing with suppliers. The variety of stock has steadily expanded there is a stall this evening if you wish to update your kit or invest in one of our new training tops.

Elaine Blades-Jordan is doing a grand job keeping the Website up to date and responding quickly to the growing and varied amount of information that we put out as the club develops for which we are very grateful.

The club competes in the local Cross country leagues, Relays both Regional and local and national such as Calderdale BMAF , National Cross Country. We will continue to support these team events in the coming year.

The club supplies marshals at a number of events: Manchester Marathon, where Kyrinda does a brilliant job liaising with the organisers and the Rochdale Half and 10K where Ge is our coordinator. Both these events are great fun to officiate in as well as being a useful income generator for the club.

In conclusion the club is in a good place, as ever we can always do with more assistance on the committee and more volunteers at the races and marshal duties but more importantly we need feedback and ideas from yourselves as to how to keep the club moving in the right direction.

**Finance:** Steve Bassam thanked Derek Bury for auditing the finances and was able to report that the previous year had been a financial success. After taking all things into account the Club now had a book value of £10173.69. This figure was slightly inflated by approximately £700 due to including club membership fees for 2020 being included in the 2019 figures. This is to reflect the fact that the money was deposited in our account in that year and that there will be a commensurate reduction in next years (2020) income as a result.

The annual membership fee for 2019 £20 and this will be maintained for 2020.

The Club 50 Draw continues to be a successful income generator and raised £396. The Club Handicap Race raised £109 and Eddie's Revenge Fell race raised £695 of which £574 was donated to the charities of Oldham Deaf Blind Society, OMRT and St Saviours Church.

Manchester Marathon Marshals raised £232 whilst Rochdale marshals raised £1000 (this was for years 2017 & 2018), as yet we have received no payment for 2019.

The club presentation had raised £51.75.

The Couch to 5K programme has been a great success for both the runners and financially for the club, raising £810. It has also encouraged a number of club members to take the Leader in Running Fitness Course.

The Track Training Sessions at Boggart Hole Clough have been a great success and as a result the Committee agreed that we would not require contributions from the runners participating. Up to this point £109 had been raised.

Steve pointed out that the External Race Fees of £977.99 was made up of a numbers of Relays that the club had entered, Fees for ARC membership and England Athletics affiliation fees.

The club had also paid £ 400 in advance to the Chip Timing people for the Hopwood Trot Race. Throughout the year the club had made contributions to The 24 Hour Manchester Homeless Run in Manchester, a local athlete who had become disabled, and to a club member who was representing Great Britain and the Iron Man Championships. We had also invested £500 in a new tent.

Summing up Steve pointed out that the club finances had improved from ££4500 in 2015 to £10173 in 2019 and emphasized that the club needed to spend some of this money on developing the club. There was discussion on avenues to explore including:

**Navigation and Orienteering courses** – Julie Jones

**Access to a portable Defibrillator** – Bev O'Neill

**Tent** – responsibility for the tent at event such and XC should be shared more equally, especially among the younger members of the club – Rob Bishop

**Marshals at Manchester Marathon** – Could the Club make a contribution to the Marshals to cover the withdrawal of the sandwich pack by the organisers? The club had received a bigger contribution as a result but this had not been passed on to the marshals. - Kyrinda

**40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary next year**, could the club find way to celebrate, eg a family day out? - Ge

**Membership:** Ge Kirk reported that it had been a good year for membership, a lot of new members (31) had joined as a result of the C25K course. We now had 93 ladies (up from 57) and 60 men (the men had decreased from 88 the previous year). Approximately 8 members had converted from runners to social members over the year taking the number of social members to 17. Active members now totalled 153.

**Election of Committee:** It was agreed that the committee would be made up of the following members:

Ge Kirk – President & Membership Secretary

Peter Gilligan – Chairman

Craig Sutherland - Secretary

Steve Bassam – Finance

Emma Ball - Committee

Ruth Hare – Committee

Bryan O'Neill - Committee

Elaine Blades-Jordan – Website & Facebook Administrator

Cathie Murphy – Ladies Captain & Kit

Rob Bishop - Men's Captain

Peter added out that if anyone wished to join the committee they would be made very welcome.

**Socials:** It was agreed that the Christmas do and Road Championship prizegiving had been successful and there then followed a discussion on the pro's and con's of alternative venues, in terms of venue costs, buffet prices, drinks prices and quality of venue etc.

It was proposed by Bev O'Neill and seconded by Steve Bassam that a sub-committee be formed to meet in March and discuss and agree a venue for coming events. Agreed.

Christine Brooks agreed to book the Cricket Club for the forthcoming Cross Country Presentation

**AOB:** Peter said that it had been a number of years since the Constitution was written and the club had changed in many ways and this needed to be reflected in the Constitution. It was agreed that the Committee review and amend where necessary.

Ge had done some research and found a supplier who would be able to supply a stand alone banner for display in Middleton Arena and other venues the club might attend.

Paul Whydall had requested prior to the meeting that we allocate an area on the Club Website for Coach Profiles.

**End of Business**

