

## **Draft Middleton Harriers Committee Meeting Minutes, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023**

Middleton Arena

**Present:** Cathie Murphy (Ladies Team Captain), Ge Kirk (Pres/Membership), Steve Bassam (Treasurer), Mandy Cregg, Kyrinda Carter-Moore, Rob Bishop (Men's Road Captain), Craig Sutherland (Sec), Jo Bishop (observer).

**Apologies:** Peter Gilligan, Ruth Hare, Jen Laptew.

**Minutes:** Agreed.

**Matters Arising:** Rob reported that there were 8 people taking part in the Cork weekend – 3 were taking part in the 10K, Craig, , Jo, Rob Marathon, Cathie Half Marathon and 1 in the 5K

**Correspondence:** It was noted that there had been no confirmed date for the Oldham Half Marathon. Jo Lynch said she'd investigate.

**Chairman's Report:** N/A

**Finance:** Steve reported that the finances were £400 down on the year, but would come up again with the Hopwood Trot later in the year. So far there had been 16 C25K payments. In response to a question Steve said that he was not receiving e-mails from the on-line payments system. Craig agreed to forward Papal E-mails to him. Steve added that fees had been paid for the Presentation and to England Athletics.

Kyrinda asked how the coaching fees were arrived at? Steve said that the £240 were for the financial year from the 1<sup>st</sup> Jan plus some outstanding payments from 2022. There was a brief discussion on how Jason had come to the club as a coach and had been paid for the Monday evening sessions. Rob said that the club had paid for a number of people to do their training and they were now giving their time for free.

**Membership:** Ge reported that there were 6 new members: Eugene Farrelly, Faye Aydin, Zelyn Aydin, Jasmine Simpson, Reece McGuinnees-Carbery, Katie Howard. There were 58 Men & 44 Ladies Paid Up. With Social & Life Members at 13. As of May 2022 there were 125 total - 60 men (-2) and 44 Ladies. Kyrinda asked why were losing members? Ge said she would send out copies of the membership list.

There was a discussion on how membership should be paid and, after more discussion it was agreed that on-line membership should be raised to £10.65 to cover the Admin costs and fees associated with using Paypal. Craig to contact Jen on her return.

**Social Media Update:** Rob went through Jen's report - the new site had been launched and on-line payments were working successfully. Jen had also been sharing articles with Rochdale on-line including C25K (11 signed up), Janet Hunt's Marathon story, and Hopwood Trot and Eddie's Revenge.

The responses to the Questionnaire were then reviewed.

Training Times – It was agreed to keep the training schedule as it stands.

Training Venues - kept as they stand.

Club House – there was a strong response in favour of this. Mandy reported that Matty Lever had proposed Boarshaw Working Men's Club. The key points were a free room, a function room where people could change, toilets, free car park. If we chose to have a function we could use the room for free with a refundable £50 deposit. Agreed that more analysis needed.

Start times - keep the same.

The general feel was that the club was doing a good job, there were a lot of new members being welcomed.

Club 50 – There was not a high awareness

The report was well received and although only a representative sample due to the limited nature of Survey Monkey, it was agreed that there should be regular membership surveys. Jo Lynch suggested Google Forms and volunteered to assist.

**Cross Country:** Craig reported that the decision as to whether the SELCC would use 2 Red Rose Races in their Championship. The response to using the RR League races seemed positive apart from the distance between races.

In the light of Peter's withdrawal from XC, there was a brief discussion on how his role could be filled. Mandy volunteered herself and Martin to transport the equipment. Rob asked Craig to draw a specification of what Peter did.

**Fell Championship:** Craig reported that after 3 races the ladies were coming third in the team event.

**Road Championship:** Rob raised the issue of a club runner completing the Manchester Marathon but not wearing a club vest yet being counted in the results. Craig said that he felt that the penalties for breaking the rules were too harsh and that you either counted or you didn't and wondered if there was some way of grading the penalty. There was a discussion taken on whether the rules should be followed strictly or not. It was agreed by 6-0 with one abstention that the rules be followed.

The following was agreed:

No exceptions

No entry as a Middleton Harrier means no points.

On the issue of races not accepting non-EA Middleton Harriers, some suggestions were put forward – MH members could join England Athletics, Members could communicate their participation to the Club. Craig to communicate to MH the need to inform the club of their participation. Rob asked that he be tasked with contacting Brian from Royton Road Runners.

**Relays & Teams:** BMAF Relays (Sutton Park) have been rescheduled to the Autumn, date to be arranged.

Calderdale: Cathie reported that the team was one runner short but that she was looking for additional runners.

Wacky Races – A number of teams of Middleton members had entered.

Autumn Relays – Awaiting members to commit before progressing. Affiliation fees for Northern Athletics will need paying if we enter teams.

### **Club Races:**

**1. Eddies Revenge** – Everything is in order except Insurance – O/M Council are not accepting the the FRA Insurance Cover. Ge liaising with ARC to use their Insurance if necessary.

**2. Hopwood Trot** – Everything OK but still a question mark over the cost of the Race Timers. Rob volunteered to talk to Julie Burrows.

**3. Club Handicap** – There is the new route to sort out which keeps the course within Bowlee.

**Training Updates:** Rob reported that C25K begins Monday and that there had been a good response with about 16 people having signed up so far. On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June, Rob and others will be in Cork and Rob will arrange for Martha to take the training session. Rob commented that he was not happy with Paul Whydall making unfavourable comments re: C25K on our club Facebook page. Monday Evenings - These sessions will be taken over by Cathie Murphy and John Hall (Cathie will do a course.)

The C25K group will start at 7:30 on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> (Heaton Park) and there will be a session on Friday at 7:30 (Heaton Park.)

**Club 50 Draw:** April – Julie Jones, May – Theresa Hollins

**Any Other business:** Cathie reported that there was no progress on the Sweatshirts – the company that had been suggested to her were not responding.

Mandy reported that she had costed the flasks for XC at £45 -£50. Mandy to buy the flask.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> July, 7:30pm at 2 Crowshaw Drive Rochdale OL12 0SR.