

Middleton Harriers Committee Meeting Minutes 27/11/2018

Present: Peter Gilligan (Chairman), Steve Bassam (Treasurer), Bryan O'Neill, Cathie Murphy,
Craig Sutherland, Ruth Hare, Ge Kirk (President).

Apologies: Anne Lowe, Emma Ball, Elaine Blades-Jordan.

Minutes: Agreed

Chairmans Report:

Since the last meeting the club has been involved in the Rochdale ½ & 10K Race held on Sunday, 7th October. The club marshalled the 10K and all went well. There has been a follow up meeting hosted by the Council to discuss the race and to plan for next year. Middleton Harriers should have had a meeting on the 6th October where we discussed whether we wanted to be involved in any future event but this did not take place. Therefore at the meeting with the Council on 26th October I took the decision that we should be involved and informed the Council of this. The decision was sweetened by Council informing us that £1000 reward would be paid to us for the services provided.

The cross country season started on Saturday 13th October with the Manchester League at Wythenshawe Park. Our club then hosted the next race at Heaton Park for the South East Lancs League. There was a very good turn out from the club members for setting the course marshal points and the taking down. All worked to provide for a successful event. The club has been away since the last meeting and I understand that it was a very enjoyable trip.

Elaine has had to withdraw from attending Committee Meetings but will continue to maintain the web site, Hopwood Trot, and respond to Facebook queries etc.

Other matters will be discussed as we go through the meeting.

Finance:

There has been more expenditure than income since the last meeting: £675 income from various sources with outgoings of £1,560 for items such as race fees, new kit, money to EAA, and £180 coaching fees. We currently have a cash surplus of £750 on the year. Steve noted that the value of the kit had increased from £2300 last year to £3000 (approx.) this year.

It was agreed that we keep the club membership fee at £20 and England Athletics individual affiliation at £15 for 2019. It was noted that the Club affiliation for England Athletics had increased from £100 to £150 for 2019.

This will be the 4th year in surplus (projected) and this has been achieved whilst investing in the Couch to 5K project.

It was suggested that an audit be taken current kit stock and that we promote the sale of stock in the run-up to Christmas

Membership:

We have had 7 people join since the last update, 4 of which came from the C25K group. We currently have 65 ladies, 67 men and 15 Social members, totalling 147. There followed a discussion on the growing parity of men and ladies, and how our club compares to others in terms of membership breakdown and growth. It was noted that although this was hard to gauge as other clubs did not publicise their membership, we had a better presence at races/events than a number of other local clubs. There was also discussion on the benefits or otherwise of using the Arena compared to having our own premises.

Events Report:

The results for the Club Championship have been distributed.

There was discussion on whether there was a need for so many trophies Eg Marathon Handicap etc.

It was proposed that next season there should be an award for the best marathon time only. Agreed that the matter be discussed at the AGM.

Correspondence:

Ge reported that we had received updates on England Athletics on North West Region training opportunities. Unfortunately most of the events had already passed. It was agreed that Craig examines EA Website for relevant training opportunities in the region.

Training: The Monday evening training session continues to attract large numbers, in the region of 15-25 people attend the Arena session.

Fell Championship: The Langdale Horseshoe brought this years fell championship to a close with Graham Jordan completing the race in atrocious weather conditions. Middleton achieved excellent results in the Run The Moors Grand Prix with Age Category wins for Catherine Murphy (V50) and Rose Rowson (V60), and 3rd places for Janine Jordan (Senior) and Karen Hallett (V45). The ladies had an excellent result in the team category coming second by the narrowest of margins with every lady who competed in the series counting.

Jorden Burke, Graham Jordan and Craig Sutherland each completed 5 GP races and received a commemorative award.

In the Middleton Harriers Club Championship Karen won the Ladies Championship from Jo Adamson on countback with Rose Rowson coming a strong third.

Jorden Burke won the Mens Championship on countback from Graham Jordan in second and Michael Griffin in third.

Cross Country Championship:

The Cross Country season is well underway with 3 matches completed. The ladies championship is currently led by Teresa Hollins from Bev O'Neill in 2nd and Jo Adamson in 3rd. The men's championship is being led by Keith Knott, Jorden Burke in 2nd and Michael Griffin in 3rd.

The next club championship match is Woodbank Park, Stockport on Saturday 1st December.

There has been strong interest in the Greater Manchester XC Championship in Boggart Hole Clough on Saturday 8th December and we have been able to enter a ladies team (8) and a mens team (7).

E-Mail/Twitter: It was agreed that Bryan and Craig share the responsibilities for sending/receiving club e-mails. The club now had 518 followers on Twitter, recent followers were people from C25K and others were interested in Cross Country.

Club Kit:

No interest had been shown in the proposed club hat. It was suggested that we include club kit on an e-mail in the pre-Christmas period. (An audit of stock had earlier been suggested under finance)

Illness/Injury:

was discussed.

Presentation:

Ge reported back on the various options and costs for a Buffet at John Lloyds. Agreed that the tickets cost £15.00. It was agreed that the main selection be sandwiches/pizza with chips as a side plus tea or coffee.

Club 50:

Jennifer Laptew (September), Clare Sproson (October), Vicky Stainthorpe (November). Each win £15

Club Races:

Hopwood Trot, Eddies Revenge both registered and progressing well.

Couch to 5K (C25K):

Steve reported that the Summer course had been a success with a high enrolment and good success rate. The autumn course was smaller for H&S reasons and 4 people completed. It was proposed that in future there would be no off-season session but that the summer session be enlarged to 50. This would be accomplished by having club member's help/mentor as there were more than enough last summer. The summer session will be Heaton Park at approximately the same date and time.

AOB**Boggart Hole Clough Running Track:**

Craig reported that he had met with the track management and that MH could use the track Tuesdays and Thursdays (Monday is not available). It was suggested that the use of the track would be in the region of £60 pa which is the cost of unlimited use for an individual for the year. It was agreed that Craig continue to arrange this. There was a discussion on coaching and it was suggested that Craig approach Rob Bishop and or Jason Cunningham or possibly do a course. Craig mentioned that Anne Lowe had expressed interest in coaching C25K.

Welsh Castles/Green Belt Relay/Calderdale:

There was a brief introduction to the Greenbelt Relay which is easier to enter than WCR but clashes with Calderdale. Craig to seek feedback for Welsh Castles/GreenBelt Relay/Calderdale from membership and get more information on accomodation for GBR. Peter advised entering team for Calderdale as backstop as this filled up quickly last year.

Boxing Day Run:

Derek Bury to confirm with Hopwood 11:00 Boxing day. There will be a draw of failed London Marathon entrants for 1x Club number. E-mail to be sent to membership.

Next meeting: 15th January 2019 7:30 2, Crowshaw Drive, Rochdale OL12 0SR

