

Middleton Harriers Committee Meeting Minutes, 12th November 2019

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

Apologies: Bryan O'Neill, Anne Lowe, Elaine Blades-Jordan, Emma Ball.

Minutes: Agreed

Matters Arising: None

Correspondence: Notification of National XC Relay Championships (Oct 2019) & National XC Championship February 2020. Notification of England Athletics Subscriptions, £150 per Club with individual membership now up to £16. Agreed to keep MH Subs at £20 and the members pay £16 to join England Athletics.

Chairman's Report: Peter reported that since the last meeting there had been a lot of activity within the club. 2nd October was the date of the Rochdale Half & 10K and the club had provided marshals for the 10K and a good response was had from the members to cover the various points. Then on Saturday 19th October the club put on the Cross Country for the SELCC League. This is always a busy day and again the response from the members to set up the course and marshal the various points with good and resulted in an excellent fixture. In total on the day there were 493 runners competing. The Road championship has finished and the results are to hand. I will leave the update on other races that members have been involved in til later in the evening. It is pleasing on Wednesday to see so many new members taking part in the various runs and to see Craig conducting the warm down routines.

Finance: Steve reported that the club was in a good position and that kit was selling well with sales of £360 with income from Cross country and England Athletics money coming in. There was an expenditure in advance for the Hopwood Trot - £200 for Chip Timing and £200 for the use of the College. There was also coaching fees of £130 for evening coaching and £430 for LiRF Courses (England Athletics) with £175 to SELCC for XC Participation. There is a cash balance of £7184 and a surplus £2489 on the year. This compares with £1500 on last year.

Steve went on to comment that the club may need to find ways of spending more money. Peter proposed the the club purchase an inflatable tent on grounds of portability, ease of putting up and less labour intensive, the cost would be in the region of £400. This proposal was carried unanimously,

Membership: Ge reported that the club had 7 new members. The membership now stood at 93 ladies, 60 men, totalling 153 active members with 17 social and life members giving a grand total of 170, this figure is well up on last years membership at this time of 132. The total number of men members was 7 down on this time last year.

It was agreed to keep next years membership at £20 and that new members joining between now and Christmas get the remainder of November and all of December free.

Rochdale Half Marathon & 10K Report: Ge reported that there had been an organisational meeting and Rochdale Tri had announced that they were withdrawing support for the event. Rochdale Council were to seek support from other sports groups in the area. During this years event there had been vehicle access issues in the Meer St- Durham St area but these had been dealt with by the full-time transport management body employed by the organisers. There was a discussion on start times and whether MH should support this event in preference to Manchester marathon. Ge

concluded her report by highlighting the fact that the feedback on Middleton Harriers was very positive particularly in terms of presence and support for the runners.

Road/Trail Championship: The Road championship was now completed with Jo Lynch winning the ladies championship and John Weaver winning the men's Championship. The championship races had been selected and were now available for viewing on the website. Craig outlined an alternative format for next years championship where the present age groups could be replaced by groups based on times for an individuals 5k time. This would make the championship more competitive and hopefully encourage greater involvement. Agreed that Craig do more research into this and come back with how it might work in practice. This would need to go to the AGM for approval. One of the races selected for the Championship was the Tissington Trail Half Marathon and it was agreed that the club organise a coach and that Peter investigate - two possible coach companies were suggested - ABC (Ruth) or GPD (Cathie).

Cross Country Championship Update: Craig reported that the championship was well under way with two races completed – Michelle Hussion and Jo Lynch equal first from Sharon Goldrick in the ladies and Jorden Burke ahead of Alan Garvey, followed by Leon Wint in the men's. Next race Heaton Park (SELCC) 23rd November.

Training Sessions: All going well Monday session getting approx 15-20 plus the improvers group of 8-15, Wednesdays approx 15-20 in total and Fridays Track getting 8-15 regularly.

Relays: Craig to advertise any upcoming relays via email, facebook etc.

London Marathon: Peter has got the London marathon entry for 2020 and it will be drawn on Boxing Day after the club run.

Club Kit: Sales are going well. Still awaiting training top sample.

Socials: Christmas do has sold out. Hopwood Pub may not be available for Boxing Day – situation to be monitored. 1st Feb Masonic for MH Presentation tickets to be approx £12. Estimated numbers of 70.

Banner Replacement: Craig to investigate Running Imp if they have previous design.

Club 50 Draw: The winners were: October – Chris Brooks, November – Sue Taylor.

AOB: Leon and Mel have received a card of congratulations on their wedding and Jason and Laura have had baby boy.

Ge distributed diaries for 2020.

T-shirts were distributed to all who marshalled at Rochdale and Anna Cooke and Steve Bassam won the draw for gift vouchers.

Paul Whydall has arranged for a number of Middleton Harriers to support The Manchester run Against Homelessness, a 24 hour event on Wednesday. Donations were received from Ge, Peter and Cathie. It was agreed that the club make a £50 donation.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 14th January 7:30 2, Crowshaw Drive, Rochdale OL12