

Middleton Harriers Committee Meeting Minutes, 13th September 2022
Middleton Arena

Present: Peter Gilligan (Chairman), Cathie Murphy (Ladies Teams), Ruth Hare, Jen Laptew (Media), Rob Bishop (Relays & C25K), Craig Sutherland (Sec).

Apologies: Ge Kirk, Steve Bassam.

Minutes: Agreed.

Matters Arising: In the light of Bury 10K being postponed due to mourning period, it was agreed to extend the Road Championship season to 23rd November to enable the race to be included in the Championship.

Correspondence: Plan to re-instate Oldham Half Marathon for 2023, inc request for rep at meeting to discuss the launch etc. Agreed that we were too stretched at the moment to commit to getting involved but Craig to monitor and offer support where possible.

Chairman's Report: Peter reported that the last Committee meeting in May the Club had been active, with good participation levels in the Road Championship and the Fell Championship. The Club had successfully promoted Eddie's Revenge Fell Race, The Hopwood Trot and the Club Handicap. Thanks were given to Rob for doing an excellent job as Lead Cyclist at Hopwood. The turnout at all events was good and there was a brief discussion on the possibility of increasing numbers but it was felt that the current maximum of 200 was the optimum number. There was income generated from the events was welcome and the Club Finances are in a healthy state. There was a discussion on the higher participation in local races and Rob asked if there was a possibility of setting up a local league around races hosted by the surrounding clubs. Agreed that this was worth investigating.

Finance: Steve's report was distributed and there was a brief discussion on the success of the Hopwood Trot. It was agreed that in the light of the current reserves that the club holds it is OK run a slight deficit.

Membership: Ge's report was circulated and it was noted that 5 men and 3 ladies had joined, bringing the totals to 66 men and 55 ladies making a total of 121 with a further 9 Social and Life Members. Jen asked what proportion of members completed the Championship? There was a discussion on the relatively low participation level and how this might be improved. M/Cr Golf Club (next to Hopwood) will be the venue for the Presentation Evening and a menu was circulated.

Media: Jen reported that progress was being made and she was confident that online membership and other payments could be done on=line. She proposed Wordpress for formatting the pages. Connectivity and security is good. Using Wordpress will allow a wider screen page to be used. Craig agreed to log in at the earliest opportunity and start familiarise himself with it. The Jimdo account will be left to run out. Jen agreed to pay £45 to get the Wordpress Licence and be reimbursed. Peter thanked her for her work on the project.

Road Championship: Craig that there were now only some marathons and the re-scheduled Bury 10K outstanding. So far 17 men and 15 Ladies have completed 32 men have completed in 1 race at least as have 26 women. Numbers have increased as the season has progressed. A push is needed to promote participation. Agreed that the Race Selection Committee meet on Sat 8th Oct 10:30 at the

Arena – Steve Bassam, Rob Bishop, Cathie Murphy, Jen Laptew, Craig Sutherland. Agreed to keep the number of races the same.

Fell Championship: Craig reported participation this season had been low but that there were a good number in the top three of their age categories.

Relays: The club had good participation levels in the Wacky Races, fielding 3 teams. Sadly we were unable to get any teams in the NW Relays.
The next Relay will be the Cross Keys (Road/Fell).

Club Races:

1. Eddies Revenge – Success, some issues with OMRT vehicle access to the upper car par.

2. Hopwood Trot – The event had been a great success, there were still some difficulties at the Road Crossing to be addressed. The finance report from Steve was circulated – Retained money was £928.81

Cross Country: Both SELCC and MACC had published their races. MH championship would consist of best 5 from 8 races (The Middleton Harriers host Race will not count). Agreed that the Club charge £9 per runner for the season. To be published on Website, e-mail and WhatsApp.

Training: Craig noted that Monday evening's session had returned to the Arena. Rob reported that the C25K Session was now complete. There was a discussion on an improvers session as we have done in previous years. Craig to progress.

Craig proposed that the club pay for the 1st Aid training that Martha was doing – there was a requirement from EA for Leaders to be qualified. Agreed to reimburse Martha £100.

Club 50 Draw: No draw took place.

AOB: Rob asked how some of the Club awards were arrived at such Club Man & Lady and if the selection might be opened up.

Cathie to contact Tom Temple re: Christmas party.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 8th November 2022, 7:30pm at 2 Crowshaw Drive Rochdale OL12 0SR.