

Middleton Harriers Committee Meeting Minutes, 5th March 2024

Crowshaw Dr.

Present: Peter Gilligan (Chairman), Steve Bassam (Treas), Cathie Murphy (Ladies Team Captain), Louise Butterworth, Ruth Hare, Craig Sutherland, Jen Laptew, Mandy Cregg, Ge Kirk, Janine Jordan.

Apologies: John Hall

Minutes: Agreed

Matters Arising: None

Correspondence: Craig had received an e-mail from Kyrinda: Effective this day Tuesday March 5th, 2024, it is with regret that I resign from the position as Middleton Harrier Committee member.

The resignation was accepted and Peter asked that Craig pass on the Committee's thanks to her.

Chairman's Report: Welcome to this the first of the Committee Meetings for the coming season. A particular welcome to our new members. Who I am sure will have an important and useful import into the running of the Committee. The AGM went well although it was disappointing that so few male members of the club bothered to attend the meeting.

As we know this meeting allows members to put forward their views on the running of the club we can only assume that the men are totally satisfied in the way that the Committee handles matters. Since the last meeting there have been lots of races both on the fells and Cross country, all of which will be covered later in the meeting.

Lastly a mention should be made of the wonderful presentation evening on Saturday, 27th January. A big thank you to Ge and all who helped in the organising of the evening.

Finance: Steve reported that it was early in the year and there was not a lot to report. There was currently over £7000 in the bank but he expected this to drop once the England Athletic Membership and Affiliation fees went out. Income from membership looks low but but this is due to a lot of early payments in December.

Income has started coming in from the Club Races – Eddie's Revenge (£21) and Hopwood Trot (£100).

Steve noted that there had been no deposit required for the Race Timers.

Membership: Ge there were 2 new social members – Norah Parry and Christine. Berni Cain, Monica Ferricani, Carmen Concannon and Terry O'Neill had joined. Numbers now stood at 46 Ladies, 49 men making 95 in total and 15 life/social members. Craig to contact Jorden Burke re. Membership and also to remind people that subs must be paid to count in the first road race.

Club Standards: Craig reported that the Club was now fully compliant on the 7 Standards laid down by England athletics.

Social Media: Jen reported that she put all the club Policies and procedures on the Web Site She and also created a new page for race Reviews and will transfer old pages across. She pointed out that our Club was No.1 for Running Clubs in the area.

Cross Country: Craig reported that the Cross Country Season was now complete and that our Championship had been won by Jorden Burk for the men and Jo Bishop for the Ladies.

In the SELCC our Ladies had done well with a number of individual awards as well as second place in the over 50's team competition. The men had not had a good turnout with only 7 men completing the championship.

Road Championship: Craig reported that the season had gone well with good turnouts. There was a brief discussion on the award of trophies and Craig would explore costs of individual mementoes for the top 1 or 3 in age category.

Fell Championship: Season has started, the first race was the Ian Roberts memorial on Sunday. Rob Bishop was first man home for Middleton in an excellent 17th position and Jo Bishop was first lady home (both in their first fell race). There was a good turnout by both ladies and men.

Relays: Cathie confirmed that there were 2 teams entered for Calderdale. On the issue of Road Relays, Craig said that there was a possibility of combining teams where clubs were struggling. Craig would investigate more.

Couch to 5K: It was agreed that we would run the programme from May. Jen was keen to promote it on the Website. It was agreed that the first session would be at 8:00pm in Heaton Park, Sheepfoot Lane Car Park on 13th May aiming for the Heaton Park park run on 13th July. Those who wished to progress would aim for the Bury 10K on 15th September. There would be a fee of £12 to participate.

Club Races: Hopwood Trot 7th August, all booked and ready. Craig to submit Eddie's Revenge (26th June) , to Oldham Council ASAP.

Training: All sessions were going well. There had been a discussion on the start times at the AGM and there had been a suggestion that we could put a survey out.

Club Draw: Jan – Fiona Lamb, Feb – Steve senior, March - Paul Cain.

AOB: Cathie proposed that The Trafford 10K be included in next years Championship and that we announce it now to give members the opportunity to enter.

Cross Country Presentation – thanks was given to Ge for arranging the forthcoming presentation evening. Ge reported that the event would be held at Alkrington Community Centre, no other venues were available, at a cost of £60. Food would be Meat and Potato pie or Cheese and Onion Pie. John Sproson would be DJ. Cost would be £6 cash only on the evening.

Ge had also booked the Golf Club for the Road championship presentation on Sat 25th Jan with DJ& Entertainer Michael.

Janine pointed out that Dave Garner and Michell (Fuller) were withdrawing from taking the Thursday Evening Fell Training sessions after many years and that it would be a nice gesture if the Club recognised their work. It was agreed that the club contribute £50 towards a gift. Most improved male and female XC – Sandra McGrail and Andy Ndlovu.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 7th May 7:30pm Crowcroft Drive.