

Middleton Harriers Committee Meeting Minutes, 7th November 2023

Crowshaw Dr.

Present: Cathie Murphy (Ladies Team Captain), Ruth Hare, Ge Kirk (Pres/Membership), Steve Bassam (Treasurer), Kyrinda Carter-Moore, Jen Laptew (Media), Mandy Cregg, Peter Gilligan (Chairman), Kyrinda Carter-Moore, Craig Sutherland (Sec).

Apologies: None.

Minutes: Agreed.

Matters Arising: None.

Correspondence: EA Letter, Club Standards (on Agenda)

Chairman's Report: Following the doings of the club and the excellent reports from Craig I can see that things have been busy. The club has, at the last moment staged a cross country event in Heaton Park after Horwich pulled out. Members responded in an excellent manner and with assistance from other clubs the event went ahead.

There was the funeral of Frank Craddock on 22nd September which was attended by older members of the club who remembered Frank.

Finance: Steve reported that we had just under £600 in the bank once the ££373.62 expenditure had been taken into account. This was approximately £500 down on last year.

There then followed a discussion on membership fees for 2024. Steve pointed out that the membership survey earlier in the year had suggested £20 and that before lockdown the annual fees had been £20. The committee as whole felt that given that EA fees were going up to £19 for 2024 we should reduce our increase. The fees agreed on were £16 and £6 (Social). There was some discussion on the use of Paypal including the tracking of payments and charges. It was agreed that we stop using Paypal.

There was a review of the Club 50 scheme and Steve indicated that this was a profitable fundraiser, bringing in £571.50. It was agreed that we promote it when membership renewals go out.

Membership: Ge noted that the membership fees had been agreed and went on to point out the membership now stood at 71 ladies and 73 men with 13 Social & Life members.

New members included Mia Derbyshire, Dave McGrail, Leah Clyne, Caroline Jones, Martin Pye, and Abi Craven-Cleal and Adi Dallman. Ge concluded by saying that people joining between now and the start of the New Year would have their membership carried forward for the next twelve months.

Club Standards: England Athletics were have appointed an additional club support Manager, one of whose tasks is to encourage clubs to adhere to the Safeguarding Code of conduct. Craig reported that our current coaches (Cathie Murphy, John Hall Marth Urwin & Craig Sutherland) had all the required training and certification. Craig had also completed the training required to be a Welfare officer. Outstanding tasks involved updating the membership form to include the applicants adherence to the code of conduct. There was also a requirement to commit to it in the Club Constitution. Craig would update the England Athletics portal to reflect to Welfare Officer's role and update the membership form before the start of the new membership year.

Cross Country: Craig reported that the season had got off to a good start and again that the club members who had supported the Middleton Harriers match hosted at Heaton Park.

With 2 Matches raced (only the MACC event counts in MH Championship) Andy Ndlovu leads the men and Jo Bishop leads the ladies.

Craig pointed out that we had lost our (free) storage facility at D&J Autos but that Charlie Bowcock had found a private garage in Bury, that would let us store the equipment at a fee of £10 per month. It was generally agreed that it would be better to have a storage facility in Middleton. Craig would put another appeal out to see if anyone could store it.

Road Championship: The Road Championship was now complete. The lady Champion was Jo Adamson and the man Champion was Jorden Burke. Steve suggested that the Race Selection committee be based on the previous year's team - Cathie Murphy, Steve Bassam, Rob Bishop. Jen volunteered and Craig proposed Jorden Burke and (possibly) Andy Smith. Date to be arranged, but agreed that more races needed to be announced before taking decisions.

Review Of Trophies: Ge felt that too many trophies were being awarded with lots of duplication. There was a brief discussion and was a strong feeling that they remain the same.

Pre-Christmas Social: Mandy reported that she had booked the Golf Club with a deposit of £150 and Fiona had given her the contact details of the person to claim the discount. A DJ had been booked at £250. Mandy will investigate the food options. £15.00 per head agreed as ticket price.

Relays: BMAF event at Mallory Park is expensive to get to and little or no interest has been shown, so no entry. Upcoming events are Greater Manchester XC – Jorden has entered. Nationals in February – to be advertised.

Boxing Day Run: Craig to contact Derek Bury re: availability of Hopwood arms. No update marathon place. Clubs will be informed before end of November.

AGM: Date to be confirmed, possible dates – Tuesday 6, 14th 20th Feb. Craig to investigate Ring O Bells (free).

Training Nights: All sessions were well attended, the Track session was particularly attractive to new members who were unsure of their abilities.

Club 50 Draw: October – Linda Rhodes. November – Ruth Hare.

AOB: Kyrinda said that Jackie Littlewood has broken her Ankle.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 9th January 2024, 7:30pm at 2 Crowshaw Drive Rochdale OL12 0SR.