

Middleton Harriers Committee Meeting Minutes, 9th March 2021

(This was a Zoom teleconference meeting due to Lock-down rules.)

Present: Peter Gilligan (Chairman), Ruth Hare, Craig Sutherland (Sec), Ge Kirk (President), Cathie Murphy, Steve Bassam (Finance), Bryan O'Neill, Rob Bishop

Apologies: Emma Ball

Minutes: Agreed.

Matters Arising: None

Correspondence: Ge reported that there had been correspondence from ARC and England Athletics and that she would deal with the issues under membership.

Chairman's Report: Peter thanked everyone for attending and pointed out that there was little to report since the previous meeting. He had attended the AGM of the Manchester Area Cross Country League via zoom and was able to say that they intended to hold a full season in 2021-2022 starting in October. This was of course dependent on how well the Covid virus was suppressed. He added that due to the success of the league in attracting large numbers of entrants it was difficult to find venues large enough to accommodate them in terms of parking etc. It was his feeling that there may well be a requirement to use some courses more than once per season.

Finance: Steve submitted his report and said that there had been relatively little income or expenditure since the previous meeting. There would be outgoings shortly as the England Athletics Club Fees were paid in addition to the individuals annual subscriptions. We were also due to pay our annual ARC fees (Association of Running Clubs) fees shortly. The annual end of year figures had been produced and that he would hand over the books to Derek Bury the next day for auditing.

Membership: Ge reported that we had 2 new members – John Horrocks and Adi Dalman but Kerri Gardner has resigned. The membership figures are as follows with last years figure in parentheses Ladies 32 (65), Men 34 (51), social 10. Ge emphasized that we needed to send out an e-mail prompting members to renew their membership.

England Athletics and ARC registration: The annual club fees were to be paid to EA at the end of March - £150 Club membership and £15 for each individual. Craig reported that EA had sent out an update on EA affiliation to UKA, one of the proposals being that individual membership of a regional body would also include voting rights for UKA rather than through a regional delegate.

Return to Training: It was noted that EA guidance was that clubs, groups, coaching and competition can return outdoors from **29 March** for both adults and children, in line with the UK Govt Roadmap. Craig reported that he had received no update on Track usage at BHC. Rob reminded everyone that the dates given are target dates and that the situation might change rapidly. He would like C25K to start in early May, if any later then the course would roll into Autumn/Winter and that was not viable. He felt the 2nd May would be the date a decision would have to be taken.

Calderdale Relay: A proposed date of 26th September has been given for the relay. Rob will collect names and form teams. Agreed to enter 1 Open Team and 1 Mixed Team.

Club Races: Eddie's Revenge was listed in the FRA Calendar but in addition to the National restrictions Oldham Council had not authorised the use of Crompton Moor, nor was the Church available. Craig felt that introducing a run-thru Chip timed event would incur a cost of approx£200 and detract from the basic tenets of fell running (a bunch of people getting together at minimum cost to run over the hills.) It was agreed that we proceed to organise for a "normal" race but if this was not feasible we would review. Cathie gave an update on the Hopwood Trot – Everything was booked – venue, timing etc but the event was not scheduled until August so we have plenty of time to review the situation.

Rochdale ½ Marathon and 10K: Ge had attended a Zoom meeting and reported that the event was scheduled for Sunday 3rd October. It was agreed that Middleton H would offer to marshal the 10K Loop through Stanney Brook Park and no more. Rochdale Harriers were committed to it and members of Rochdale Tri would also assist.

Club Championship: A lot of events were now re-scheduled for September/October. There was a discussion on the limited time for a Championship and the possibility of extending the season etc. There were a number local events on the calendar but it was felt that the situation was too fluid to take a decision. The situation would be reviewed in between April and June when more concrete information would be available.

Cross Country Season: MACC League was planning to go ahead but with a limited number of venues. It was anticipated that there would be multiple use of venues. No news re:SELCC.

Socials: No updates as yet but Ge hoped that we could get something organised by August (Clubs birthday).

Club 50 Draw: January - Roland Robson, February – Paul Collinge.

AOB: Ruth reported that she and Jill Bassam were now editing the Facebook page and would begin updating and posting profiles. Ge asked that a request go out asking for Photos of the club through the years to form part of the birthday Party.

Next Meeting: 7:00pm 11^h May (Zoom).