

Middleton Harriers Committee Meeting Minutes, 10th May 2022

Crowshaw Drive, Rochdale

Present: Peter Gilligan (Chairman), Ge Kirk (President), Cathie Murphy (Ladies Teams), Steve Bassam (Finance), Jen Laptew (Media), Rob Bishop (Relays & C25K), Craig Sutherland (Sec)

Apologies: Ruth Hare, Bryan O'Neill

Minutes: Agreed.

Matters Arising: Peter reported that he had received no correspondence or updates on the London Marathon place from the race organisers. Craig offered to investigate.

Correspondence: Notification of Greater Manchester T&F Championships 8th May.

Chairman's Report: We have had the Cross Country Presentation on Friday, 8th April. A very enjoyable evening that was appreciated by all that attended it. It was a pity that more of those members that had achieved awards did not attend.

There was a coach outing to Sutton Park for the Master's Relays. I understand the trip went well and good results were obtained.

There have been several races since the last meeting and these will be covered during the meeting. Thanks also to Ruth for a splendid birthday bash.

Finance: Steve reported that there had been outgoings in terms of affiliation money and membership fees to EAA in addition to the Relay fees and coach to the BMAF relays. In all we were £1000 down on this time last year. There was money to come in from the Hopwood Trot but overall Steve expected the balance to be down this year. The club currently had a cash balance of £6,309, in addition to this we had the value of our kit stock.

There had been 29 payments for C25K (approx 34-35 had signed up but may not come. A list of payments received had been handed over to Rob.

Membership: Ge reported that due to internet provider problems she was unable to supply a report.

Media: Jen reported that due to illness she had been unable to make as much progress as planned but had been doing more work on what was available with the current page. Ideally she would like to build the site using a package such as Wordpress but our current set-up did not allow for this. It did however, have a facility for taking payments and this was worth investigating.

She showed the development website she had been working on and asked for feedback on the site map in terms of where various aspects of Club information should be positioned.

She emphasised that the Payment Gateway should have priority as this would allow for on-line payment for membership, club Kit and other payments. Peter said he would amend the reporting from the website and Jen would continue to research the payments option and any additional costs to the club to use this facility.

Road Championship: Craig reported that the Championship was going well and with 7 races completed, Paul Cain was leading the Men's Championship and Karen Hallett was leading the Ladies. The next road Race was the second of the Cwm Reservoir 5K series.

Fell Championship: Craig reported that after three races, Karen Hallett led the Ladies Championship and Graham Jordan led the Men's Championship.

Relays: Craig and Cathie reported that the club had had a good turnout at the BMAF Relays at Sutton Park, fielding a total of 4 teams consisting of: 1x MV35 and 1 MV65. 1x LV45 and 1x LV55. Despite some last minute changes due to injury, all teams had achieved good results.

The club had also managed to field an open team in the Calderdale Way relay, although we had entered 2 teams – 1x mixed and 1x Open. All runners completed their legs in good times. There was a discussion how best to avoid last minute changes and withdrawals. Suggestions included: only entering 1 team. Making entrants pay the entry fee and re-funding on completion of their leg. Operating an early closure of entries to ensure people were fully aware of the date and leg they would run.

The next scheduled relays were the Cross Keys Road & Fell Relays and the North West Road Relays, both in September.

Club Races:

1. Eddies Revenge – Craig reported that the application to run the race on Council land had been granted and that he would contact the Church and OMRT to confirm the date. Whats My Time had been booked and the race was live on the booking system. It was agreed that the presentation be held in the Church to gain additional revenue for the club from catering sales.

2. Hopwood Trot – Cathie reported that all was going well and that bookings had been received. Bryan O’Neill had proposed a finishers memento and Cathie would discuss the details with him. Discussion on producing leaflets – Craig to get prices.

3. Club Handicap – Cathie said that we had permission to use the Pavilion on the evening.

4. Rochdale Half – Ge confirmed that the event had been cancelled due to lack of access to the Esplanade in Rochdale.

Training:

C25K: Rob reported that the C25K had started the previous evening and that the session had been very uplifting with a good atmosphere with much talking – always a good sign. This years participants seem to be a bit quicker than previous groups.

Craig reported that all other training sessions were going well.

Club 50 Draw: April (16) – Sue Taylor, May (30) Ruth Hare.

AOB: There was a brief discussion on next years Manchester marathon – should we marshal etc. The question was raised re: setting up a WhatsApp Group for general discussion and sharing of information. Agreed.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 19th July 2022, 7:30pm at 2 Crowshaw Drive Rochdale OL12 0SR. This date was selected to avoid clashing with Beater Clough Fell Race on the 12th July.