

# Middleton Harriers & Athletics Club

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at Middleton Arena

Owing to the death of the Chairman Roy Lee during the past year, Peter Gilligan the outgoing Secretary, opened the meeting and took on the role of Chairman.

### **Attendance and Apologies**

38 Members were in attendance, with 4 apologies.

### **Minutes of the previous AGM**

Members present approved the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2014 to be a true and accurate record. Proposed by Alyson Lamb, seconded by Anne Lowe. Agreed unanimously.

### **Chairman & Secretary's Report**

Peter Gilligan presented a joint chairman and Secretary's Report.

Another year of success for those taking part in the road races forming the club Championship. A good selection of races ensured that all members were able to compete and with the new web site an accurate presentation of the results was presented. The Haweswater Half Marathon was entered by a number of members and a coach was booked and a very enjoyable day was had by both runners and spectators.

With the Cross Country season completed we had the presentation at Middleton Cricket Club on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May. This was a new venue for us and it proved to be an excellent location. The Quiz and Hotpot Supper were enjoyed by all who attended.

Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> May saw the club travel by coach to Sutton Park to compete in the Masters relays. This was the date that our Club Chairman, Roy Lee died, after a short illness in hospital. This sad event brought about a very sad atmosphere in the club for a considerable time and we all miss him. His funeral was a wonderful occasion with the green shirts of the club filling the hall, along with many of his friends.

For the rest of the year we had Eddie's Revenge Fell Race in June. This was another successful event due to the hard work of John Cox and his team. In August there was the club bash in St Herbert's, Chadderton, a social event that gave people the opportunity to meet up and have an enjoyable social evening. August also saw the running of the Club Handicap at Bowlee.

In what appeared to be no time at all we were back into the Cross Country Season in October. We now looked forward to another year with the Club Championship, Fell Races, and later on the Cross Country.

Next on the agenda will be the Presentation dinner this coming Saturday at the Norton Grange which promises to be an excellent evening.

So it has been an eventful year, one which has caused some of us to consider our positions within the Club. As you will see in the election of officers, certain changes are proposed in the management structure of the Club. I hope that you will see the changes as a way of improving and ensuring that the club will be managed in an efficient manner which will ensure the continuance of the Club for the future.

The report was accepted without amendment.

### **Treasurers Report**

Dave Ball presented the income and expenditure account for 2014 (copy attached.)

this year's spend exceeded income by £1890, as part of a decision to reduce reserves held. Last year the Club agreed to additional expenditure on subsidising transport to races, extra equipment, including a new tent, and improved website. On the income side there was no income from the

Moonraker Race which did not occur this year. The club also now holds a larger stock of new club shirts.

Dave Ball explained that this rate of deficit can only be sustained for a couple more years. In the light of this Derek Bury proposed (seconded by Alyson Lamb) that the Club make all members aware of the need to raise income and curb expenditure in order to maintain a balanced budget. This was agreed unanimously.

Peter Gilligan announced that Dave Ball is retiring after serving as treasurer for 27 years, and presented him with a Hudi Tablet in recognition of his excellent service the Club. Peter also announced that the Management Committee awarded Dave Ball Life Membership of Middleton Harriers.

### **Membership Secretary's Report**

Ge Kirk announced that the total number of members had fallen by a nett total of 10 in the past year, from 127 to 117. The numbers of men fell from 73 to 67, and ladies fell from 54 to 50, and juniors from 7 to 4.

There were 19 new members, but many of the new ladies from last year did not re-join. Ge Kirk enquired why this might be? The general feeling is that club morale is currently high and we should retain and add more members this coming year. There were 8 resignations, several full members due to injury, moving area etc became Social members and Roy Lee sadly passed away. The report was accepted without amendment.

### **Election of Committee**

Peter Gilligan announced that there needed to be a major shake up in the Committee.

- The position of President remains unfilled since the death of Jack Kirk
- The position of Chairman is vacant after the death of Roy Lee
- Peter Gilligan is retiring as Secretary
- Dave Ball is retiring as Treasurer
- Jo Sullivan is retiring as Committee Membership

Peter Gilligan announced the following nominations:

- Ge Kirk to become Club President – proposed by Peter Gilligan, seconded by Derek Bury.
- Peter Gilligan to become Chairman – proposed by Craig Sutherland, Seconded by Mick Flatley.
- Elaine Blades-Jordan to become Secretary – propose by Chris Brooks, seconded by Ruth Hare.
- Steve Bassam to become Treasurer – proposed by Elaine-Blades Jordan, seconded by Peter Gilligan.
- Emma Ball to become Events Secretary - proposed by Elaine Blades-Jordan, seconded by Chris Brooks
- Kyrinda Hurst-Moore to become a new committee member – proposed by Derek Bury, seconded by Peter Gilligan
- Chris Brooks, Ruth Hare, Mick Flatley, Craig Sutherland, Stephen Granville, offered to continue as Committee members.

There were no other nominations and the appointment of committee Officers and Members was agreed unanimously

### **Events Secretary Report**

Elaine Blades-Jordan presented the Events Secretary's Report

As you may already know, that 5 places were needed to count in the Road Championship in 2014, a selection of 14 races were available to choose from. Altogether 17 females and 20 males completed the road championship League.

All the races local and afar have been well supported this year, with the highest club numbers being around 20-30 runners. The first Half Marathon was at Haweswater in the Lake district and, although hilly and very wet everyone who ran and supported enjoyed the event.

The local runs included Cowm Reservoir, Salford 10k, Rochdale 10K, Royton Trail and the Saddleworth 6 Miles. All were well supported by Club members. The last race was the Swinton 10 Miles.

The Club Championship was won again by Mick Flatley, the Female Championship was won by Joanne Adamson. Mick Flatley also won the Wolverhampton Marathon and was second overall in the Rochdale 10K, so well done Mick.

We entered the 6 & 12 Stage Sutton Park Masters Relays this year. Everyone who participated seemed to enjoy them. Unfortunately we missed the entry for Welsh Castles Relay in June. Training continues to take place on Monday and Wednesday evenings which are both well supported.

The Club Championship races for 2015 have been selected – the first race being Southport Mad Dog, and the first Half marathon will be Liverpool.

All of the races and information about the club will be on the Club website. If anyone wants to write up a race or wants the most up to date information remember, it will be there.

I hope everyone will continue to enjoy running and supporting the Club in 2015.

The report was accepted without amendment.

### **Fell Race Report**

Eddie's Revenge was successful again this year, John Cox has now handed responsibility for this event to Craig Sutherland. Peter Gilligan extended his thanks to John cx for his sterling work over the past few years with the Fell Section and Eddie's Revenge.

### **Club E-mail and Website**

The new Club website is a great success – it is much clearer and Elaine Blades-Jordan keeps the information current. Stephen Granville has taken over the Club E-Mail from John Cox.

### **Socials:**

- The August 2014 Summer Bash at St Herberts went very well, and Ge Kirk and Emma Ball will look at arranging a 2015 event.
- The Christmas Social was held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at the Health & Racquets Club, Bowlee. The venue was shared with other clubs but worked very well.
- The Annual Presentation will be held at the Norton Grange Hotel on Sat, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2015. Members generally agreed that the Health & Racquets Club would make a good venue for future presentation evenings and Ge Kirk and Emma Ball would make enquiries.
- The May 2014 Cross Country Presentation (with quiz and pies) went extremely well: the 2015 event will be on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April at the Cricket Club (subject to confirmation.)
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### **Any Other Business**

- Club Kit: Peter Gilligan showed the new club running tops, which are available as T shirt or long sleeved top, in addition to the traditional vest. These will all count as official race kit.
- Headphones: I line with national policy, Peter Gilligan said that we needed to clarify that headphones were not permitted. Derek Bury proposed to amend the constitution so that runners are not permitted to wear headphones during races or training sessions – seconded by Cris Brooks. Members agreed unanimously to approve this amendment.
- Moonraker: Craig Sutherland asked if the club could re-instate the Moonraker Race. It is too late for 2015, but it may be possible for 2016. Members agreed that the management committee look into this matter in the coming year.
- Club 50: This is the monthly draw for Club members. Steve Bassam, the new treasurer felt that this scheme does not get enough publicity, and is under subscribed. Members agreed

that Sue Taylor to talk to Elaine Blades-Jordan to make information about the the scheme and it's winners available to the Club website.

- Welsh Castles: Christine Brooks asked if the club will pay the £400 entry fee. Members agreed to this.
- Publicity/Membership Drive: Anne Lowe said that there needs to be a publicity drive to boost membership. Fiona said that the Club might use Park runs as a means of recruiting new members. The Arena has also agreed that it will store a new information board if the club pays for it. Members agreed that the management committee pursue the matter.
- Coach Transport to events: Peter Gilligan suggested that members running in the Liverpool Half Marathon, having paid £34 entry fee should be allowed to travel free on the coach provided. This was not approved by the meeting and so everyone will have to pay £10 per head.

Peter Gilligan thanked members for attending and closed the meeting.