

Minutes of Ilkley Harriers Committee meeting held remotely on Zoom (due to flooding at tennis club) 10th January 2022

Attendees: Jonathan Turner, Kate Archer, Rob Budding, Neil Chapman, Hilda Coulese, Vince Gibbons, Jeff Green, Nick Kealey, Andrew Overend, Paul Stephens, Jean Sullivan, Dawn Turner, Becky White, Will Worboys

Minutes from last meeting of 1st November 2022 - agreed

Matters arising

HC requested that the “winners” of the London marathon place draw be recorded. There were 20 applications for 4 club places and the names drawn were, David Howe, Colin Williams, Rumana Chowdhury and Jill Ezard, with Tony Pye as reserve.

Membership & Treasurers reports

Secretary items:

PS had been to an Active travel hub meeting, our input as a club would be minimal, but if we have sessions over the summer this might be our way of getting involved. PS will also liaise with Helen Thurston re the sustainability links and update the committee accordingly.

PS has had no communication from Northern Athletics re the AGM and again will update the committee as and when he does.

Commute cafe - One of the cafe owners Richard Giles is keen for us to use the venue and would like to come along one Tues evening to explain what they can offer.

Membership:

Latest figures - we have 279 individual members, 22 students, 94 joint Giving a total of 395 first claim and 12 second claim, waiting to hear from 4 other people

Treasurer:

Updated figures c/account £15,500, saving account £6,600

Fell rescue donation made of £120

Christmas Relay costs were £865

JG will also continue to look at switching banks

JS queried the cost of the relays and asked what the highest cost was - the majority came from the room hire and food at the tennis club.

Will Worboys - Diversity Officer update

WW came up with a number of ideas that we can bear in mind as a club.

Understand who our members are? Our demographic - who is under-represented?

He suggested doing a survey within the club to get members' views and thoughts. JT suggested surveying the newest members and/or contacting those people who had only come to one session to find out why.

Examples of barriers to people joining are financial, physical and mental disabilities, the booking system, the terrain we plan the runs on (Run leaders to publish routes in advance).

WW cited the Tues night meeting area as a potentially daunting experience - can we improve this? A first-timers pathway?
Marketing and imagery - can we make it more diverse?

JG asked what we are trying to achieve?

WW said ideally we would reflect the catchment area of the club, but on a simpler level we need to make sure that no-one is missing out on the chance to join the Harriers.

PS said we need to be certain that we have done all we can to encourage people to join.

RB said the fact that we are discussing it is a positive thing. We need to be aware of welcoming all new members and sending out a positive message.

VG said that the club does give financial help to members already and we do have a reputation of being a friendly club. The tennis club is not the ideal venue for Tues evening meetings as it is not uniquely ours.

We can look at ourselves a club and see what we can improve.

NK we need to be careful that in celebrating the fast runners and winners at the club it is not at the expense of those less fast runners.

WW suggested we do a feature on a member - not necessarily a race winner.

JS said we used to do a profile on a runner in the past - this could be resurrected.

JT thanked WW for his input and he will update the meeting accordingly.

Ilkley parkrun

No progress has been made since the last meeting.

WW and the team met with a local parkrun ambassador who was less than enthusiastic about the course. The team are going to re-convene and re-think before going again. They haven't given up.

First Aid course

25th & 26th Jan - 12 people booked for each evening

Race Updates from Neil Chapman

Peter Shields 10k 25th June 2023 update:

Despite numerous phone calls to Bradford re road closures Neil has heard nothing.

Reluctantly, NC stated it is now too late for this year. We cannot promote a race if we haven't got road closure approval.

NC suggested re-naming the Trail race - the Pete Shields race.

Re 2024 - do we persevere with the 10k race? NC suggested an earlier date in June if so. Or a 5k race which would involve less red tape. These options can be discussed later.

The committee agreed that re-naming the trail race is probably the best option for now. VG is going to update the Shields family.

We can think about giving a charitable donation to Marie Curie as well as the orphanage. NC said we will save money on the race with the lack of chip timings.

PS suggested talking to other clubs re road closures?

NC said it was easier if you already had a race in the diary and had done it before a new race is more difficult, coupled with the cutbacks at the council.

JT pointed out the bi-monthly call he is having with other clubs in the area - he will mention it then.

Annual Awards Friday 27th January 2023:

The venue has switched from the rugby club to the tennis club due to a mix up with the date on their part.

The categories were researched by various committee members and discussed at length at the meeting.

The winners of each category were agreed and the short-lists will be produced and published for the event.

Shields/cup/prizes need buying - JS/BW to source

Cups need engraving - KA to arrange

IH race expenses policy:

The committee was divided over whether we should be paying expenses to runners. Other clubs do and JG sent a selection of policies used as examples. NK & PS agreed in principal - the details need refining and clarifying. NC stated that he didn't agree with the idea of expenses for doing a hobby or for being part of a club.

A sub-committee of JG/PS to look at this and come up with a draft proposal.

PS suggested that we can review the policy and amend/withdraw as necessary. JS said we need to be mindful of which races we decide are eligible and bear in mind our "inclusive" policy.

Incidents - none

Run Leaders' DBS/First Aid qualifications on the database

JT to liaise with Petra

Any other business

Social

JG asked if there might be an appetite for a club night out.

He will liaise with David Foyston and Commute cafe.

Injury prevention session with Brit Tate

JS raised this as a possibility, along with a chat from Nutritionists at the club.

PS asked JS to get more details.

NK asked that Helen Thurston and her role as Sustainability officer be added to the agenda for next time and she will come along with an update.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 14th March 2023 at 8.15 (not the first Tuesday of the month as that is the 'Brian Sweet Predictor' evening. Venue almost certain to be tennis club but will be confirmed nearer the date.