

MINUTES OF WHITE HORSE HARRIERS AGM 2013 11TH OCTOBER 2013, OLD MILL HALL, GROVE

The meeting opened at 7:40 pm. Gareth Smith (Chairman) welcomed all those present and thanked Castel Fairlie and Dene Stringfellow for their assistance in helping to prepare for the AGM.

1. Members Present

Simon Atkin, Sheila Bailey, Angela Briscoe, Ros Burgess, Hayley Chaundy, Castel Fairlie, Bob Harrison, Clare Hazell, Paul Jégou, Richard Jégou, Jan McCabe, Barbara Margetts, Stewart Scott, Lucia Singer, Gareth Smith, Dene Stringfellow, Graham Wiggins

2. Apologies for Absence

Sharon Bedford, Katy Boyce, Bruce Charles, Neil Druce, Jess Harrison, Tom King, Lindsay Onay, Andy Pixton, Ian Rees,

3. Minutes of the 2012 AGM

Gareth Smith asked if anyone had any queries or comments regarding the 2012 AGM Minutes.

No queries or comments were arising.

The acceptance of the 2012 AGM Minutes was proposed by Dene Stringfellow and seconded by Sheila Bailey. The assembled members accepted the 2012 AGM Minutes unanimously.

4. Matters Arising

It was noted that England Athletics had raised their affiliation fees from £5.00 to £10.00 and the charge has been passed on directly through the according increase in membership fee as previously done in line with AGM discussions.

5. Chairman's Report

A paper copy of the 2013 Chairman's Report was circulated to all those present at the AGM and a digital copy is available in .pdf format on the Club website at:

http://ridgedale.co.uk/WHN/clubadmin/chmnrpts/2013_ChairmansReport.pdf.

A summary of the points highlighted in the report are as follows:

- The turnout for club cross country championship events has remained essentially unchanged and the same can be said for the turnout at the equivalent club road race championship events, albeit there has been a slight rise in the turnout of the men.
- Results highlights:
 - 2012-13 Oxford Mail Cross Country League:
 - U17 Girls – 1st Josie Harrison
 - U20 Men – 1st Jonathan Cornish
 - 2013 Oxfordshire County Cross Country Championships:
 - U15 Men – 1st Ben Claridge
 - U20 Men – 1st Sam Marshall
 - 2013 Youth Development Track & Field League:
 - 1st Oxfordshire Athletics Network (- promoted to Midland Premier League 1)
 - 2013 Oxfordshire County Track & Field Championships:
 - U15 Boys 800m – 1st Okan Onay 2m 14.41



U17 Men 400m – 1st Ben Claridge 51.90
U20 Women 400m – 1st Becky Hodgson 59.40
U20 Women 800m – 1st Becky Hodgson 2m 21.27

2012-13 Club Cross Country Champions

U9 Girls – Eda Onay
U9 Boys – Burt Staunton-Lamb
U11 Girls – Anna Kelly
U11 Boys – Reuben Paget
U13 Girls – Georgia Paxton-Doggett
U13 Boys – Will Heason
U15 Girls – Ebony McIntyre
U15 Boys – Ben Claridge
U17 Girls – Josie Harrison
U17 Boys – Thomas Kelly
Senior Ladies – Hayley Chaundy & Jennifer Lithgow (*joint winners*)
Senior Men – Jonathan Cornish
Veteran Ladies – Ros Burgess
Veteran Men – Dene Stringfellow

2013 Club Road Race Champions *

Senior Ladies – Hayley Chaundy & Jennifer Lithgow (*joint winners*)
Senior Men – Jonathan Cornish
Veteran Ladies – Ros Burgess
Veteran Men – Dene Stringfellow

*** Please Note:** At the time of the 2013 AGM the 2012 championship results were given as the 2013 club championship results had not yet been finalised.

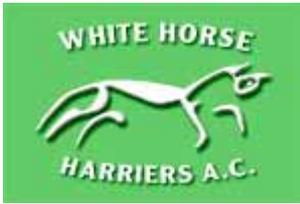
2013 Club New Year's Day Handicap Champion:

Katherine Boyce

2013 Club Summer Handicap Champion:

Becky Colliass

- The two 2013 Virgin London Marathon club places were accepted by Clare Hazell and Paul Jégou as the winners of the 2012 Club Road Race Championships.
- The White Horse Half Marathon introduced chip timing and traffic management for the first time in 2013. This resulted in a 50% increase in the entry fees to cover the cost. The race continues to be a success and underpins the club's finances. A donation on behalf of the club, representing 25% of the profits from the race, will be made to this year's supported charity: The 14 Club.
- Dene Stringfellow will be standing down as the half marathon race director after the 2014 race.
- A Club Multi-Terrain Championship was introduced for the first time in 2013 by Paul Jégou.
- The unification of the club website remains to be resolved and more assistance has been sought, which now appears to be forthcoming.
- The Harrier club newsletter has been replaced by an email equivalent following the resignation of Jason Cooke.
- Social Media pages (Facebook and Twitter) have been created both for the club and the Half Marathon, and has proved a modest success so far.
- Dick Jégou was thanked for his continuing efforts as the club's publicity officer to keep the local press informed of the club's results.



- There is an over-reliance on the current two coaches, who are long-serving members, Angela Briscoe and Tom King. It should be noted that Tom King missed two consecutive training sessions for the first time in 25 years as a club coach.
- The club continues to restrict the numbers of Under-10 athletes owing to insufficient coaches.
- The introduction of a structured training session for senior members, led by Paul Jégou, is proving a success and now gaining in popularity.
- An intermediate group, meeting on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, has now become well-established.
- The social events laid on by the club again proved successful this year – Bowling & Presentation Evening (and the Summer Barbecue & Presentation Evening (*dry!!* - Court Hill Centre).
- The Jog Wantage beginner's course was moved to Thursdays this year and continues to be a success. Thanks go to Graham Wiggins, who led the course this year, and the rest of his team.
- A similar initiative led by Stewart Scott set up a Jog Diamond beginners course based at Harwell.
- The club's membership is unchanged in numbers from last year remaining at a total of 144. The breakdown has also remained largely unchanged.
- The Oxfordshire Athletics Network (OAN) now comprises Oxford City AC, Radley AC, Abingdon AC and White Horse Harriers – Bicester AC having formed a separate athletics network with Banbury AC. The main benefit for the club is the Youth Development League (YDL) combined network team, which provides the opportunity of higher level track & field competition for our junior athletes.
- Thanks go to Jane Rennells for continuing as the YDL team manager.
- Clubmark Accreditation remains an important objective for the club. Progress has been slow but the end is now in sight. Thanks go to Simon Atkin for all his work.
- No further progress has been made on the matter of a clubhouse at this stage.
- The Abingdon ParkRun have proved popular among our membership and there has been some discussion in conjunction with the club about starting a ParkRun in Wantage.
- Angela Briscoe is stepping down from managing the club kit after almost 10 years. Some interest has already been received in taking over the role.
- The club still lacks a beginners group at the Thursday evening training session.
- A proposal instigated by Dick Jégou is under way, working with King Alfred's School, to try to obtain funding to improve the field event facilities at West Site.

No questions were raised.

Dene Stringfellow proposed a vote of thanks to Gareth for all his work throughout the year that was unanimously seconded.

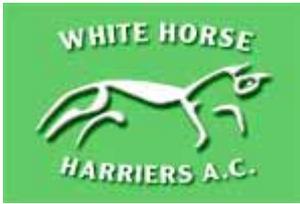
6. Treasurer's Report

Paper copies of the Audited Accounts to the end of August 2013 were circulated to the assembled members at the 2013 AGM and a digital copy is available in .pdf format on the Club website at:

http://ridgedale.co.uk/WHN/clubadmin/accounts/2013_WHH_Accounts.pdf.

Gareth Smith (Chairman) presented the accounts in the absence of Sharon Bedford (Treasurer) as follows:

- Sharon apologised for not being present. This was due to not being at the committee meeting when the date of the AGM was decided and she already had booked a weekend away. Sharon reported:
- The club made a surplus of £2,009 to the year ended 31st August 2013.
- Membership fees were up by £480 to £2,290, however this reflects the increased fees to be collected on behalf of England Athletics.
- Due to an oversight some membership cheques were mislaid and not banked earlier in the year. As the cheques in question were over 6 months old, the cheques have been returned to the members concerned and replacement cheques requested.
- None of the members concerned had pointed out that the cheques had not been banked.



- The amount covering the cheques returned does appear in the current account balance in these accounts.
- The Half Marathon continues to make a very important contribution to club's strong financial position. A profit of £3,489 was made out of which £872 is to be donated to The 14 Club. The remainder of £2,617 is available for the use of White Horse Harriers AC.
- It worth noting that without the Half Marathon the club would spend more than it receives.
- The race committee do a fantastic job promoting the race and deserve thanks for their efforts. The team is always on the lookout for more help on the day and ask members to prioritise assisting with the event if at all possible.
- The club has a healthy cash position of £14,399.75 as at 31st August 2013 and committee is pleased to have built up a surplus that provides a contingency in the event the Half Marathon should have to be cancelled, owing to bad weather for example.
- The accounts were again checked for the club by Maxine Thomas. Her assistance is greatly appreciated.
- It is recommended that Maxine Thomas is re-appointed as auditor for next year, if she is willing and available to help.

Following the Treasurer's report questions were invited. The following is a summary.

- It was confirmed that the cost of the Half Marathon T-shirts are included under the Other event costs heading and that this year the sale of the T-shirts made a loss (60% of the T-shirts were sold – purchase cost: £588, sales income: £336). It was noted that the previous year T-shirt sales broke even. However, it was also pointed out that the main purpose of providing T-shirts is to add value to the race.

A proposal was put forward to accept the accounts

Proposed by Simon Atkin	Seconded by Angela Briscoe
For: 16	Against: 0
	Abstention: 1

7. Proposed Constitution Amendment

With the meeting being quorate, the following amendment to Section 3 Membership of the club's current constitution was presented to the assembly with a view to voting on whether or not the proposed change should be accepted and implemented.

Proposed Amendment

To insert the following additional point at the beginning of Section 3:

3.1 Membership of the club is open to anyone interested in promoting, coaching, volunteering or participating in Athletics, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.

Followed by the existing points re-numbered accordingly.

It was pointed out that the wording had been lifted directly from a Clubmark template, with the word "Athletics" replacing <insert sport>. The change was being solely proposed to meet the requirements of Clubmark in order to gain accreditation. After a short discussion the proposal was put to the vote with the following result:

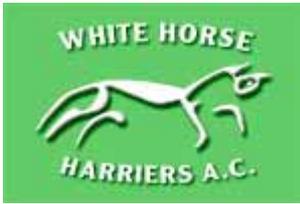
For: 17	Against: 0	Abstention: 0
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8. Election of Officers

Gareth Smith reported he had received no new offers from members to stand for any of the available posts, The follow candidates stood unopposed and were duly elected.

Chairman: Gareth Smith

Proposed by Dene Stringfellow	Seconded by Dick Jégou
For: 17	Against: 0
	Abstention: 0



Secretary: Dene Stringfellow Proposed by Gareth Smith For: 17 Against: 0	Seconded by Dick Jégou Abstention: 0
Treasurer: Sharon Bedford Proposed by Jan McCabe For: 17 Against: 0	Seconded by Castel Fairlie Abstention: 0
Membership Secretary: Clare Hazell Proposed by Jan McCabe For: 17 Against: 0	Seconded by Dick Jégou Abstention: 0
Cross Country Secretary: <vacant> Proposed by n/a For: n/a Against: n/a	Seconded by n/a Abstention: n/a
Road Running Secretary: Paul Jégou Proposed by Dene Stringfellow For: 17 Against: 0	Seconded by Sheila Bailey Abstention: 0
Track & Field Secretary: <vacant> Proposed by n/a For: n/a Against: n/a	Seconded by n/a Abstention: n/a
Publicity Officer: Dick Jégou Proposed by Gareth Smith For: 17 Against: 0	Seconded by Bob Harrison Abstention: 0
Volunteer Officer: <vacant> Proposed by n/a For: n/a Against: n/a	Seconded by n/a Abstention: n/a
Welfare Officer: Castel Fairlie Proposed by Clare Hazell For: 17 Against: 0	Seconded by Simon Atkin Abstention: 0
General Committee Member: Bob Harrison Proposed by Simon Atkin For: 17 Against: 0	Seconded by Ros Burgess Abstention: 0
General Committee Member: Lucia Singer Proposed by Dene Stringfellow For: 17 Against: 0	Seconded by Sheila Bailey Abstention: 0

Gareth advised that in the interests of the club as well as the members no single member should take on more than one committee role. It was noted that 3 committee posts remain unfilled.

9. Charitable donations from the 2015 White Horse Half Marathon

Regarding the question of charitable donation from the profit of staging the 2015 White Horse Half Marathon, the first matter to be settled was whether or not the assembly agreed to support a donation to charity. The question was put to the vote with the following result:

Should a donation be made to charity from the profits of the 2015 half marathon?

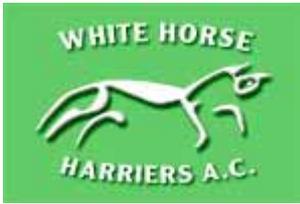
For: 17 Against: 0 Abstention: 0

Following outcome of the donation to charity vote Gareth asked the assembled members if anyone had a charity they would like to add to the list of proposed charities presented on paper that had been circulated to all those present at the AGM. A digital copy is available in .pdf format on the club website at:

http://ridgedale.co.uk/WHN/clubadmin/charities/2015_WHHM_Charities.pdf.

A short discussion ensued regarding the merits of supporting a local charity as opposed to a national body.

Dene Stringfellow informed the assembly that the race organising committee as a matter of course follow up with the charity receiving the donation to ascertain the total amount of donations generated by the race and individuals who participated. However, he was very disappointed by the standard thank you letter and



complete lack of feedback provided by the English Federation of Disability Sport, the charity supported in 2012, as well as the lack of presence on the day.

No other charities were proposed and the matter was put to the vote with the following result:

Prostate Cancer UK	1
St John Ambulance	2
The Grove Day Centre for the Elderly	11
The Mo Farah Foundation	5
Wantage Group Riding for the Disabled Association	6

As a result The Grove Day Centre for the Elderly is the charity nominated to receive a donation from the profits of the 2015 White Horse Half Marathon.

10. Appointment of Auditor for Next Year

It was proposed to ask Maxine Thomas, who has no connection with the club, if she would be prepared to be the auditor for next year. For the record, Maxine Thomas is treasurer of several local organisations (Friends of Millbrook School and Grove Scout Group) and an accountant.

It was noted that Sharon Bedford has provided Maxine a gift of chocolates on behalf of the club as a thank you for her support.

11. Any Other Business

Following a short intermission for food and drink the members reconvened and informal discussion followed.

- It was learned that Karen Froud and Lindsay Onay were the two members who have shown interest in assuming the management of the club kit.
- In addition, it was learned that Elizabeth Graham and Andy Pixton are the two members who have expressed an interest in the development and management of the club website.
- A number of the assembled members reported there was an issue with the way the club's social media pages have been set up. Namely that they are closed – i.e. others cannot contribute. This needs to be addressed.
- Simon Atkin made the suggestion that providing technical T-shirts might prove a more successful option to the ordinary cotton T-shirts produced for the White Horse Half Marathon. Simon's suggestion will be reviewed by the race committee.

Gareth thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10:30pm.