



Minutes of AGM held in the Clubhouse, County Ground – 27th November 2024

Present:

Committee: Geoff Wickens (Chair), Howard Moscrop (Vice Chair), Ray Bell (Treasurer), Bryan Clinton, John Dill, Val Gibbons, Kieran Golding and Rachael Wells.

Others Present: Luke Byrne, Courtenay Chessell, Steve Connolly, Tim Howe, Jon Hughes, Zoe Large, Ben McIntyre, Bernard Merron, Josh Paradise, Craig Scott, Martin Smith, Andrew Symon and Chris Varley.

A total of 21 members were present.

Geoff welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence: Alan Brown, Simon Dill, Neil Cox, Helen Merron, Gemma Scott, Steve Sparkes, Emily Swaine and Matt Woodward.

2. Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the meeting were approved and signed by Geoff Wickens. Proposer - Steve Connolly, Seconded – Martin Smith

Carried unanimously.

3. Matters arising, including Changes to the Constitution

- There were no Matters Arising
- Geoff explained the rationale behind the following change being made to the Constitution in Section 5d.

It will now read:

The Chair and Vice Chair are eligible to serve for three years at which time the Vice Chair will assume the role of Chair. The outgoing Chair will not be able to apply for the role of Vice Chair until the commencement of the next three-year cycle. The Chair and Vice Chair may stand for a further 12 months should there be no nominations for these positions.

Proposed by the General Committee. Seconded by Steve Connolly. Carried unanimously.

4. Approve the reports of the Chairman, Secretary and Membership Secretary.

- The reports had previously been circulated.
- Gemma Scott, although not present, made it clear that she was happy to answer any queries on the Membership Report.
- **Approval of the reports was proposed by Ray Bell and seconded by Steve Connolly. Carried unanimously.**

5. Presentation of the Accounts and Balance Sheet by the Treasurer.

- These items had previously been circulated.
- Ray highlighted that there has been a loss of income due to the SBC bike sessions moving to the new Moredon facility. We have also stopped the use of the track for festivals.
- The new lights are now in place and functional. There is just some tidying of the site to be completed.
- Our Track Mark accreditation has been completed and now runs to 2027. The track will however need refurbishment in 2029. £10k per annum to be set aside for this purpose although it is likely that extra will be needed.
- Ray mentioned that he is investigating the possibility of Swindon Harriers and the Track Trust becoming a single charity.

Accounts approved unanimously. Proposed by Steve Connolly and seconded by Bryan Clinton.

6. Update on Track Management

- The renewal of the floodlights has taken up a great deal of time.
- It was suggested that we look at another clear-up day after the work on the floodlights is completed.
- Still a need for maintenance of the trees/ shrubbery around the perimeter.

7. To set subscriptions for 2025 / 2026 due on 1st April 2025

- It is proposed that there be an increase of £1 in the monthly charge for track users. This means that for FUNdamentals (7 – 10 years) their charge will increase to £19 a month (£228 per annum). For all other groups, the fee will increase to £21 a month (£252 per annum). The annual fee for non track users will increase to £36 per annum. This proposed change is due, in part, to an increase in the fees payable to England Athletics.

Proposed by the General Committee, seconded by Bryan Clinton and passed unanimously.

8. Election of new life members.

None proposed.

9. Election of Officers

Executive Committee Positions

The following were duly elected:

9.1. President: Lesley-Ann Varley

9.2. Chairperson: Howard Moscrop (commencing three-year term)

9.3. Vice Chair: John Dill (commencing three-year term)

9.4. General Secretary: Vacant

9.5. Assistant Secretary: Emily Swaine

9.6. Treasurer: Ray Bell

9.7. Assistant Treasurer: Vacant

All positions nominated by Geoff Wickens, seconded by Steve Connolly and carried unanimously.

Other Committee Positions

9.8. Membership Secretary: Gemma Scott

9.9. Officials Secretary: Kieran Golding

9.10. Coaching Co-ordinator: Bryan Clinton

9.11. Welfare Officers: Sarah Bellamy. One post remains vacant.

9.12. Health and Safety Officer: Matt Prosser

9.13 Press and Social Media Officer: Josh Paradise (Social Media). Although not a committee member Kevin Fahey covers (Press).

9.14. Two representatives of athletes aged 8 to 19 years of age: Steve Sparkes and John Dill

9.15. Schools Liaison Officer: Phil Smith

9.16. Community/Business Liaison Officer: Rachael Wells (New post title needed – to be agreed by the General Committee at its first meeting in January).

9.17. Additional ordinary members of the General Committee: Jon Hughes, Luke Byrne, Matt Woodward, Val Gibbons, Geoff Wickens and Steve Connolly.

All nominations proposed by Howard Moscrop, seconded by Ray Bell and approved unanimously.

10. Nomination of person to review accounts: Rachael to ask contact

11. Election of Team Managers

Howard thanked all those individuals who had given up their time in the last year to be team managers.

SAL (Men) – Ben McIntyre

SAL (Women) – Keeleigh Chapman

Under 13/15/17 – Martin Smith and Craig Scott

Quadkids – Steve Sparkes

Cross Country (Men) – Courtenay Chessell

Cross Country (Women) – Felicity Webb

Road Running (Men) – Simon Dill

Road Running (Women) – Vacant

Veterans Track and Field – Derek Gardner

All positions proposed - John Dill, seconded - Chris Varley - carried unanimously.

12. AOB

- **London Marathon Ballot** – the draw was made at the meeting and the lucky recipient was Tim Charlesworth. The final number of places allocated to the Club has not been confirmed so another name was drawn in case we get a second place. That person was Rachel Oram.

13. Open Forum

- A question was raised concerning the recruitment / retention of officials. Several ideas suggested including, familiarity / try it sessions, end of year awards/ raffles.
- Question concerning the outcomes from the Club survey. Rachael commented that there was a good response and the way forward will be highlighted in the next Club newsletter.
- Query about Sponsorship. Rachael pointed out that sponsorship will be another focus of the next newsletter as well as a feature on our new look website. Geoff, at this point, formally thanked Rachael for all her work in relation to the newsletter, sponsorship and the revamped booking system.

Howard formally thanked Geoff for his hard work over the past two years.

He also thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.26pm.

The new committee will meet on Wednesday 8th January 2025.

