



**Draft Minutes of Extraordinary General Meeting of Swindon Harriers  
held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025 in the Clubhouse at the County  
Ground.**

**Members present:**

Howard Moscrop (Chairman), John Dill (Vice Chair), Ray Bell (Treasurer), Nigel Belgrave, Alan Brown, Bryan Clinton, Steve Connolly, Paul Gassner, Val Gibbons, Kieran Golding, Howard Gooderham, Jon Hughes, Zoe Large, Debbie Lowe, Bernie Merron, Craig Scott, Kat Silto-Baker, Martin Smith, Phil Smith and Geoff Wickens.

**Apologies for Absence:**

Rachael Wells

**Purpose of the Meeting**

The EGM has been called by the General Committee to present and approve an increase to Track Membership Subscriptions. The reason for the proposed increase is that over the next few years the club needs to raise a substantial sum of money towards the relaying of the track. The initial estimates are that we may need to raise £250,000. If we do not prepare for this we may find ourselves in the same position as other clubs who cannot provide home competition because they do not have the relevant UKA certification.

The club is proposing to add £60 to the annual Track Membership Subscription (£5 a month). For Under 11s this increase will be £36 a year (£3 a month). Families will only pay the increases for two family members. These increases will be effective from April 2025 and the increased amount will go directly to fund the resurfacing.

An important aspect of the proposed increase is that if we were seeking support from outside agencies we would need to have matched funding available.

Having outlined the reasoning behind the increase Howard invited the views of those present.

- There was a lengthy discussion concerning the state of the track when we took over the lease. The original resurfacing was organised and overseen by Swindon Borough Council and there was a strong feeling from the meeting that we should go back the Council to examine the original contract with the contractor, if this is still available. Since the original relaying of the track there has been a necessity to carry out remedial work on certain sections of the track where there were problems with the original work.
- There was also a view expressed that we should look to seek help from the ombudsman. An alternative view was that as we were not involved with the original contract we may not be able to seek recompense, however the general view was that there was no harm in trying to get help.
- There was a query about the sum of money we might raise from the increase. Ray suggested this might be about £100,000 over 5 years
- Another issue raised was our position as a charity with the suggestion that we would need to offer financial support for hardship cases. It was pointed out that this already occurs.
- Obviously the track resurfacing will not be the only demand on our resources and it is important that we have a projection over a five year period of what we might need to spend generally.

After the discussion Howard outlined what we would do to clarify the situation,

1. We will seek to clarify the details of the original contract with SBC.
2. Seek advice from the ombudsman if this is available.
3. We will ensure that updates of the amount raised through the increase in fees will be highlighted on the club website.

A vote on the issue was taken

17 were in favour of the proposed increase

2 voted against

There was one abstention

The increase was therefore approved.