

MINUTES OF THE 1998 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the South Cheshire Harriers AGM held on Thursday, 26 November 1998, in the bar of the Oakley Centre, Crewe.

The meeting commenced at 8.20pm and was attended by 18 members. Apologies were received from Tony Salthouse, Owen Evans & Chris Walsh.

Minutes of the 1997 AGM

The minutes were agreed as a true record after noting that there was an incorrect date under the item Election of Officers. The date should have read 1998 not 1995

Hon. Secretary's Report (Prepared by Tony Salthouse, presented by Dave Rowlands)

London Marathon. In 1998 14 runners from SCH took part. Arrangements have commenced for the 1999 race, and help will be required to organise SCH participants. A club our size got 2 automatic places last year.

British Athletics Association. New President was voted for and the successful candidate was David Hemery. A new funding structure has been agreed and as a result of this it is up to the North of England Athletic Association to impose extra charges if it so wishes. (Wales, Scotland & Northern Ireland already have these charges). They could be in order of £10 per year. The meeting was not clear if this referred to the Club as a whole or each individual member, and asked for clarification.

Newsletter It was good to see it up & running again. Secretary pointed out that regular contributions from individual members were essential if it was to thrive.

Christmas Party. Reminded meeting that it was to be held on Friday, 4 December 1998. He could take extra bookings but he needed money immediately.

Christmas Run. Commented on the success of last year's effort and asked for support to make the 1998 run equally successful.

Hon. Treasurer's Report. (Prepared and presented by Rob Brown)

See attached reports.

Chairman's Report (Ian Ankers)

At the beginning of the year the Chairman was concerned for the club's well being with several of the best runners resigning and moving to other clubs. However, he was full of praise for the efforts of all members who had represented the club in a wide variety of events with considerable success, and at the end of the year was much happier with the morale of the club. Worthy of particular attention were the performances of Dave Griffiths with his Welsh O55 24 hour record and his group performance in the North Staffs, Steve Hughes for his 8th position in the Madeley half marathon, Alan Williams for his excellent completion of the Bob Graham Round, Lindsey Rowlands for his second successive win in the Sandstone Race and 3rd place in the Long Mynd 50 miler, and Mike Cutler for finishing second in the V group in the North Staffs.

He felt that the club was strong socially, and thanked people for making a success of the Christmas Run, Christmas Dinner & Barbecue, and asked members to support them next year.

The chairmen thanked Dave Griffiths and all involved in the successful organisation of the Easter 10K, which continues to go from strength to strength, and the inaugural Pre-Potts 20 which is very likely to be part of the North Staffs programme in 1999. Ian finished by praising Dave Griffiths's efforts in raising the profile of the club locally by working with Crewe Borough to set up fitness sessions on the Cumberland St track.

Election of Officers

The officers for 1999 were elected unopposed:

President Dave Rowlands

Chairman Ian Ankers

Honorary Secretary Tony Salthouse

Honorary Treasurer Rob Brown

Melvyn Cole and Dave Griffiths were elected onto the Management Committee.

Bill Ferguson was elected as Honorary Auditor

Melvyn Cole agreed to take over the management of the Club Kit.

Subscriptions

It was agreed to keep subscriptions unchanged; £10 with a reduction of £2.50 for those members making payment before 31 January 1999. There will be no charge for U18 members. There were 56 paid up members in 1998

Club Prizes.

It was agreed that in 1998 the Club Runner of the year would be voted for in the usual way. The secretary would be asked to arrange the ballot and the presentation would be at the Christmas Run.

In 1999 there would be 2 prizes; one for the Club MEMBER of the year, voted for by all members; the second one for the Club RUNNER of the year based on an extension of the system used in the latter half of 1998. Dave Griffiths agreed to define the rules and the races covering the period from 1 January 1999 to 30 November 1999; Rob Brown agreed to help with the results presentation.

Any Other Business

Dave Griffiths & Mike Cutler agreed to attend the North Staffs Road Runners AGM in the absence of Chris Walsh who would not be able to attend.

Ray Woolgar thanked members who had supported him in his appeal to raise funds for Sophie. He was honoured to report that club members had raised £3000. £20,000 have been raised in twelve months, twice as much as Ray had targeted.

It was proposed and seconded unanimously that Andrew Hollinshead should be given free membership in 1999. This was to recognise the family kindness in arranging the barbecue and also that Andrew is rarely able to get down to the club. The club expressed their gratitude for his continued support.

Details of the 1999 Cheshire Cross Country Championships were circulated. The venue is Rease Heath on 10 January. Ian Ankers agreed to organise this with Simon Walker and get a good Club turnout.

Meeting Closed at 9.05 pm. Dave Rowlands