

South Cheshire Harriers

Minutes of Annual General Meeting, Thursday 27th November 2003

Venue: Oakley Centre Bar, Crewe

The meeting commenced at 8:20pm

Present

Rob Brown, Mike Cutler, Steve Dawson, Colin Earp, Gael Earp, Owen Evans, Bill Ferguson, Roger Foden, Carol Godfrey, Mike Hatton, Dave McGrath, Tony Salthouse, Tina Smith, Alan Williams, Ray Woolgar.

Apologies

Ian Ankers, John Booth, Melvyn Cole, Dave Griffiths, Dave Rowlands, Lyndsey Rowlands, Sylvia Smallwood, Martin Stirna, Simon Walker.

Minutes of the Previous AGM

Read by Roger Foden, and accepted. It was noted that they had been attached to the Club Newsletter and been displayed on the Club Noticeboard.

Secretary's Report

Mike Cutler stated the Club's sadness at the passing away of Bernard Griffiths and commented on the large number of members who has attended his funeral.

Mike reported he had attended a Sports Development Meeting within the Borough and awaited further contact from Geoff Beadle of the Council.

It was noted that the first year of the Cheshire Road Race Grand Prix had taken place, but no feedback as to its success had been received.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Ferguson presented a written report: the financial standing of the Club had improved despite it having not yet received promised sponsorship for the 20 mile race from Bombardier. (This would be strongly followed up by Alan Williams.)

Bill felt it appropriate to move the stock of kit from the main accounts to a separate account, which could be reconciled quarterly in line with a quarterly stock-take.

Rob Brown asked if it was worthwhile transferring money from the Current Account to an interest-bearing account. Bill said he would investigate.

Chairman's Report

Roger Foden expressed his thanks to the Committee for their support during the year: to Simon Walker for organising the 10K race and ably running the Club

Championship, Mark Jennings for providing phone back-up; much thanks to Owen Evans and Alan Williams for their involvement with the 20 mile race; finally to Rob Brown for his role as Honorary Auditor, Race Secretary and Race Results co-ordinator.

It was noted that although club membership numbers had fallen slightly, to 60, the proportion of ladies had increased to just over 25% at 16 in number. They sometimes outnumbered the men on Club Nights.

Roger felt Club Nights were sociable occasions as well as offering good training. It was felt this was the way running was going in general, and the Club was leading the trend. One special aspect that had developed was the Tuesday Away Days, originated by Alan Williams. A Second Division had now been created.

The only downside to this was that the Club could have missed potential new members turning up on Tuesday nights at the Oakley centre. This would be addressed next year by having two members at the Club base on each running day.

Sunday 4th January 2004 was set for the Club New Year Run, with a 9am start from the Copper Mine Inn at Bickerton. Distance 14 miles, with short cuts available, so the Club could muster for a 12:15 lunch.

Election of Officers

President	Melvyn Cole (re-elected)
Treasurer	Bill Ferguson (re-elected)
Secretary	Mike Cutler (re-elected)
Chairman	Martin Stirna (Proposed by Alan Williams seconded Ray Woolgar, elected unanimously)

Ordinary and co-opted members (Proposed en bloc by Mike Cutler and seconded by Colin Earp)

Tony Salthouse (membership), Dave McGrath (20 mile race), Simon Walker (10K), Tina Smith (Coaching), Gael Earp (N Staffs Rep), Rob Brown (Hon Auditor)

Subscriptions

Bill Ferguson stated that the subscription rate was quite adequate at its present level. A rate of £10 (£7.50 pre 31st January) with a free vest to new members, £5 under-18 and Students was proposed by Alan Williams, seconded by Tony Salthouse. Passed unanimously.

Any Other Business

- 1 1 Annual Dinner would be at the Waverley; 9th January 2004
- 2 2 Club Championship: Simon Walker was awaiting results from the Ipstones and Flying Fox races. (Mike Cutler offered to supply these results.)
- 3 3 The two Club Races: the 20 Mile and the 10K required much greater support from members acting as marshals. Mike Cutler offered to take over (from Owen) the role of Marshal Co-ordinator for the 20 mile race. Despite growing pressure, Simon had recommended sticking with the present 10K route.
 - 4 4 It was unanimously agreed to make a contribution to the designated charity of Bernard Griffiths from the Club.
 - 5 5 The New Year Run should be held in memory of Absent Friends: Mike Griffiths, Terry Davies and Bernard Griffiths.
 - 6 6 Mike Cutler expressed concern that insufficient insurance was held to cover any eventuality when club members trained away, bearing in mind possible darkness and rugged terrain. Club members felt the current Policy through the AAA should be scrutinised before any comment or change could be made. Mike agreed to do this.
 - 7 7 Regular articles and contributions were requested for forthcoming editions of the Newsletter, preferably by e-mail.
 - 8 8 Alan Williams ended the meeting with a Vote of Thanks to Roger Foden for the last four years as Chairman.

The meeting closed at 9:34pm