Bournville Harriers

Minutes

Monday 14th August 2017

Meeting Chaired by: Stacey Marston

# Attendance

|  |  |  |
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| **Name** | **Role** |  |
| Stacey Marston (SM) | Club Chairperson | ✓ |
| Rebekah Hilton (RH) | Club Vice Chairperson | X |
| Katie Alldrit-Rose (KA) | Club Secretary | ✓ |
| Lin Goulding (LG) | Club Treasurer | ✓ |
| John Cheel (JC) | Membership Secretary | ✓ |
| Nicola Morris (NM) | Ordinary Member | ✓ |
| Simon Newman (SM) | Ordinary Member | ✓ |
| Nicola Sykes(NS) | Head Coach | ✓ |
| Dave Powner (DP) | Race Events Co-ordinator | ✓ |
| Andy Hoole (AH) | Communications Officer | ✓ |
| Rhian Littlewood (RL) | Team Manager Women’s Cross Country | ✓ |
| Mat Pollard (MP) | Team Manager Men’s Cross Country | X |
| Oliver Kirkland (OK) | Team Manager Men’s Road Relays | ✓ |
| Jude Glynn (JG) | Team Manager Women’s Road Relays | ✓ |
| Steve Doswell (SD) | Membership Development Co-ordinator | X |
| Laura Gale (LaG) | Kit Secretary | X |
| Jo Whiting (JW) | Social Secretary | ✓ |

# Apologies Received

Steve Doswell

Rebekah Hilton

Laura Gale

Mat Pollard

# Agenda

1. Review previous months’ minutes / action points (Various)
2. Information for the page has been drafted, in progress. Carry forward to next meeting.
3. AH has sent the policy to SM. SM to post. Carry forward to next meeting.
4. AH confirmed that he has a working model but it may not offer the data people want. It can currently only process info for the current year. May need special programme to do anything further. Black Pear joggers have something like what we are after – AH to ask them how prepared. Carry forward to next meeting.
5. Action c/f re Run Britain and newcomers.
6. LG has spoken to Rowheath. They are writing a funding bid for regeneration of area which includes the track. We have requested a min 400m track, ideally marked out. LG will keep the committee posted on further updates. Carry forward to next meeting to keep on the agenda.
7. LG explained that it is on Rowheath’s to do list to get quotes for repairs and changing coin mechanism for new £1 coins. When they have quotes, they are likely to ask users if they able to make a contribution. DP noted that 20c euro coins and trolley tokens also work. Carry forward to next meeting to keep on the agenda.
8. AH has found a way of making this work, as long as the Facebook events are public. Will use this facility going forward. Action closed.
9. LG confirmed that portaloo cost in 2015 was £380 for 7 portaloos and 2 urinals. LG asked company for a suggested requirement based on an estimated 300 people – company estimates that we will need 4 portaloos and a urinal. The cost of this would be £250. Actual requirements will depend on how many toilets Rowheath are able to offer us access to on the day. Portaloo company needs approx. 1 month notice for booking.

Re football pitches - Rowheath will give us a print out of the pitches when marked out and will tell us which are booked out when possible. LG has booked rugby pitch for event.

Arrangements to be taken forward as part of subcommittee planning of event and update the committee as appropriate. Action therefore closed.

1. JC confirmed that 9 beginners joined and 3 more applied but didn’t pay. Carry forward to next meeting as SD not present.
2. Action completed and closed.
3. Action completed and closed. RL confirmed that there had been no interest. OK noted that he should be able to act as an official for men’s races.
4. Action completed and closed.
5. Update from additional meeting re reps and routes (NS)

NS explained that the current coaching rota runs to the end of August. The coaching team has agreed to put in place an 8 week trial for Sept/Oct with 2 different sessions every Thursday. It will be good for coaches as they will get to manage a smaller group and also safer for numbers of runners. Members will also benefit from better quality coaching. However, the difficulty is that we need to find double the amount of space each week and will also require more volunteer hours from coaches. The proposal has been put forward to coaching team and they are all happy to help run the trial. We will then need to consider whether it is sustainable going forward. The plan is to review when we see how the number of runners change as we go into winter. If we have on average fewer than 24 runners each week then we will probably just run one session.

Current proposal is that we will have one hills session and one other rep session each week. We will initially give everyone the choice of session but will see how numbers work out.

NS will also put a call out for anyone who wants to do LIRF qualification, which leads on to coaching qualification, so that we can expand the coaching team. Some people from the beginner’s course have already expressed an interest. It was noted that Alison has already started course. We will consider whether we can get any funding from Run Birmingham as per previous conversation with Ian McKenzie – although we understand this may be limited to weekday hours. NS explained that we could consider offering interested members a chance to have a go at jointly coaching a session before committing as this would be possible for sessions run by DP, NS and Suz West. NS noted that Nicola Cumley is stepping down this year so the team will be down to 9 coaches.

We also need suggestions for other locations that would be suitable for use for up to 20 -25 people in dark nights. Ideally the locations need to be within around 1 mile radius of club. Committee ideas included:

* Kings Norton station car park.
* Triplex
* Rugby club near Bournville Police Station.
* New cricket pitch to be put on Oval housing development.

Coaches also need to bear in mind the locations where we have had complaints from residents – main one was Maple Road near Bournville Garden Centre.

1. Discussion of proposals re working with Head of Mental Health at BCU (All)

Proposals from Nicki Mann’s discussions with BCU included:

- A presentation to students/staff on world mental health day on 10 October. We understand that this would be given by Nicki Mann/Alan Orr/Clare Mullin.

- A 'health in society’ marketplace event next year to be managed by run and talk team with support from the committee.

- Incorporating a Run/Talk Group bi-weekly as part of BCU's recreational sport and physical activity offer to staff and students, possibly to commence October in line with World Mental Health Day. Nicki Mann is now unavailable to support this. Alan Orr has indicated his interest in being involved and there may be opportunities for members with LiRF to help out (although commitment is likely to be needed during weekdays). NS suggested that we could propose that BCU manage the session themselves and we could assist as a virtual coach through online forums. It will be difficult for us to do anything further, especially with increased demand on coaches due to the new reps trial and the fact that it will require day time hours. We could also offer BCU the chance to attend our biweekly run and talk sessions.

- BCU would like to develop a formal partnership whereby Bournville Harriers becomes an affiliate partner of BCU Sport to provide exit routes for staff and students in to more formal running opportunities as part of the Activate, Compete and Excel (ACE) programme. The committee agreed that we would need to look into formal partnership, especially considering the difference in size between us and BCU. It was also noted that it may be more appropriate for people to be directed to their local running club (as we may not be the most convenient location for all). The committee agreed that we need to ask for clarification on what BCU are looking for before committing and considering the club’s position on any formal partnership.

- BCU will be starting 4 new undergraduate degree programmes in sport and this could provide various opportunities to support Bournville Harriers athletes in various multidisciplinary realms within sport including, sport science and strength and conditioning. The committee agreed that we should express our interest and find out more.

Feedback on the above to be provided to Nicki Mann in the first instance.

1. Club membership update (JC)

209 paid up members. 9 beginner’s graduates and 28 other new members.

28 not renewed.

9 people filled in form to join but not paid up.

1. Join us web interface (JC)

JC put forward suggestions for changes to newcomers’ page. The committee discussed and agreed the format. AH to make the appropriate changes and we can consider how it works on an ongoing basis.

SM noted that Suz West’s Wednesday beginners group has just started again and we may be able to direct people to this if we have any complete beginners. NS to email everyone on the newcomer email rota to let them know this.

JG also noted that Run South Birmingham hold a couch to 5k programme in Cotteridge Park – but RSB now seems to be set up as an informal running club and people seem to be staying within this group when finishing couch to 5k.

The committee agreed that we need to consider the right option for each person who contacts us – this may not always be something with the club.

1. Subsidised membership (JC)

The committee discussed how we could consider helping members who may struggle to pay full rate LG suggested that a subsidised rate could be equal to the EA fee. LG also explained that, if we do propose to introduce a subsidised rate, it would be more appropriate to do so at the start of next year rather than during the current year as this would be fairer to all members.

SM suggested that any subsidised rate offered would need to be a part of a special circumstances/hardship type fund for e.g. when someone has just been made redundant etc. She suggested that this would involve having a small group of people to review applications. We would need to carefully consider criteria and how we would judge applications – may need rules such as previously been a member for e.g. one year. SM noted that such bad circumstances may be the time when people need the club most so feels right to have something in place but we need to make sure it is properly thought out.

NS suggested looking up criteria for Birmingham Sport free Leisure Card for suggestions of criteria, although JW pointed out that this wouldn’t cater for exceptional circumstances (e.g. change in circumstances). However, the committee agreed that it would be a useful starting point for ideas.

The committee voted in favour of having some sort of system in place for subsidised membership, with details to be agreed at a later date. SM and JC to consider further.

LG suggested we would have some wording in renewal email to let people know that there were options in place if there were any special circumstances. RL pointed out that it would require sharing sensitive data so would need to make sure any applications went to small group of people only. We could also consider offering an instalment/deferred payment option but would need to work out details of this.

1. Sponsorship (JC)

JC noted that KHRC have sponsorship and asked whether we should consider doing this. Sponsorship allows them to have subsidised membership rate of £27.

OK explained that in the past there was a feeling that sponsorship was contrary to the values of the club. SM noted that KH has different circumstances to BvH – no rental costs for example.

The committee voted and decided that we are currently not in favour of trying to obtain sponsorship.

LG received a query about whether we should we include details of membership benefits on our website. This may include discounts in local shops through EA and special offers for businesses owned by members. The committee agreed to review what is currently on the page and consider what should be added.

1. Christmas party (JW)

JW and LG confirmed that we have booked for a weekend in December which should not clash with any major local races. Date to be confirmed. Numbers/tickets and other arrangements to be discussed at a later date.

LG raised question of whether we could use Eventbrite for payment rather than PayPal. AH confirmed that this would be feasible.

1. AOB

* JW not had any further update on Harborne Junior Parkrun. Leader will confirm when application has been made to Parkrun and we will be required to pay our donation directly to Parkrun. The event was expected to be up and running mid Sept but not sure if on target for this. We will advertise for volunteers when the event is up and running.
* Member of month voted for.
* SM, LG, RL, NM meeting this week to organise Leafy arrangements. Noted that subcommittee will be managing the event but help from full committee will be required, for example with filling goody bags.
* NM mentioned an email that had been received by some members of the committee in relation to the Birmingham Inspiration Awards and asked whether we should send a request to members to vote. The committee subsequently looked into the detail of the awards and decided that the legitimacy of the awards could not be properly verified and there seemed to be a cost required and no real benefit to the club. Therefore, it was agreed that no further action would be taken.
* NM noted an event being organised by Land Aid (supporting local youth homelessness) - 10k at Longbridge from3:30pm to 6:45pm on 13 September. The organisers are looking for volunteers e.g. marshals. Notification to put on FB.
* NM also noted that the Walsall 10k is taking place on 24 September and asked whether we are able to promote this event and whether it could be considered for a teal target for next year. NM provided flyer to SM for SM to put details online for members. Action already completed at date of minutes so not included in action log below.
* SM confirmed that she is happy for any committee members to post on Facebook to promote local events (i.e. not a requirement for all posts to be made by SM).
* SM queried whether we will be organising a coach for the Birmingham Marathon. JG noted that the organisers have not announced any transport from the city centre. SM to tweet them from club page to ask. SM will also organise cheer station for the event. Action already completed at date of minutes so not included in action log below.

# Actions for next meeting

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Owner** | **Action** | **Complete / Review** |
| a | Jude Glynn/Rhian Littlewood/Oliver Kirkland/Mat Pollard | Prepare information to be posted on the club website relating to team information and events | 11/9/17 |
| b | Stacey Marston | SM to post Rowheath Pavilion Community on Facebook group. | 11/9/17 |
| c | Andy Hoole | AH to discuss spreadsheet programme to assist in loading club record and rankings on the website with Black Pear Joggers | 11/9/17 |
| d | Stacey Marston | SM to include reminders in club announcements about:   * -claiming results on Run Britain when not automatically logged * Assisting with making newcomers welcome on first run | 11/9/17 |
| e | Linda Goulding | LG to update committee re the below when has an update from Rowheath:   * Development of the track * repairs to lockers | 11/9/17 |
| f | Steve Doswell/John Cheel | JC and SD to discuss conversion rate of beginners to members. SD to email all who attended first transition group and contact as relevant after confirming with JC who has already signed up. | 11/9/17 |
| g | Nicola Sykes | Put out call for members interested in doing LiRF course and investigate whether we may be able to get any funding through Run Birmingham. | 11/9/17 |
| h | Katie Alldrit-Rose | Feedback to Nicki Mann re BCU proposals. | 11/9/17 |
| i | Nicola Sykes | Email everyone on newcomer rota to ensure they are aware of Suz’s Wednesday group as a potential referral point for any complete beginners who contact us. | 11/9/17 |
| j | Andy Hoole | Make changes to newcomer pages as agreed. | 11/9/17 |
| k | Stacey Marston and John Cheel | Discuss subsidised rate proposal in more detail.  Note point 3.3 of the club constitution, which may be relevant to the discussions:  “*The BvH Committee may establish different classes of membership, prescribe their respective privileges, and set the amounts of annual membership fees payable (subject to the approval of the BvH Members by vote at the Annual General Meeting (‘AGM’)).”* | 11/9/17 |
| l | Andy Hoole | Review information on website re benefits of membership and consider what, if anything, should be added. | 11/9/17 |
| m | Stacey Marston | Post details of Land Aid 10k request for volunteers on Facebook/website. | 11/9/17 |