**Bournville Harriers**

**Annual General Meeting Minutes**

**22nd March 2018**

**2017-2018 Committee**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Role** |
| Stacey Marston | Club Chairperson |
| Rebekah Hilton (RH) | Club Vice Chairperson |
| S Doswell / L Goulding (Acting) | Club Secretary |
| Lin Goulding (LG) | Club Treasurer |
| John Cheel (JC) | Membership Secretary |
| Nicola Morris (NM) | Ordinary Member |
| Simon Newman (SN) | 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 |
| 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 |
| Laura Gale (LG) | Kit Secretary |
| Jo Whiting (JW) | Social Secretary |

Chaired by: Stacey Marston

Minutes recorded by: L Goulding

**Attendance**

Andy Hoole Anna McManus Anna White Antony Stewart

Bob Hockenhull Caroline Ankorn Chris Ankorn Clare Mullin

Daisy Olsen Dave Powner David Mountford Emily Holden

Emma Hopkins Guy Marston Ian Faddy-Widmann James Drakeford

James Evans James Gittens Jim Clarke Jo Whiting

Joan Feely Jody Farenden John Cheel Jonathon Bryant

Jonathon Mould Jude Glynn Kevin Hogan Laura Gale

Lesley Pymm Linda Goulding Linda Howell Lorna Al-Ani

Luke Rose Lynda Batchelor Marianne Hensman Mark Allen

Mark Freemantle Mark Witheridge Martin Hannon Mat Pollard

Matilde Housley Mike Woodall Miriam Stevens Monica Baptista

Nic Sykes Nicola Morris Nicola Mann Pete Hickman

Primo Zavoli Rachel Hursey Rachel Partridge Rebecca Jones

Rhian Littlewood Rich Shearing Richard Keep SharonNewman

Simeon Whiting Simon Newman Stacey Marston Steph Fulford

Stephen Forcer Steve Doswell Stewart Crowton Suzanne Bunn

Tim Hodges Tom Bunn Tom McNamara

**Apologies Received**

Mike Scotney Oliver Kirkland James Ashley Sam Gallagher

Paul Holloway Lesley Proctor Nick Hilton Suz west

Andrew Wheeler Sarah Clayton Alan West Conor Murphy

Alison Davies Fenella Faulkner Tony Hall Martin Foster Marie Foster Jon Seadon Phil Williamson Aine Garvey Uzo Ibechukwu Fiona Barker Sarah Selby Rebekah Hilton Sham Ster Ian Reynolds Sophie Hollands

**Agenda**

1. Review of 2017 AGM minutes
2. Chairperson’s Report
3. Proposed New Club Membership Type (Vote)
4. Treasurer’s report
5. Membership Secretary’s Report
6. Team Manager’s reports
7. Head Coach report
8. Any Other Business
9. Committee Elections
10. **Review of 2017 AGM Minutes**

* Vote to adopt last year’s minutes
  + Proposed: Stacey Marston
  + Seconded: Jude Glynn
* 2017 AGM minutes Voted as accepted

1. **Chairperson’s Report**

First of all, a huge thank you for attending the AGM; I know many of you don’t like to miss your club reps but it is important that we take the time to reflect on yet another successful year, across all four of our values – Performance, Participation, Encouragement & Enjoyment.

Last year in the AGM I talked about the fantastic legacy that our founding members gave us with those four values as the pillars on which to build the club. We often look to the values as a committee in making decisions, deciding where to focus our energies and how to measure our success. This year I want to talk briefly about the legacy that goes even further back than the founding of our club, to the origins of Bournville itself and the Pavilion where we meet tonight.

George Cadbury and his brother Richard were both keen sportsmen, playing hockey, football and cricket… swimming in summer and skating in winter, and both loved athletics. George is quoted as saying: “fresh air and playing fields should not be a rare luxury of childhood, but their daily possession.” All new tenants of Bournville were given a book which included the advice: “to take walking or other exercise in the open air for at least half an hour daily”. Rowheath itself was purchased in 1913 and among other sports athletics flourished, with cross country running among the activities, and success for Bournville sportsmen on a national and even international level, competing in various events including a 3000m silver medal at the 1924 Olympics.

It was clear that these sporting pursuits were to be enjoyed by women and men alike, which seems quite enlightened for the time; the female workers in the factory had around 14 acres of land including facilities for cricket and netball, a hockey pitch, tennis courts and swimming baths… the Cadbury family emphasised that sport was for **all** their workers and also the wider community… and we continue to stress that within the club today.

We have members aged from 18 to 75, and although we have promised Tom Bunn we’ll try to strengthen the under 20s team this year, we really do have a lot of depth and runners across all the age categories. Women make up around 45% of the membership, and our women’s teams have given us plenty to celebrate performance wise over the last year.

Whilst Bournville itself is known as a leafy middle-class suburb, our members come from diverse backgrounds and many different occupations. Of course we can do even more to encourage inclusivity – it’s something that lots of clubs and sports are struggling with; how can we reach those who think that a running club might not be for them – not because of talent or ability, but perhaps because of age, disability or background? What struck me most when reading about our Cadbury family legacy was the recurring sense that sport is something to be encouraged for everyone, not just a few… and it’s a heritage we can be proud of.

Creating an environment where *everyone* feels supported, welcome and encouraged isn’t easy. Balancing our four values is one way in which we can overcome the perceived barriers to our sport; making sure that our doors are open and ensuring that we create the right environment for younger people, people from different backgrounds and those with disabilities… One exciting example being **Simon Newman** and **Rebekah Hilton** qualifying as Guide Runners this year. Whilst doing things like this we recognise that we *must* continue to support and encourage the more traditional base of running club members and those who can represent the club in regional and national competitions, making sure we put running in all its formats first and foremost in everything we do!

We have lots to look back upon with pride this year. I will let John say a bit more about our membership numbers. Newer members have enjoyed the performance benefits of joining a running club and one or two have been celebrated as Members of the Month recently, earning the new exclusive pin badge which is something to treasure and aspire to.

Longer serving members were also recognised this year, including one of our founding members as we thanked Marie earlier this year for her continued contribution to the Beginners Course. The course had yet another successful year, being fully booked and more beginners joined the main club on Steve’s transition groups. We thank Suz West for again overseeing the course along with all those who helped, and Suz hands over the reins this year in great shape for the future. We’re rethinking some aspects of the Beginners Course, including the timing, as we need to be able to manage the demands on our coaching team who are delivering double the number of sessions.

I thought I would recap on some of the other events of the last year, things that have stood out for me and that encapsulate our values:

In **April** – The Yacht Handicap returned! In spite of atrocious weather, Dave brought back the Yacht Handicap and there were a few highlights – the warm up, the fancy dress and rescuing the flying gazebo, as well as some brilliant pacing efforts by all. The race returns a week tomorrow so sign up if you haven’t already.

In early **May** we once again held a parkrun in memory of John Enright, another event with amazing participation and it was a really moving day. We raised money for the British Heart Foundation and we look forward to doing it again in a few weeks, so if you haven’t linked your barcode to Bournville Harriers, please do so as soon as you can, it would be lovely to win the trophy, but mostly we take part to remember John.

As well as the Teal Targets, which really have resulted in some incredible turnouts at events such as the Badgers 10k, we’ve travelled together for events like Thunder Run, parkrun tourism and in **June** a group made the first visit to Newbridge Athletics Club in Kildare following our twinning initiative. Newbridge are returning in August this year for the Stourbridge Stumble and we look forward to welcoming them then.

In Summer, our annual **Killer Mile** took place, finishing with the usual beers at the Peacock, we had some better weather this year lots of volunteers ably led by Dave P and a few more runners this year too!

**BvH Bingo** returned, a bit of fun for the summer holidays, though it isn’t a competition we finally had someone complete the full House, as Anna McManus enthusiastically met the challenge!

And so to **Autumn** and the **Leafy 10k** - fully sold out, another great event and lots of fantastic feedback from our growing army of Leafy lovers.

We put on a cheering station at the Great Birmingham Run again, giving lots of support for the runners and we even got a mention by Tony Audenshaw on the Marathon Talk podcast as well as a radio shout out from Rachel Partridge.

Martin Foster and Steve Hankinson joined Lesley Pymm in the parkrun 250 club and we had more runners joining the 25 volunteers, and 50 and 100 clubs too.

More and more newcomers have been joining us, so over the past year a team of people have taken turns to respond to the growing number of newcomer enquiries, and to pair new runners up with people of a similar pace. The team are: John Cheel, Andy Hoole, Nicola Morris, Rebekah Hilton and Simon Newman – we’d welcome any other members who would like to help with this. Even with increasing membership and positive anecdotal feedback the committee felt that we should more formally listen to our members’ views on the club – what we’re doing well and where we can improve… we decided to use a really simple survey which we’ll repeat every 6 months from now on. The results of the first survey were so overwhelmingly positive; 92% of those who responded were “promoters”, likely to recommend the club to others. We can still do even better in future surveys though – increasing the response rate for a start (only 73 members replied) and there were some constructive comments which the committee has taken note of for future.

As always, we wrapped up the year with the Tealies – this was our 15th Annual Awards Night, and I’m pleased to say it was really well attended, especially given that we had to rearrange the event. It was fantastic to see all the nominees and winners and we introduce a new **Team of the Year Award** to enable us to recognise Team performances. Thanks again to everyone involved in the Tealies, to celebrate what makes the club special – our members.

One of the areas where we’ve continued to develop is in coaching; we’ve had some new members of the team and others taking qualifications – loads of great new sessions; Nic will tell you more in her report...

I’ll also let the Team Managers tell you about the successful year we’ve had in XC & Road Relays. Some great performances and signs that we should have another great year ahead as a competitive. I will say that putting out a strong team for these events gives us all something to be proud of and to aspire to, and so I’d encourage everyone to take up the opportunity when you can, and to get the dates in your diary now!

Some Committee members are standing down this year and I would like to thank them for their service to the club: **Laura** **Gale**, who’s done a brilliant job of looking after the BvH Merchandise for the last few years, I think you’ll agree the kit is awesome! **Andy Hoole** who has kept the website going, developed a site for the Leafy 10k, and a quick look at some of our rival clubs’ websites and I think you’ll all agree we have a really well maintained site which has been added to over the years, including the clubs Strava and Twitter feed. **Jo Whiting**, steps down from her role as social secretary, taking care of the Christmas party, the charity bakesale tonight, and other things all whilst managing her coaching commitments and **Mat Pollard & Olly Kirkland** who for the last couple of years have overseen something of a revival of the fortunes of our Men’s Cross Country and Road Relays teams. Mat and Olly both took their roles beyond what was on paper, in the last year Mat has innovated with the introduction of the mailing list, and Olly has kept the complex Teal Targets league records for the last couple of years, to give me one less thing to do! I can’t really mention Mat without thanking Monica who has often supported the mens team too when she’s not been herself.

No apologies for yet again mentioning **John Cheel, Dave Powner**, and **Linda Goulding** who also go above and beyond their “on paper” roles on the committee and who I’m pleased to say are standing again this year and to all of the committee, and race sub-committee - I could say so much about the contributions of everyone that makes the club run but you all want to get to the bar at some stage tonight!

Looking forward to the next 12 months, we’ll continue to try new things alongside maintaining our traditions! We’re in a good place and the enthusiasm for the club is fantastic - I see and hear it on a regular basis at club and at events. But as with training, each year builds on the next. Please continue to feedback on what you see working and if there’s anything you want to see more of or get involved in. I have no doubt that the club will continue to grow and improve – that gives us new challenges to face, and conversations to be had about ensuring our facilities continue to meet the growing demands of the club and keeping pace with change.

On a personal note I am looking forward to continuing to be part of the club and the committee, but I will be taking a step back as I promised Guy I would! I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their support over the last couple of years and to wish the incoming Committee members and the new Chairperson all the very best.

1. **New Club Membership Type Proposal (Vote)**

* The committee proposes a new membership type, (APP1) details of the proposal were included in the AGM notice.
* SM gave a brief overview of the proposal
* Comments / questions
  + Lynda Batchelor commented that the proposal was well written, and was clear and fair.
  + Clare Mullin commented in favour of the proposal and that it removed barriers and difficulties for people on re-joining the club.
  + Anna McManus asked if not paying the full membership excluded you from representing the club at road relays, xc or any club events.
    - Stacey Marston confirmed that this would not be the case and that membership under this scheme would not be different to any other membership type.
  + A number of club members enquired whether the hardship scheme could be expanded to people who wish to join the club but may be prevented from doing so by their financial circumstances.
    - Stacey Marston & Linda Goulding advised that whilst the proposal presented at the AGM itself could not be amended as it had already been agreed by the committee and only applied to re-joiners to the club, the committee would consider a further hardship scheme that could potential be offered to new joiners to the club.
* **Vote to apply proposed amendments to the club constitution**
  + Proposed: Stacey Marston
  + Seconded: Anna McManus
  + In favour: 67
  + Against: 0
  + Abstain: 0

1. **Treasurers Report**

* Draft accounts prepared.
* Income into the club this year has been £24.5K, this is the most income ever received and £4k more than last year, the increase being largely attributable to increased membership subscriptions.
* Other income came from the Leafy 10K and Beginners Course, ticket sales to social events including the awards evening and kit sales.
* The club received £700 prize money from the Birmingham 10k and Birmingham Marathon.
* Expenditure for the year is £23.5k, which was largely, affiliation fees, rent, race entry fees, costs relating to social events, the awards evening and kit stock.
* The club was pleased to have been able to support the cost of the Christmas party and the awards evening, and that there was enough surplus to cover the unexpected cost of the catering when the awards evening was rescheduled as a result of the snow.
* The club was especially pleased to have been able to invest approx. £700 in the training of the coaching team.
* A cupboard has been purchased for the storage of kit, £250 was paid to use the grass running track on the field during the summer.
* An excellent contribution has been received from the Leafy 10k and the Beginners course.
* Kit stock is approx 2k, with stock expected for a supplier of the much coveted BvH bobble hat.
  + Stephen Forcer enquired as to what the cash balance of £11k held by the club was for.
    - Linda Goulding advised that whilst the committee had agreed a minimum cash level of £5k that it was preferable to hold in the bank, the committee were also open to ways of using the surplus in a suitable and meaningful way.
    - During the year, we had discussed contributing to Rowheath Pavilion to improve lighting on the car park and carryout repairs to the lockers which may still happen in the current year, and also donating to the set-up costs of two potential new local parkruns.
    - A proposal will be put to the new committee relating to making a donation from the surplus to a charity voted for by club members.

1. **Membership Secretary’s Report**

* This time last year the club had 189 members. Now we have 253 members.
* 78 of the members are new, and the remainder renewals (including lapsed members).
* The increase is thanks to our enthusiastic chairperson, and to all of you for promoting the club to your friends.
* Can I remind you again that your email address needs to be up to date on the EA database for you to receive your renewal email, and your postal address needs to be up to date in order to receive your registration card. Please let me know if would like me to update them

1. **Team Manager’s Report**
   1. **Team Manager Women’s road relays**

* BvH women embody the club values, running hard and cheering loudly in Sutton Park.

Starting with the Nationals in April, we were the only club to field 3 full teams, and again at the British Masters in May we were the most represented club the F35 team finished in a strong position and we fielded a F55 team for the first time ever.

A special mention to Sarah Wilson who stepped in to make up a team at the last minute racing for the first time in three years.

In September we had a magnificent 7 full teams for the 4 stage Midlands, and again were the most represented club and again we had 3 full teams in the Nationals.

At the March road relays there were 40 mph winds, freezing conditions with snow showers with some brave souls running for the first time and others running a long leg, we fielded 4 complete and 1 incomplete team, with the A team finishing a respectable 15th, awesome running and supporting under the conditions.

Injury has dogged some of our fastest runners and combined with busy lives meant that we were never able to field our potentially fastest team – but we have run the fastest we can.

* 1. **Team Manager Men’s road relays**
* The last year has seen the men’s road relays teams compete in 6 events, all of which took place in Sutton Park. In March 2017, a strong A team led by Rich Bayliss, who completed his long leg in an impressive 29.25, came 23rd in the Midlands 12 Stage Relays, thereby qualifying for the Nationals. The B team was a man short of its full quota, but nevertheless represented the club creditably.

The National 12 Stage Relays, which are invariably a gruelling and humbling experience in which some of the country’s best runners put in an appearance, came a couple of weeks later in early April. Paul Thompson drew the short straw of taking the opening long leg and kept us in the race, followed by a rapid short leg from Rich Bayliss and our quickest long leg of the day from Chris Collins, which took us up to a very honourable 49th place, which is where, some 4½ hours later, we ended up finishing.

The National Masters Road Relays, which took place in May, are in many ways the most enjoyable and civilised of the series, due to the weather generally being amenable, the absence of junior whippets, and them being over and done with in less than 2 hours. Our M35 team, again driven on by Rich Bayliss, did brilliantly to beat clubs like Birchfield and Wolves & Bliston to come 15th, while the B team came 29th, while the M55 team finished 28th in their race.

In September, the A team narrowly missed out on qualification for the Nationals in the Midlands 6 Stage Relays. Henry Brocklehurst, James Drakeford and Mat Pollard all ran especially strong legs and if we’d managed to lose another minute across the legs we would have come through in what was a very strong field. The B team ran valiantly to finish 63rd, while the M35 team, driven on by an excellent opening leg by Grant Whigham, came 10th in the Masters race.

Last week, in snowy blizzards and sub-zero temperatures, the A team again qualified for the Nationals by virtue of finishing 19th place. In his farewell performance for the club, Jonny Scott ran the fastest long leg in 29.46, but consistency and tenacity throughout the team were the key. Again, the B team only put 11 out, but a lot of newer members made their debuts and, miraculously, appeared to enjoy the experience.

I would like to thank everyone who has represented the club in Relays events over the last 2 years, but I would like to express particular appreciation to Mat Pollard, who has not only competed fantastically in every race this year, but has also acted as stand in manager and number collector/distributor on more than one occasion due to my own frequent incapacitation

* 1. **Team Manager Women’s cross country**
* By way of overview of the season, I wanted to share my five key highlights:

1) we had over 10 xc debut performances, from a combination of newcomers, beginners and seasoned harriers.

2) we achieved third place in the midland 5&7 mile champs - well done to Marianne Hensman, Leonie Clitherow, Jude Glynn and Sam Pretlove

3) we won second senior women's team in the Warwickshire xc champs - winning team Nicola Sykes, Claire Third and me

4) in our third league race at Cofton, we had a super turn out, both in numbers and performance. We came 8/15 in division 1, demonstrating our potential

5) the team and club got behind our fight to stay in division 1, most notably Laura Gale's fantastic 'vest to beat' cheat sheets

Although a great effort, we didn't manage to stay in division 1, finishing 13/15.

My goals for the xc team next season are:

- to come back strong, aiming to finish at the top of division 2

- get more people trying xc for the first time

- focus on the league to demonstrate our club at our strongest

I'd like to thank everyone who ran for the team, and also all those who volunteered.

* 1. **Team Manager Men’s cross country**
* Midland Relays: 15 took part. Seniors 10/64

Masters XC Relays: 5 took part. M35 – Including Barrie – 19/30

Midlands 5&7: 10 took part. 9/23

Warwickshire Champs: 17 took part. Seniors 5/8. Masters 4/14

Worth pointing out we could have come 3rd in the seniors if we had the masters in the senior race.

Midland Champs: 10 took part. 24/38

National Champs: 12 took part. 47/162

League R1: 22 took part. 5/17 on day

League R2: 18 took part. 6/17 on day. 5th overall

League R3: 30 took part. 4/17 on day. 5th overall

League R4: 20 took part. 8/17 on day

Overall League result: 5th overall – also 5th last season.

Participation: Four athletes ran in 8 out of the 10 races available: Iain Jones, Dave Powner, Paul Samuels, Myself

And three ran in 7 out of the 10: Henry Brocklehurst, James Drakeford, Sean Rose

Thanks:

Everyone who took part – 40 different male members completed at least one race!

Newcomers (11): Michael Langley, John Mould, Stuart Crowton, Stewart Bond, Grant Whigham, Paul Coughlan, James Evans, Guy Marston, James Urmston, George Mclaughlan, Tom Bunn

From these newcomers, Injuries but hope to see back: Guy Marston, George Mclaughlan, James Evans

Oliver Kirkland – Volunteering on 3 of 4 League races.

Stacey Marston – Volunteering on the other League race.

Monica Baptista – For coming to men’s races whilst injured and helping with tent and general herding of runners.

Nicola Sykes – For answering to my badgering every Thursday and Friday for a new XC sessions for us to do at Cofton on Saturday mornings.

Rhian for organising the women’s team and help general organisation and coordination.

Everyone who stuck around until the end to help take down the club tent.

1. **Head Coach report**

* Last year due to the number of club members attending on a Thursday evening we put on two sessions, which doubled the coaching team and meant a commitment of more time and energy.

This is a brilliant reflection of members support for the sessions and the commitment of the coaching team with inspirational support, enthusiasm and imagination.

Particular acknowledge of newbies to the team and the sessions, running consistently in all weathers.

Jon Seadon and Sam Gallagher are newcomers to the team, with Dave Mountford, Dave Powner and Suz West progressing through.

Thanks to all Thursday night reppers for allowing us to coach you, we enjoy it.

Thanks to all the coaching team.

1. **Any Other Business**

* Marianne has raised some concerns about methods of communication used for club members, especially the use of Facebook for signing up to club events and has requested the committee to consider using email instead.

First of all thank you to Marianne for raising this, we always welcome members to raise their concerns and I would encourage everyone with ideas or suggestions to please raise them to the committee.

Facebook has become a very useful tool for the club as we have grown over the years, but it’s not the only means of communication we use. It is a quick way to reach a large proportion of members and because anyone can reply or post on the group it is really helpful for sharing lifts to races etc.

As you mentioned, posts on the group are public so whilst the calendar on Facebook can be a useful reminder of upcoming events, if anyone is concerned about publicly sharing their whereabouts, please email or message the event organiser to let them know, they will often include their contact details on the event and all the committee email addresses are on the website; it is not compulsory to anyone to sign up on Facebook.

All significant announcements, club events, calls for teams for Road Relays and XC races are posted on the club website as well as Facebook, and you can subscribe to the announcements using your email address, so if email is your primary communication tool I would recommend doing this so you don't miss anything. Closer to the time of signing up, the Team Managers use a number of methods, including Facebook, to remind everyone and to cajole members into running! The sheer number of participants we get out for these events shows what a great job they do in keeping on top of it all and I thank them on behalf of all of us for that. Mat has also recently explored the use of MailChimp as another tool for getting the message out and we’re going explore that option further.

We do sometimes send emails to all members, and will continue to do this for the AGM Notice, Awards Voting and the Members Survey; because of Data Protection legislation, we don’t give all committee members access to members’ records and to download and email all members every time we had something to communicate would be not be manageable for the committee members who do have access, besides which, it doesn’t always reach everyone as members' email addresses are sometimes out of date or the emails go into spam folders. When we send the emails we always also announce it using the other methods too.

The committee gives a lot of thought to communication, trying to continue to move with technology and with our members' diverse needs; but we can always improve and we will continue to keep an eye on this.

* Comments / questions
  + Miriam Stevens asks why is FB group public, and who moderates this.
    - Stacey Marston advised that she administers this, when requests are received to join, Stacey Marston poses a couple of questions when people apply, the basic rules are you interested in running or connected to running, if looks appropriate the request is accepted, we will look at a page that is public and a private group, the benefits of this are - one page is general and can be used to promote the club, discussion and arrangements will be in the group page.
  + Emily Holden commented that Marianne’s query raised 2 separate issues, commination and security, and many teams are signed up via FB.
    - Stacey Marston advised that we can take that point away and discuss with the team managers, a private group and public page should help to address this.
  + Anna McManus commented that Team Managers do reminded people not to put private data on Facebook.

1. **Committee Elections**

* Current Committee stands down
* Committee elections open
  1. **Committee members to re-stand (other nominations and/or objections none)**
* Rebekah Hilton Club Vice Chairperson
* Lin Goulding Treasurer
* John Cheel Membership Secretary
* Nicola Morris Ordinary Member
* Simon Newman Ordinary Member
* Steve Doswell Membership Development Co-ordinator
* Nicola Sykes Head Coach
* Rhian Littlewood Team Manager, Women’s Road Cross Country
* Jude Glynn Team Manager, Women’s Road Relays

Majority of membership present at the AGM voted in favour of committee members

Re-standing

* 1. **Club Secretary**
* Nomination: Suzanne Bunn
* Proposed: Linda Goulding
* Seconded: Richard Shearing

Majority of membership present at the AGM voted for the proposed candidate

* 1. **Communications**
* Nomination: Stacey Marston
* Proposed: Andy Hoole
* Seconded: Jude Glynn

Majority of membership present at the AGM voted for the proposed candidate

* 1. **Kit Secretary**
* Nomination: Miriam Stevens
* Proposed: Laura Gale
* Seconded: Emma Hopkins

Majority of membership present at the AGM voted for the proposed candidate

* 1. **Social Secretary**
* Nomination: Rachel Ann Partridge
* Proposed: Jo Whiting
* Seconded: Clare Mullin

Majority of membership present at the AGM voted for the proposed candidate

* 1. **Race Events Co-ordinator**
* Nomination:
* Proposed:
* Seconded:

No nominations for the positon of Race Events Co-ordinator. Members were encouraged to come forward if interested and reminded that the role is supported by a sub-committee.

* 1. **Team Manager Men’s Cross Country**
* Nomination: James Drakeford
* Proposed: Mat Pollard
* Seconded: Stewart Crowton

Majority of membership present at the AGM voted for the proposed candidate

* 1. **Team Manager Men’s Road Relays**
* Nomination: Simeon Whiting
* Proposed: Oliver Kirkland
* Seconded: Nicola Sykes

Majority of membership present at the AGM voted for the proposed candidate

* 1. **Club Chairperson**
* Nomination: Dave Powner
* Proposed: Stacey Marston
* Seconded: Miriam Stevens

Majority of membership present at the AGM voted for the proposed candidate

* + 1. **New Club Chairpersons Statement**
* Dave Powner first commented on the fantastic job Stacey Marston has done as Chair for the last two years, and that the club was massively appreciative of this.
* As a committee, we are keen to hear opinions from all club members, and all the newly elected committee members will also buy into this, please speak to us, me or any of the coaches, my door is open.
* We have the National’s coming up in 3 weeks, this event is key for the promotion of the club, it’s important that our best athletes take part and that we perform as best we can, if you can join in please do get involved in this and all club events, wear your club vest with pride, help move us up the rankings, take part in this team event, turn out for the club raise the profile of the club.
* I look forward to the opportunity in getting to know you all.

Clare Mullin thanked Dave Powner for taking on the role of Chair, on behalf of BvH, after all the hard work as Race Events Manager.

Luke Rose enquired does the club take part in any track racing events.

* Dave Powner advised that the club is primarily a road running and cross-country club, however, some members take part in track events and look out for information on the club website, Facebook etc.

Meeting Closed

**APP 1**

**Proposal - BvH Subsidised Membership/Payment Plan for Members facing Financial Hardship**

As a club, we recognise that whilst our Membership Fees represent excellent value for money and are reasonable in comparison to other clubs, there may be times when our members find it difficult to make the payment because of genuine and unavoidable financial difficulties. Faced with a choice between finding the money to renew their Club membership or to cover other necessary living costs for themselves and their dependants, membership of the club may seem like a luxury, and one they’re unable to afford. The member may therefore miss out on the wide-ranging benefits to their own health and wellbeing that being a member of the club community can bring, and the club may also lose valued members as a result of this. Taking this into consideration the Committee has decided to introduce a scheme to support club members during times of financial hardship or changes in personal circumstance. It is proposed to introduce the scheme in time for the 2018-19 Athletic Year.

**Options**

Option 1 (Subsidised Membership) – The club member pays the England Athletics part of their membership fee only, the Club agrees to waive the remainder of the subscription. (The current EA fee is £15.62)

Option 2 (Pay by Instalment) – The club member’s fees (including the England Athletics part of the fee) are paid by the Club at the start of the year with the full amount being repaid by the member in 6 instalments, payable in May, July, September, November, January and March.

**Eligibility**

To be eligible for either option the member must have been a fully paid up club member in the preceding year and be a regular attendee at club runs and sessions.

**Application**

Applications must be made in writing to the Club Chairperson ([bvhchairperson@bournvilleharriers.org.uk](mailto:bvhchairperson@bournvilleharriers.org.uk)) by the end of April. The application must state which of the options the member would like to be considered for and should broadly outline their reasons for requesting the subsidy or instalment arrangement.

Examples of the types of circumstances which might be considered include:

* Change in income (for e.g. as a result of ill health, redundancy etc.)
* Change in other personal circumstances (e.g. new caring responsibilities, separation or divorce)
* Other unexpected, unplanned or exceptional circumstances (e.g. emergency household repairs, court action etc. resulting in a reduction in disposable income)

The applicant is requested to include the following signed declaration in their application:

“I declare that the information I have provided in my application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge”.

**Confidentiality**

All applications will be considered in strictest confidence by a small panel consisting of the following Officers: Club Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Membership Secretary and Treasurer. No other club members, including other Committee members, will be made aware of the applications received, nor the outcome of the discussions.

It is not necessary to submit detailed evidence along with the application (e.g. copies of Bank Statements etc.) which might be considered intrusive; however, where the individual member is able to share any documentation (e.g. evidence that they are in receipt of benefits) that might support their application this will help the panel in making their decision whilst also discharging their duties to ensure that Club funds are used appropriately. Further information may be requested by the panel if it would be useful to them in coming to a decision whilst respecting the individual’s right to privacy.

The number of applications received and approved will be published along with the Club accounts at the end of the year. All other records (e.g. applications, notes relating to the decision etc.) will be securely destroyed at the end of the relevant athletics year.

**Outcomes**

The panel will acknowledge the application within one week of receipt, however, they will wait until the deadline has passed to receive all applications before considering them; this is to ensure that the total number of Subsidised Memberships awarded in any given year is affordable/sustainable. The panel will consider all of the relevant information provided by the applicant, as well as factors such as the applicant’s membership history with the club, in order to reach their decision. Each decision will be communicated to the relevant applicant in writing as soon as possible and no later than the end of May. Where an application is declined the panel will provide their reasons for doing so.

The decision of the panel is entirely at their discretion and is final, there is no recourse to appeal.

**Scheme Introduction**

It is intended to introduce this in time for the 2018-19 Athletics Year, and the Options, Application Process etc. will be reviewed to ensure that it meets the stated aims. The scheme may be withdrawn or amended at any future point by a majority vote of the Committee.

**Other Support**

BvH is a supportive and inclusive club; as well as providing this scheme there are other, informal ways in which the club can support those experiencing financial difficulties, for example we have two Mental Health Ambassadors and many other members who will provide a listening ear or perhaps even their expertise depending on the specific circumstances.