**Bournville Harriers**

**Annual General Meeting Minutes**

**19th March 2020**

**2019 – 2020 Committee**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Role** |
| Dave Powner (DP) | Club Chairperson |
| Tom Bunn (TB) | Club Vice Chairperson |
| Suzanne Bunn (SB) | Club Secretary |
| Richard Shearing (RS) | Club Treasurer |
| John Cheel (JC) | Membership Secretary |
| Ian Foreman (IF) | Ordinary Member |
| Linda Goulding (LG) | Ordinary Member |
| Suz West (SW) | Head Coach |
| Sue Ward (SW) | Race Events Co-ordinator |
| Stacey Marston (SM) | Communications Officer |
| Rhian Littlewood (RL) | Team Manager Women’s Cross-country |
| Ian McKenzie (IM) | Team Manager Men’s Cross Country |
| Simeon Whiting (SW) | Team Manager Men’s Road Relays |
| Jude Glynn (JG) | Team Manager Women’s Road Relays |
| Stewart Crowton (SC) | Newcomers Co-ordinator |
| Claire Daniels (CD) | Kit Secretary |
| Kristy Mabbett (KM) | Social Secretary |

Chaired by: Dave Powner

Minutes prepared and recorded by: Suzanne Bunn / Linda Goulding

**Attendance**

Aidan Wheeler David Mountford John Cheel

Andrew Wheeler Emma Hawkey John Mckeon

Andy Hoole Guy Marston Jon Seadon

Barrie Roberts Helen McGetterick Katie Alldrit-Rose

Charlie Burns Ian Forman Katie Roberts

Charlie Hurd Ian Mackenzie Kristy Mabbett

Chris Hamlett Ian Reynolds Laura Gale

Claire Daniels Imogen Peck Linda Goulding

Clare Mullin James Ashley Lisa Thompson

Daisy Olsen James Gittens Lorna Al-Ani

Dave Ellis Jim Clarke Lynda Batchelor

Dave Powner Jo Green Maeve Kenny

Marianne Hensman Richard Leaper Stephen Grey

Mark Allen Richard Shearing Steve Doswell

Mike Woodall Rob Styles Steve Morton

Miriam Stevens Ruth Stead Stewart Crowton

Myriam Chimen Sean Rose Tim Hodges

Nicola Tautscher Selwyn Blyth Tom Bunn

Paul Coughlan Simeon Whiting Tom Kirby

Paul Holloway Simon Newman Tom Robinson

Rebecca Jones Sophie Hollands Xenofon V. Gogouvitis

Rhian Littlewood Stacey Marston

Rich Keep Stepanie Fulford

**Apologies Received**

Alison Davies Lesley Pymm Suz West Jude Glynn

Martin Foster Marie foster Suzanne Bunn

**Agenda**

1. Review of 2019 AGM minutes
2. Chairperson’s Report
3. Treasurer’s Report
4. Membership Secretary’s Report
5. Head Coach Report
6. Team Manager’s Report
7. Any other business
8. Committee elections
9. **Review of 2019 AGM Minutes**

* Vote to adopt last year’s minutes
  + Proposed: Dave Powner
  + Seconded: Lin Goulding
* 2019 AGM minutes Voted as accepted by the majority of club members attending the Webex AGM

1. **Chairperson’s Report**

Welcome everyone and thank you so much for making the effort to join our AGM in this unfamiliar manner, in a time which is undoubtedly very difficult for everyone. For the purposes of being recorded in the minutes, it is important to acknowledge at this early stage of proceedings that we are conducting the AGM using video conferencing technology, due to the restrictions placed on the nation, with regard to the COVID-19 outbreak.  
  
I thank you in advance for your patience, cooperation, and understanding this evening, as we try to do our best to complete this process. We have a lot of people to thank for their extremely hard work in enabling this to go ahead, I can tell you it has been a very testing time for all involved, and we will forever be hugely indebted to everyone who has played their part.  
  
I will begin by introducing the members at the virtual top table.  
I am Dave Powner, club Chairperson.   
We have Tom Bunn, our Vice Chair.  
Richard Shearing, as Club Treasurer  
and Linda Goulding, acting as Club Secretary.  
  
The first item on the agenda is to adopt the minutes from the previous years' AGM. This simply means to acknowledge that those minutes as available on the website, are a true representation of what occurred at that meeting. I propose that the minutes be adopted, and Linda Goulding seconds that, and so a vote can now commence. Those of you using the WebEx via the weblink or the mobile app will be able to vote to adopt those minutes. Those of you dialling in will not be able to vote in this manner, but we will endeavour to complete the minutes in a timely fashion, and release them along with the opportunity to vote using an emailed form. The same process will apply to the committee member elections, when we get round to that stage of the proceedings.  
  
While that vote remains live, we can move on to reports, and we shall begin with my Chairpersons' Report.  
  
We at Bournville Harriers look forward to celebrating our 20th birthday in the coming year, and whilst the months ahead are going to prove a challenging time for everyone, we approach that milestone in a strong position, and can look back fondly on the previous twelve months.  
You will be hearing from various speakers today, delivering reports on their respective responsibilities, I won't steal the thunder by discussing our successes in those areas, but I will touch upon those areas that will not get covered, and provide a broader summary of our strengths.  
  
So many of our club’s core values and strengths have been on display throughout the year, every year, not only in annual club fixtures including Road Relays and Cross Country, but also individual events up and down the country, and abroad, with members representing club, county, and even country. With three Masters Athletes selected to represent their country this year, a perpetual plaque has been started to mark their names as a permanent record in club history. Our club's own regular annual races, always hugely representative of club core values, this year were bolstered by the welcome return of the wonderful Tour of Bournville. And of course, our flagship public event, the Bournville Leafy 10k gets increasingly popular, this year selling all 300 places in under 24 hours and received glowing reviews from all who came from near and far, to enjoy this event. It would not be so popular and successful, were it not for so many incredible club members getting involved in a huge variety of ways, whether it be organising behind the scenes, setting up on the day, communicating with the right people, making the right decisions, volunteering around the course, and at remote locations, and of course taking part, with athletes at the front and back of the field, taking many podium places and age category wins. It’s a single event that truly encapsulates all club values and continues to raise the club’s profile.   
  
So, I extend my thanks on behalf of the club to all who have contributed in so many ways, which help make this club the amazing one that it is. And I extend my gratitude on behalf of the club to the committee who have served this club so tirelessly over the last twelve months, and in particular those who have done so for longer periods.  
  
This meeting marks my last event as club chair. I would like to give huge thanks to predecessors Stacey Marston and Oliver Kirkland, for empowering me, and entrusting me in earlier roles, and I extend those thanks to Tony Hall, the Coaching Coordinator at the time, and Nic Sykes, the Head Coach at the time, for empowering me and entrusting me as a club coach. These pathways enabled me grow into the position from which I step down today, and equipped me with the confidence and ability to serve as your club chair.  
  
Important today to elect a keen, able, and supportive committee so that the club can hit the ground running, as soon as the current necessary restrictions begin to lift, and the club returns to business as usual.  
  
The new committee and therefore club as a whole with all its wonderful members, will benefit at this difficult time, from mutual patience and understanding, and above all solidarity.  
With our strengths and skillsets covering so many areas, we should seek to maintain engagement with the club through communication, ideas, reassurance, advice, support, and of course the inventiveness, resourcefulness, and creativity that comes with the right mix of new influential members, and long standing, experienced members. Each new day will likely throw new challenges at the team, in these uncertain times, so I'm sure they can rely on your support to help guide the club to a strong future.  
We are strong now, and we will continue to be strong, because we empower our members, to take on responsibilities for the club’s affairs, events, administration, coaching, finances, and more. With that empowerment comes experience, confidence, and skills, that help breed the next generation of key figures within the club. Between us, we have in abundance, all the skills needed to take us forward. We don't rely on a minority to make this club tick, we pull together, we work together, we help, influence, and encourage each other, and together, we make a fantastic club, that I'm sure you are all proud to be a member of, and certainly, I am very proud to say that I have been the chair of, for two years. You are about to hear so much about the previous twelve months. If we continue to work together, like we have done over that previous year, and like we have done for so many years before that, then we at Bournville Harriers, have every reason to look forward to a bright and rewarding future.

1. **Treasurers Report (Based on draft accounts)**

Membership subscriptions in line with prior year at approximately £14k.

Additional income this year in regards to the Leafy 10k due to increase capacity for the event, income up from £4k to circa £5k.

Kit sales had remained health at £3.5k

Additional income also received from the running of the BvH tour again this year with income of £1200.

Also noted additional income from the running of the track prior to the agreement to fund this for members for a trial period.

Expenditure for the affiliation fees for England Athletics remains just over the £4k mark.

Query from Sean Rose over fees for rent confirmed at a similar level to the prior year at £2.6k.

Confirmed that a surplus in the year in part due to the fact that the club would receive refunds for the non running of the road relays in the spring.

Also confirm strong closing balance of £11k going forward.

Sean Rose enquired as to whether conversations had been had with Rowheath relating to the rent on the changing rooms due to the current situation with club sessions being suspended and Rowheath being closed, Dave Powner confirmed that no discussions had taken place as yet due to the speed in which everything occurred, the incoming committee will pick this up.

Sean enquired as to the annual cost of rent, Richard Shearling confirmed this was currently £2693

1. **Membership Secretary’s Report**

We currently have 253 members, a drop on last year when we had 269 members.

201 renewed from 2018-19, and 5 lapsed members renewed. 4 new members had already joined before April 1st but didn’t need to renew.

We had 43 new members including some who transferred from other clubs.

11 members transferred away to other clubs.

Please contact me if you require any other details.

Can I remind you again that your email address needs to be up to date on the EA d 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. **Head Coach Report**

We currently have 16 active coaches this includes 2 new coaches Imogen and Ali, our coaching team have a vast knowledge of coaching experience. We have four level 3 coaches with David Mountford working his way towards this. This year we have seen the Cofton sessions become an official session. Thank you to Sean for committing every Saturday morning to this session. We have also added in an official track session on Wednesdays at Abbey Stadium, where Tom has successfully coached towards 10k and the National xc championships. We are currently working on a marathon training programme coached by myself on the track. We will keep you updated moving forward with regard to the track. At Thursdays reps we continue to offer 2 sessions. The coaching team have listened to feedback from members, targeted sessions were asked for and currently David Mountford has been coaching towards the road relays, we have also run another session alongside, to keep to our 2 sessions. This is a trial currently and we will be in discussions as to how to move forward with targeted sessions. Feedback from members suggested that injured runners felt a bit left out, starting from the next rota (we had to wait for light) Lorna will be offering a strength and condition session for everyone who can’t run but can do this. The coaching team work consistently throughout the year to offer 4 official sessions to the club, its more than just what you see on a Thursday night, planning studying and regular CPD keeps our coaching team busy, all of us do this voluntarily, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the coaches for their hard work. We have also continued the workshops with Dave Ellis navigating us in the right direction, there are plenty more workshops planned. If any members are interested in joining the coaching team, please contact Suz as 4 official sessions needs a lot of preparation and planning. Thank you to our members for your support.

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

With all the Spring Road Relays cancelled reflection on the last season feels rather different this year- it is what we will miss as well as what we have done.  
We signed up, we turned up, always in good numbers. Many of us travelled on the train - last carriage, wearing teal. We walked from the station, sorted our numbers and safety pins.   
We waited nervously in the start pen, stood tense on the line, we ran.   
A downhill start, around the corner, through the woods, that long uphill slog. We ran as hard and fast as we could, we raced, we raced in teal.  
That final uphill climb, the effort etched into many of our faces, cheered on like Olympians, cowbells ringing. The finish, the funnel, job done.  
A team positions (for those who like stats!)  
Spring Mids. 18th  
            Nats. 37th  
Masters  F35 15th  
                F45 10th  
                 F55 9th  
Autumn Mids. 28th  
               Nats. 42nd  
Team effort and support was outstanding , our team spirit is second to none.  
To those who ran , giving it their all- thank you, to those who cheered us on with such enthusiasm - thank you .To those of you who had trained so hard for Saturday and to Dave Mountford who had worked so hard on a training programme, thank you. You are all awesome, we are Team Teal, we will be back.

* 1. **Team Manager Men’s road relays**

It’s been another encouraging year. The team has performed well in several events:

* Twelve stage A team placed 20th in Midlands, 49th in Nationals. (Great to be able to say we ranked in the top 50 teams in the country!)
* Masters team placed 11th in the Midlands September relays.
* Six stage A team close to qualifying for the Nationals, in the absence of some of our strongest runners.
* Some impressive individual performances too.

The team’s level of participation has been the highest I’ve seen it in my time with the club:

* 56 men have turned out for us at one or more road relay event in the last year.
* We would have added 14 more to this list if the Midlands relays this weekend had gone ahead.
* Three complete teams (of 12 mean each) were entered for that event.

It’s fantastic to see so many athletes representing their club with distinction. I’m stepping down as team manager with regret but also with a sense of optimism about the team’s future. It’s been a privilege to lead the team and I know the incoming manager will strengthen us even further.

* 1. **Team Manager Women’s cross country**

Last year at the AGM I reflected on a successful year for the women’s cross-country team, including promotion to division 1 in the League and increased participation with 12 new runners trying out cross country. I set myself and the team a single goal for the 2019/2020 season: to stay in division 1, and I said we would achieve it through focus on the league races, encouraging participation across the club (whether fast or slow) and bringing out supporters where possible.

Suffice to say, this was an easy self-evaluation to complete. We did stay in division 1. We had exceptional levels of participation – around 40 runners across the ten races of the season and showed particular strength in depth at the league races. Some of the fastest runners were unfortunately plagued with injury and illness, so keeping our division one position is really testament to that depth. The effort and participation shown by runners of all speeds was phenomenal, and I am exceptionally proud of every single one of the team.

We also had some strong performances in the other races, including Masters’ team bronze in the Warwickshire championships, and team and county silver medals in the 5&7 mile intercounty championships.

I’d like to thank Sean for putting on another excellent season of Cofton sessions, and for your dedication, hard work and commitment (and the freddos) in making us stronger cross-country runners. I would also like to thank those people who have supported our races by volunteering throughout the year, as the league could not run without you.

I have now been cross country manager for four years, and I am leaving the position with considerable sadness, as I have loved it, I’ve loved getting to know more people in the club and I’ve loved the team spirit and the way that we support each other. However, I have absolute confidence that the team will continue to go from strength to strength, and I look forward to being a part of it.

* 1. **Team Manager Men’s cross country**

I’ve been men’s cross-country manager for one season: I took this on at short notice when the previous manager moved abroad needing someone to fill in.

This was a relatively daunting task to undertake, and I think we began the season with a challenge having reached the lofty heights of the 1st division. This meant that the speed and strength, the very calibre of our competition is a notch higher. We also had to face the fact that the aforementioned half a dozen or so people have moved club or moved away, and we genuinely really did rally round to do the best we could. I think in lots of ways we did very well as a team, particularly our masters, performing very highly.

In the non-league races we were able to take medals, but the league races were more difficult. We had pretty high participation, and the league itself was tough because of some very cold weather and extremely muddy courses this year. Some of our faster runners had problems with injury and there was some conflicting scheduling of events. We are confident we’re going to be in the top three of 2nd division this time next year and be headed back up again. We might find until something changes that’s a position we eternally find ourselves in, alternating between divisions: Perhaps about recruitment, and how we attract and retain some of the other runners to club. I thank every man who ran at cross country, and those who helped support and coach them, so big respect to Tom and Sean for the input they’ve given in supporting and coaching people.

We should continue to participate, all try our hardest, all look after and look out for each other, and just really enjoy competing. I am going to remain as manager for another season, unless someone wants to take on the mantle, and hopefully it’s going to be a season when we can see ourselves bounce back up. I’m very confident that we can, as we do have some very strong runners, and we could maybe look at some of the coaching approaches over the late summer and into the autumn, helping prepare people for what they’re letting themselves in for and avoiding injury.

That might be all the more so given that a lot of the marathons are now scheduled for autumn, so we’ve got that to look out for and make sure it doesn’t injure some of our faster runners, and then take it from there. I’ve been very impressed at the team spirit.

1. **Any Other Business**

Dave Power confirmed that one AOB item had been submitted for discussion, this related to the RunEqual campaign, which focuses on equalising the distance run by women and men in cross-country events, and whether the club should have a stance in support of this issue.

Dave confirmed that whilst the club does not have a stance on this issue currently, the new committee will pick this item up, raise awareness and from there make informed decisions.

1. **Committee Elections**

* Current Committee stands down
* Committee elections open
  1. **Committee members to re-stand**
* John Cheel Membership Secretary
* Ian Forman Ordinary Member
* Suz West Head Coach
* Sue Ward Race Events Co-ordinator
* Ian Mackenzie Team Manager Men’s Cross Country
* Jude Glynn Team Manager Women’s Road Relays
* Stewart Crowton Membership Development Co-ordinator
* Claire Daniels Kit Secretary
* Kristy Mabbett Social Secretary

The majority of club members in attendance at the Webex AGM voted in favour of the committee members re-standing

* 1. **Club Vice Chairperson**
* Nomination: Imogen Peck
* Proposed: Tom Bunn
* Seconded: Tom Kirby

The majority of club members in attendance at the Webex AGM voted in favour of the proposed candidate

* 1. **Club Secretary**
* Nomination: Linda Goulding
* Proposed: Suzanne Bunn
* Seconded: Kerry Oliver

The majority of club members in attendance at the Webex AGM voted in favour of the proposed candidate

* 1. **Club Treasurer**
* Nomination: Mike Woodall
* Proposed: Richard Shearing
* Seconded: Helen Clayton

The majority of club members in attendance at the Webex AGM voted in favour of the proposed candidate

* 1. **Communications Officer**
* Nomination: Charlie Hurd
* Proposed: Stacey Marston
* Seconded: Jaeda Goodman

The majority of club members in attendance at the Webex AGM voted in favour of the proposed candidate

* 1. **Team Manager Women’s Cross Country**
* Nomination: Helen McGetterick
* Proposed: Rhian Littlewood
* Seconded: Tim Hodges

The majority of club members in attendance at the Webex AGM voted in favour of the proposed candidate

* 1. **Team Manager Men’s Road Relays**
* Nomination: Xenofon V. Gogouvitis
* Proposed: Simeon Whiting
* Seconded: Rob Styles

The majority of club members in attendance at the Webex AGM voted in favour of the proposed candidate

* 1. **Ordinary Member**
* Nomination: Dave Powner
* Proposed: Lin Goulding
* Seconded: Xenofon V. Gogouvitis

The majority of club members in attendance at the Webex AGM voted in favour of the proposed candidate

James Ashley enquired what the role of ordinary member entailed, Dave Powner advised they have no specific jobs to undertake, but are there as a conduit for members to communicate with the committee and assist the committee in whatever manner they can. Dave continued that it was a suitable role for himself to fill, as he has knowledge of many aspects of the club and will be able to help out in different areas when needed.

Dave advised that detailed descriptions of all committee roles are available on the website, and we can point you to them, but I'm sure you can find them.

* 1. **Club Chairperson**
* Nomination: Rhian Littlewood
* Proposed: Dave Powner
* Seconded: Jo Green

The majority of club members in attendance at the Webex AGM voted in favour of the proposed candidate

**New Chairpersons statement**

I’d like to start by saying a huge thank you to Dave You have brought incredible energy, fun and enthusiasm to the club. Your photoshop talent is something to behold and we will all miss your Friday Facebook posts. Just to manage expectations, I won’t be able to replicate those.

It might not always be visible just how much work goes on behind the scenes, but your dedication and commitment to the club has been incredible. In normal circumstances we would have been able to present you with a little token of our thanks. The best I can do at the moment is to show you a picture, which I’ll put on my screen now, and we’ll get this to you as soon as we can.

It’s difficult for us all to show our appreciation over Webex in the way we normally would, so I’ll just ask everyone to raise a glass of whatever you are drinking to toast Dave – thank you so much.

This is where I should talk about the next couple of years and my plans and hopes for the club. It’s fair to say that I never envisaged that the world would look like it does today. To many running might seem like a frivolous concern in the face of so much fear and uncertainty around us, but I know that to many of us running is such a big part of our lives, essential for physical and mental health. In addition, Bournville Harriers is not just a running club. It’s our community and our family, and it’s ok to feel sad and disappointed that we are unable to come together to run. I don’t know what the future months hold, there is so much that we can’t control at the moment and it’s easy to feel powerless and frustrated.

However, my challenge to myself and to the club, is to look at what we can control and focus on that.

Firstly, keep active, and keep running as long as we can. If you can, run with a friend. But keep training and get ready to smash those races when we get back to them.

Secondly, let’s stay connected. We are still a community, and my commitment to you is to find as many ways as possible to make sure we feel like one.

Thirdly, support each other. A lot of are going to need help over the coming months, some will need practical help, others emotional support as the toll of isolation hits us hard.

Finally, support the wider community. As a club we have a great history of supporting the local community through fundraising and other activities. There have been so many initiatives springing up over the last couple of weeks and I’m sure many of you are already involved. But in whatever ways we can let’s make Bournville Harriers a force for good.

Since I have been involved with the Harriers I have seen such incredible team spirit and mutual support, and benefited from it myself when injured earlier this year. I know I can rely on you all to make this happen. So I’ll leave you with something of a call to arms: keep running, support each other and support the community.

Thank you very much again. I hope we will be back together again soon.

Meeting Closed