

Bournville Harriers

MINUTES OF ZOOM COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Monday 12th April 2021.

Meeting chaired by Rhian Littlewood.

Minutes taken by Steve Doswell.

Attendance:

Name	Role	
Rhian Littlewood (RL)	Club Chairperson	✓
Imogen Peck (IP)	Club Vice Chairperson	✓
Steve Doswell (SD)	Club Secretary	✓
Mike Woodall (MW)	Club Treasurer	✓
John Cheel (JC)	Membership Secretary	✓
Alice Smyth (AS)	Ordinary Member	✓
Sara Hewison (SH)	Ordinary Member	✓
David Mountford (DM)	Head Coach	✓
<i>Vacant</i>	Race Events Co-ordinator	-
Dave Powner (DP)	Communications Officer	✓
Helen McGettrick (HM)	Team Manager Women's Cross Country	✓
Sam Weaver (SW)	Team Manager Men's Cross Country	-
Xenofon V. Gogouvitis	Team Manager Men's Road Relays	✓
Jude Glynn (JG)	Team Manager Women's Road Relays	✓
Stewart Crowton (SC)	Membership Development Co-ordinator	✓
Claire Daniels (CD)	Kit Secretary	✓
Charlie Hurd (CH)	Social Secretary	✓

Apologies

Sam Weaver

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions (RL/All)
2. Review minutes and action points from March 2021 meeting
3. Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) (SD/All)
4. Options/expectations for return to regular club sessions (DM)
5. Performance runner focus (DM)
6. Post-event review: Yacht handicap (CH?)
7. Beginners course / Transition programme (DM)
8. Event preview/planning: John Enright parkrun (ANO)
9. Membership renewals: current position (JC)
10. Club finances update (MW)
11. Recruitment of Race Events Coordinator (SD)
12. AOB

1. Welcome and Introductions (RL/All)

RL welcomed new committee members and thanked existing members for continuing in their roles. Everyone made a brief personal introduction.

2. Review minutes and action points from March 2021 meeting

Run Equal consultation – a decision was taken to await findings from EA's consultation on cross-country distances for men and women. (DP subsequently shared a [link to EA's webinar](#) to take place at 6pm on Thu 22/4/21).

Member Survey – item carried forward to May meeting.

Teal Targets – will review once races restart. An alternative structure may be needed, with an emphasis on local races. Item carried forward to June meeting.

3. Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats (SWOT) (SD/All)

SD introduced a review of the club's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. Committee members shared their individual headline views and some common themes emerged:

Strengths: a friendly, welcoming club with a core of very engaged members, well-grounded in the local community, a large coaching team, handled the Covid challenge effectively.

Weaknesses: the loss of several faster runners, lack of diversity in some aspects (eg. no youth structure).

Opportunities: strengthen club's appeal by boosting track facilities, attract new members from among people who have taken up running during the pandemic.

Threats: loss of competitive strength, other clubs attracting former BvH members, allowing a perception to develop that BvH has less to offer pace runners, risk of losing members beyond the engaged core.

A more detailed summary of the discussion will be shared separately, building on a well thought-through analysis that XG has already prepared. Once completed, the Committee's conclusions will feed into a wider consultation with members.

4. Options/expectations for return to regular club sessions (DM)

DM raised a key question: once restrictions were lifted (from 21 June) should BvH revert to the previous Mon/Thu weekly format (mass starts, turn up and run) or should we change the offer, based on the club's experience with training bubbles, which were popular, and given that larger gatherings might be harder to manage for Covid compliance. It was agreed to keep this under review and to consider specific options at the May meeting. In preparation, DM will set up a sub-group to discuss and make proposals.

5. Performance runner focus (DM)

DM proposed to address the loss of faster (mainly male) runners from membership by understanding their reasons for leaving. The previous Committee had discussed and documented this (DP would pass on the document). It would also be helpful to benchmark what other clubs do (sessions, coaching, structure, communication) to see what BvH can learn. The challenge of sharpening the club's appeal to faster runners would become a key focus for the club this year.

6. Post-event review: Yacht handicap (IP/CD/DP)

Item deferred to May. Virtual stage of Yacht event still to be completed.

7. Beginners' course and transition programme (DM)

This is a well-established core club activity with lasting benefits. Timing this year would depend on Covid restrictions and coaching capacity. A 9-week beginners programme (with a follow-on transition phase) programme would be better than the previous 6-week format. The programme structure and resourcing would be agreed and a potential date identified.

8. John Enright virtual 5K

Suz West is organising this, as in previous years. The chosen dates were 8-15 May. CH would take care of the cake competition. SD will set up a Justgiving page in the club's name for donations to the British Heart Foundation.

9. Membership renewals: current position (JC)

England Athletics's newly-launched membership system has some teething problems. JC would send out renewal letters in the next few days, before contacting former members.

10. Club finances update (MW)

MW had given a full update at the recent AGM. There had been no significant activity since then. The bank balance remains at £12K. CH asked for guidance on a budget for the proposed BvH 21st anniversary celebration later in the year.

11. Recruitment of Race Events Coordinator

Item deferred to May.

12. AOB

RHP: RL would check plans for the re-opening of full changing room facilities.

MOTM: Nominations to RL

Wellness coordinator: SH volunteered to pick up the second coordinator role.

Action points:

	Owner	Action	Complete / Review
SWOT review	SD	Share summary of discussion with Committee and invite further responses	23/4/21
Return to regular club sessions	DM	Convene a sub-group to discuss and make proposals to bring to the May meeting.	10/5/21
Performance runner focus	DM/DP	DP to share findings from previous discussion.	10/5/21
Beginners/transition programme	TBC	Agree format, resourcing, logistics, launch plan	14/6/21
Race Events Coordinator	RL/SD	Committee vacancy. Potential candidate(s) to be identified	10/5/21
21 st anniversary budget	MW/CH	Discuss and bring proposed budget to Committee	10/5/21
Members Survey		Review previous output	C/Fwd.
Teal Targets		Agree targets and who will track results	C/Fwd.

Next Meeting: Monday 10th May 2021