City of Hull AGM

Friday 20th April 2018

Present: Denise Thompson, Tania Crème, Judith Lawty, Pete Taylor, Jamie Penn, Helen Penn, Dave Monohan, Naomi Bright, Andy Guymer, John Smith, Karen Green, Derek Ricketts, Ellen Messingham, Peter Lee, Shelley Dunn, Karen Scott, Patrick Walker, Lucy Khan, Pam Tarbutt, Christine Hemmingway, Andy Cross, Helen Duncan, Pete Baker, Paul Cartwright, Carla Stansfield, Phil Lambert. Paul Davis.

The meeting was opened and a short introduction and welcome took place.

**Treasurers report** – Denise Thompson.

Denise reported that the accounts were similar to last year. Profits were less than last year the accounts were balanced out with early membership fees.

The Ferriby Ten race had done very well with sell out entries again but not quite as much profit was made due to the race costs being more expensive

Training camps for men and women have not used as much of their entitlement as usual.

We are open to ideas for a way to spend some money.

The financial report is available for all to see.

PT has asked if the England Athletics fees are asking for an admin fee. It was explained by PL that their fees are increased annually and the main expense is the insurance fee for each athlete. There is always an admin fee attached every year. PT Questioned what England Athletics provides for the money.

PL. The Northern Athletics fee will be implemented in 2019. All clubs have been contacted to ask for their support. Each club was asked if they would be willing to contribute, and we as a club took the decision to support it.

PL explained that it would be £2 per member, which should in theory be covered by the clubs affiliation fee’s. The Northern Athletics provides events throughout the year including The Relays, Northern Champs, Track events and cross country. We try and represent City of Hull at a lot of the events and have been recently successful. Despite the rise in costs, it gives our athletes a great opportunity to compete at a high standard and away from the local area.

**Membership report**.

Hannah Harne had prepared a report and sent her apologies that she could not attend.

**Over the last few years the club has settled at around 200 members, which is the same this year. We’ve had some transfers in and out, although less than previous years, and a good number of new members.   
  
Membership fees have been increased this year for the first time in a number of years to reflect the year on year cost increases of England athletics registration. We still remain one of the best value clubs in the area, and of the membership fee the club only takes £13 for the full year and £7 for half year members, with the rest going to England athletics. We have a good contingent of second claim members who join our training sessions from a number of the local clubs which shows what a quality offer we have. Second claim membership remains at £15 for the year.   
  
We’ve also changed the way memberships are being paid to try and be more efficient and so we can focus more attention on welcoming new members to the club. It requires less input from members who no longer have to fill in all their details again on the website, and also less admin for the club. It is also means members are instantly registered as soon as they’ve paid which avoids any delays. It seems to be working well so far with 150 members already renewed, which is well in excess of where we have been at the end of April in previous years.   
  
I am stepping down from my role of membership secretary this year as I’ve found increasing work pressures as well as a growing family taking all of my time, but hopefully the changes we have made to memberships this year make the task slightly less onerous for whoever takes over. I’ve really enjoyed my time on the committee and thank everyone on the committee for all their help and the time that they all contribute to running the club and our events.**

Questions were asked regarding membership.

It was made clear that the membership system has recently changed but more members have paid their fees much earlier.

HD asked why there wasn’t a greeting email or something of a welcome after joining. She felt that when she joined, despite everyone being very welcoming, she had not been introduced to anyone and didn’t know who anyone was.

It was explained that the system has recently changed and there should now be a return email upon joining. It was pointed out by CO that anyone in the club can approach new members and help them settle in at new sessions, it shouldn’t have to be anyone in the committee. It was also explained that Facebook played a big part in helping new members be accustomed to the training sessions and customs of the club.

**Committee members and new roles.**

A Few members are stepping down from committee roles and CO made it clear of the availability roles and committee spaces. A brief explanation of committee roles was given, although the role descriptions have been available on the website for some time.

Fiona Robinson stepping down from Vets Captain

Madeleine Chadwick, stepping down from Ladies captain

Judith Lawty stepping down from committee.

Hannah Harne stepping down from membership secretary.

CO passed on her thanks on behalf of the club for their efforts so far and made special mention for Hannah who had recently worked tirelessly to maintain the smooth transition of the new membership system. It was also pointed out that she puts a lot of effort into the club annual dinner. She will be greatly missed from the committee. We wished her well with her impending new arrival and send our best wishes.

LK stated that the committee would like to introduce a new role which needed to be implemented at the AGM. This was for the role of Training and development Officer. It was suggested that we have some fantastic coaches who are doing an awful lot for the club currently and it had been suggested that they should be offered a role. There was a show of hands in support of the new role being introduced, and so it was agreed.

Cheryl Oakshott - currently Chairperson and happy to remain. Nominated by JS Seconded by PL

Lucy Khan – currently Secretary and happy to remain. Nominated by EM. Seconded by JL

Denise Thompson – Currently Treasurer and happy to remain. Proposed by TC Seconded by HP

Andy Guymer – Currently men’s captain and happy to remain. Proposed by LK Seconded JP

Available roles discussed.

Women’s Captain - Carla Stansfield. Proposed by PL Seconded by CH

Ladies Vice Captain - Helen Penn. Proposed by PL Seconded by EM.

Naomi also Proposed by LK and seconded by EM. This was agreed that due to the current strength of the ladies field, the opportunity to have 2 vice captains was very positive and would assist at times when Carla could not make the meetings.

Men’s Vice Captain - John Smith. John agreed to take on the role after no volunteers were forthcoming.

Veterans Captain – Paul Cartwright. Proposed by JS. Seconded by CO

Development Officer – Derek Ricketts. Proposed by LK. Seconded by CO

Membership Secretary – Helen Duncan. Proposed by JS. Seconded by PC

Spaces on committee as non-officer roles. PL volunteered. KS volunteered.

Questions raised from current members.

A member, who was not present, had asked about the intentions of the male captain in relation to events and training sessions. AG stated that he will be inviting a mens team to the relays but he intends to look at other events going forward and also look into a training weekend for the men.

It was stated that any of the men can suggest ideas for training weekends and events, which will assist Andy in his role of mens captain. They are all voluntary roles so all help is very welcome.

A question was asked about the monthly minutes not being published.

As club secretary LK has agreed that the minutes will be published each month on the website for all to see. This will continue from the AGM going forward.

A question was asked why the club membership fees were raised this year.

This was a long topic of discussion for the committee and was not a decision which was made lightly. The club secretary made us aware that this years profits were lower than normal and this was expected to continue, due to the rising costs of putting on races and the increase of England Athletics fees and the expected rise in Northern Athletic affiliation. We looked at other clubs membership fees and found that they were much higher than ours. It was agreed that EHH fee of £45 per year was most likely due to them having a clubhouse, and Beverley running club membership of around £32 per year, without a club house. It was agreed that the yearly fee of £28 would still keep us as the cheapest running club to enter in the Hull and East Riding and with the coaching capabilities and numerous training sessions on offer, it was felt to be excellent value for money.

CS suggested that as a club, we should enter events further afield and offer a wider range of events to travel to. This was agreed. It was explained that we have had some excellent race trips in the past. It is something that can be organised by anyone in the club and doesn’t necessarily have to be dealt with by committee members. Any event will be considered if it is something that will cater for any member of the club.

Ladies Training weekend mentioned by Cheryl. Men will be invited to cover some spaces which have become available.

PT asked about Wolds Relay team and asked if COH will be entering a team. It was explained that the event clashes with our Humber Bridge 10k, but Beverley have got a mixed team including other club members if anyone was interested. It is an open event.

HD Asked about Couch to 5k and asked if we had any intentions of hosting one. It was explained that Lucy Khan and Rob Alexander hosted a 10 week ‘Anyone can run’ session last year, which was initially well attended but tailed off by the end of the sessions. It did result in some new members, but not many. It was agreed that our intention as a club is to promote competitive running to try and maintain our high standards at local events.

LK suggested that perhaps we should introduce a ’45 to 40 minute 10k session’ which may be something to aim for.

KG Asked about newsletter in order to advertise and recognise some good achievements. It was explained that a newsletter used to be produced by Stuart Buchan, but it was expensive and time consuming. Facebook is now used as an advertising tool for members achievements. DM suggested that Social media has taken over from media reports

LK mentioned about club runs and getting the pace right to cater for all abilities so nobody gets left behind, but also so our very fast runners can engage with the club sessions. Things were being discussed with the coaches in order to cater for the very fast runners at the Tuesday night club run.

LK also passed on thanks on behalf of the club to Derek Ricketts for his time and commitment towards his various training sessions which have seen a number of our runners being able to compete to a very high standard, both locally and regionally. His efforts have not gone unnoticed and it has been encouraging to see some fantastic results recently.

Thanks were also passed to John Smith and Paul Cartwright for their contribution and efforts at the Thursday night club runs. John makes sure that he keeps everyone together and tries hard to maintain a pace that suits everyone.

Meeting concluded at 21.00