

## LITTLEDOWN HARRIERS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2011

Minutes of the AGM held at the Queens Park Golf Club Pavilion on Tues 28<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Those present : Acting Chairman : Steve Shuck, Secretary : Janet Hooper,  
Treasurer : Lin Edwards, Membership Secretary : Ian Noble  
41 members

1. Apologies were received from – Roger Browning, Michelle Carpenter, Stewart Cull, Jon Elliot, Susie Elliot, Serena Fooks, Helen Gilbert, Sarah Hole, Ade Holloway, Jim Kerr, Greg Morum, Neil Ryan, Nikki Sandell, Doug Savage, John Scott, Phil Sparkes, Carolyn Stamrood, Lee Vinson, Wayne Walford-Jelks
2. Minutes of the last AGM held on the 29th June 2010 were previously distributed and agreed at the meeting.
3. Matters arising – There were 3 items covered –
  - 3.1. Election of Dave Forman as ‘honorary’ member. This was implemented but sadly Dave lost his battle against Cancer and died earlier this year.
  - 3.2. Representation of ordinary members at committee meetings. Since last year there has been an open invitation to committee meetings. They are held on 1<sup>st</sup> Tues of every month, as yet there has been very little take-up. A second part to this request was for the circulation of minutes to all members. This did not happen and will be addressed later under AOB.
  - 3.3. Coaching. In response to feedback last year, the coaches have tried to ensure that they have coverage for all the runners within their group and have provided a safeguard against runners being dropped off the back.

### 4. Club Chairman’s Report.

Steve addressed the Club, explaining the circumstances under which he had become ‘Acting Chair’ in Jan 2011. He paid tribute to Gary Kirkby for his hard work and commitment to the club over the years as a committee member and a coach.

Steve reflected on why he had taken on the chair despite not being a committee member previously. He recognized that a lot of people worked hard at making the club a success and that the club had a unique atmosphere. He felt motivated to get involved.

He then went on to thank the following members :

Janet as Secretary making sure all the I’s are dotted and the T’s crossed, Lin for working wonders as Treasurer , Ian as Membership secretary for always having his finger on the pulse, the Coaches led by Gary Worsley, Peter Hellowell whose enthusiasm and hard work are a source of inspiration to us all, Barry Telling who introduced and runs the Club Championship and ROTQ, Neil Ryan for his speedy email system and finally the captains Ben and Sarah.

His closing statement referred to the difficulties encountered by the committee when representing such a diverse group. Effective communication is the key and if re-elected it is something that Steve will be urging the committee to review in the next 12 months.

A vote of thanks went to Mikey White for organizing the Christmas party over the years.

### 5. Club Secretary’s Report.

Janet thanked Steve on behalf of the club for his contribution since January. The report covered 3 areas :

### 5.1. Membership News.

We currently have 150 Members (92 Men, 55 Ladies and 3 Honorary Members)

The figures include 29 new members and 15 members have not rejoined giving us a net gain of 14 members.

The UKA website has been updated with details for the coming year and ‘competition licences’ should be issued in the next month.

### 5.2. Secretarial News.

Janet congratulated the members on their ‘diverse and adventurous spirit’ competing in distances from 5k to 50k during the year.

She reminded those present that her official responsibilities for the coming year included

- London Marathon Ballot Entries
- Maintaining the supply of Club vests (48 just received)
- Representation on the Dorset Road Race Committee

Janet also reported the progress of the Men’s and Ladies teams in the 2011 Road Race League. They are currently in 5<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place respectively.

### 5.3. Coaching News.

The coaches continue to make it a top priority to provide our runners with a ‘safe’ running environment. To this end, we resolved earlier in the year to increase our coaching numbers. We currently have about 12 interested parties. Unfortunately, UKA have changed their coaching program this year and relevant courses have not been available. This is now resolved and we will be re-visiting the options shortly.

Janet thanked the members for making the club what it is today and one that she is proud to represent.

## 6. Treasurers Report.

Lin reported that the club was in a healthy position financially. Details of the balance sheet/ club assets are available to club members.

There was a £1000 charity contribution received from Nationwide – many thanks to Robin Jeffrey for bringing this opportunity to our attention and to Peter Hellowell for his persistence in getting us some great money saving deals.

In response to a question from the floor, Lin explained that we need to maintain a healthy balance to allow us to pay costs for events, club kit etc. in advance.

Another query raised related to ‘low’ figure for admin and sundries (£80) which Lin explained was due to the fact that many of the committee do not submit ‘expense claims’ for out of pocket expenses.

## 7. Club Constitution.

A revised document had been circulated prior to the meeting. Feedback was sought. Roger Browning, as a previous chair of the club, had requested that 2 areas be reviewed. This prompted a healthy discussion and it was agreed that the changes would be implemented, with the final version being prepared for approval at the next committee meeting (5<sup>th</sup> July).

## 8. Appointment of Officers.

The following officers were elected.

Chairman	Steve Shuck
Club Secretary	Janet Hooper
Treasurer	Lin Edwards

Membership Secretary Ian Noble  
Ladies Captain Heather Khoshnevis  
Men's Captain Ben Roscoe

Committee Members : Kevin Dowsett, Gary Worsley, Barry Telling and Peter Hellowell all agreed to continue as committee members.

#### 9. Charity of the Year.

There were 4 nominations for the 2012 charity of the year. The spokesperson for each charity (Heather K – Dorset Air Ambulance, Robin Jeffrey – Mosaic, Steve Shuck – Steve Bernard Foundation and Sarah Ngugi – Wessex Autistic Society gave a 2 minute talk after which voting took place by a 'show of hands'. The winner was MOSAIC but thanks to all representatives for the effort they put in on behalf of their charities.

#### 10. Runner of the Year (ROTY).

This was the natural follow on from the Runner of the Quarter (ROTQ) which was introduced last year. It was the original intention that the vote for ROTY would be taken at the AGM. However, the committee had a few problems putting a process in place in time for this year's AGM, so voted among themselves based on all nominations received in the 3 preceding quarters. The result was clear cut and Wayne was announced as the winner for 2011. Well done Wayne. Next year, the committee will amend the process to allow more participation from the members.

#### 11. A.O.B.

1. Peter Hellowell informed members that Littledown 5 was to be attended by UKA scrutineers. While we are confident of exemplary behaviour on the day, everything must be done by the book.
2. Jim Cowdroy asked about Facebook as a means of communication within the club. Was it being used by Club members and did the committee members support it? Steve responded that the 'ramifications' were being reviewed, communication generally are to be addressed by the committee in the near future.
3. Simon asked about the 'wine at the table' at the Christmas party. Steve responded that it had been decided by the committee to discontinue the practice as it was not a 'fair and equitable' use of club funds. Feedback from other members present at the AGM was 'mixed' with a number preferring the money to be spent on – coaching, charity etc. A decision will be made and notified to members during July.
4. Tracey requested (again) that the minutes of committee meetings be circulated to all members. This will be introduced with effect from July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The meeting finished at 22:00

Club Secretary