

MINUTES OF THE WITNEY ROADRUNNERS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 8TH MARCH 2023 VIA ZOOM

1. Welcome by the Chairman - John McCormac -

John welcomed all present on Zoom to the 2023 Witney Roadrunners Annual General Meeting.

John informed all present that the meeting was being recorded for attendance and for the purpose of producing the minutes accurately. Anyone present who would not be happy to be seen on the recording or heard, could turn off their video and microphone.

2. Apologies - Rachel Stanley-Evans, Toby Clarke, Hannah Makins, Jane Colbeck-McKinnon, Helen Charnock, Gail Bell, Lindsey Smith, Martin Crabb, Will Downey, Verity Arndt, Chris Ellis, Stephen Roberts, Alice Simpson, Keith Morgan, Sharon Moore, Michelle Hustler, Paul Molyneaux, Cathy Birch, Jo Maycock-Mawle, Helen Ashton, Sam Upton, Angus Godfrey, Paul Taylor, Louise Rhodes, Steven Naylor, Alex Townsend, Alice Roberts, Olivia Sageot, Richard Talbot, Martha Holland, Claire Brennan, Jen Hughes, Becky Edwards, Conrad Bailey, Francis Tracey, Simon Rhodes, Jane Ashcroft, Freda Ford, Tegs Jones, Anna Flory, Allan Jenkins, Colin Tidy, Will Spracklen, Hazel Smith, Jenny Moore, Tony Beardsley, Stephen Ratcliffe, Bob Green, Lara Macfarlane, Louise Henderson, Alice Burrows, Ginny Renwick, Chloe Yelland, Judith LeGood, Graham LeGood, Trevor Jennings, John Ashton, and Jeanette Ashton.

3. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held March 2022 -

A copy of the minutes from the 2022 Annual General Meeting had previously been distributed via SPOND for all Club members to see. The meeting had been held on Zoom.

4. Approval of the 2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes -

It was agreed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting held. Proposed by Bertie Field and seconded by Paul Rushby.

5. Matters Arising from the 2022 Annual General Meeting minutes -

Item 6 - Treasurer's Report - Kit stock, as minuted it was added to the first agenda of the new Committee. Sales had dropped, but with new members joining sales would pick up. During the year sales of kit has increased and is quite steady. Lyn had managed to sell off the old stock at a reduced rate.

6. Chairman's Report - John McCormac -

John thanked all those were attending the meeting.

John said that having reread last years Chairmans Report, he could just read it again as most things still apply that the Committee and Club do. However, there are a few things to add.

John started by thanking all the Committee for their hard work during the year, each ones contribution was outstanding in their own special way. It is really good that we have such a good, strong, hardworking Committee. As Chairman John does not need to do a lot, as the Committee does all the work.

John would not pick out any particular individuals, but he thanked Richard Stocking, who after many years as our Treasurer has decided to stand down. Richard when asked said he had stood three times over a period of about 14/15 years.

John said that Richard has done a great job with the Club finances and stayed with us through some difficult times, particularly going back a few years when funds were low, but he steered us through those times to put us in a very comfortable position.

Richard has been a very valuable Committee member, his often forthright views and no nonsense input, has always been appreciated, particularly his knowledge of the Clubs Constitution. He will be missed at future Committee meetings, but hopefully we will see him at the Thursday night sessions.

John thanked James Hackney for standing as Treasurer, he is sure that James can carry on successfully where Richard left off, some big shoes to fill.

John also thanked Lindsey Smith for her contribution to the Committee, she has decided to stand down this year and replacements will be mentioned later in the meeting.

John went on to say that we must not forget the Non-Committee people who also play a role in the Club. We have a number of sub-groups that do jobs within the Club, not necessarily on the Committee, but put together things like the Tuesday sessions, the Cotswold Classic, the Ducklington Dash, the newsletter, and more, all of these people contribute hugely to the Club, they just get on with the tasks at hand and don't ask for any applause, but the Club could not run without their contribution to the Club.

On the race front, we have some great results, too many to mention them all. We have had some County Road Race champions, Cross-Country champions, and some outright race wins and John thinks there is a lot more to come in the pipeline this year. We have a good group of stronger runners this year, we have altered the League, where we hope to have more participants with a better group of people running together with emphasis on the GP races. We have won it before, it would be nice to do it again. So he is feeling very positive about the forthcoming year. Although in his view it is not all about the winning, everyone who puts on a race vest, that commits to race, has achieved a win. It is beyond that, on the start line with your fellow Witney Roadrunners, part of the group, part of the Club, that is a win. So you don't have to be the fastest runner, you just need to be there running with us, that is what counts.

Our juniors are also doing fantastic things, not least beating the adult members in the Marathon Relay. He thanked Mike Miles and Tony Lock and their team of helpers, we will hear from Mike in a bit.

John went on to say that when he took on the role of Chairman in 2016, one of our faster runners commented on how well we look after our newcomers, how we look after people to improve their speed, but what do we do for the faster runners? It was a very good point and it stuck with him quite a bit during his time as Chairman and he keeps thinking about what we can do that is different. He thinks we are beginning to get there,

we have changed the structure of the Tuesday night sessions, the efforts are now much more structured and this suits the faster runners to the not so fast and he feels there is much more to come in that area. The team that organise the Tuesday sessions are looking at getting our faster runners there and working together and he thinks they will benefit from this.

So to finish off, John looks forward to another great year ahead of us, whether it is road racing, cross-countries, off road, Tuesday and Thursday night Club sessions. It is all about putting on a great show and great events when we do.

He always comes away from races, the Cross-Country was no different on Sunday, whether we are marshalling at, putting on events like the Cotswold Classic, the Ducklington Dash, he always feels proud of the Club. He is sure that other clubs say the same as well, and he is sure the rest of the Club feels the same, thinking that Witney Roadrunners is the best, but we are the best.

End of report, thank you.

7. **Treasurer's Report** - The year end accounts had been posted on SPOND for all members to see. James Hackney reported to the meeting -

James firstly, wanted to say thank you to Richard Stocking for his service to the Club as Treasurer over the years and agreed he had some big shoes to fill!

Thanks also to Ian Fowler for looking over the accounts for the year end.

Some of the headline figures accounts:

Total income £37,028

Total expenses £36,248

Net income of £780.00 in comparison to a deficit of £898.00 year ending December 2021 - COVID year.

Bank balances at the year end -

Current account £8,497

Deposit account £1,073

Total cash £9,870 - quite a lot for a Community Club, we are looking at ways to put it to good use, rather than just sitting in the bank. Any ideas please feel free to have a chat with James and he can put forward to the Committee.

At this point Paul Rushby commented - the accounts will climb at the moment with members paying in their membership and EA fees, but will be paying out the EA fees of £3k. James said that the figures shown are at the end of December and we have had two months of operation since these figures were put together, but we are still in a very strong position with money coming in for membership.

The Club has also subsidised a few things throughout 2022 for the members, including:

Cafe Rouge for the Christmas Party

Swimming lessons as part of the new Triathlon section of the Club

Burger van at the Witney leg of the Eynsham Challenge

We also had a loss of around £1,000 to the Club for unsold tickets to Ascot Races due to Club members showing initial interest in attendance, tickets then purchased in bulk to receive a cheaper price, but then went unsold due to dropouts after purchase. Approach to future events held by the Club has been updated by the Committee to avoid future unnecessary expenditure.

At the year end there is £3,855 worth of stock in terms of racing and training kit held. We do not hold this as inventory and write the cost off straight away within the accounts so you could add £3,855 to the £9,870 cash balance.

You will have seen that we have started to use SPOND to collect payments for various things, and this will be continuing. If you have any suggestions / feedback as to how you think this is working, please let James know. He personally thinks it has been a success so far.

Overall, everything is good and looks positive from a financial perspective.

John thanked James and asked the members if there were any questions on the accounts? No questions received. John agreed we are in a very healthy position.

We recently put 10 members through the Leader in Running and Fitness course, the Club pays for this to enable us to operate the Tuesday out and back sessions. We are also going to pay for some coaching for the junior section as well. So he also says if members think of anything that the Club and members can benefit from, please put it forward to the Committee.

8. Adoption fo the Accounts -

Proposed by Derek Bond and seconded by Mike Miles.

9. Junior Report - Mike Miles reported -

It was so nice to get back to a full year of competitions both indoors and out. The Oxfordshire winter Sportshall League has gone well for us and with the last round taking place in Witney this coming Sunday, we look to finish in the top three in all age categories. With a very strong team that is set to compete in this match we should collect a few trophies too, but everyone will need to be on their game.

We recently travelled to Burgess Hill, near Brighton, for the Southern Regional Indoor Finals and Witney sent 19 athletes covering all age groups.

We came home with individual medals for Esme James taking gold in the vertical jump and silver for both Macy Cookson and Tom Wightman in the speed bounce.

Tom Pollard and Charlie Palmer collected silver for the U15 team prize.

A great day was had by all, a long day, but a great one.

The Cross-Country has again gone exceptionally well with even more juniors competing, especially in the U9 and U11 section, the future of the Club.

Again we have 6 athletes heading off to the Inter Counties on the 11th at Loughborough, with even more representing the County in the Schools Championships the week after.

The County Championship race at Horspath in January saw Witney RR winning the U15 boys gold medals with Will Shayler, Lewis Reynolds, Thomas Henderson and Tom Pollard all working well together.

U15 Will Shayler finished the Oxfordshire League as champion after a very hard fought battle with other good athletes in the county, and the U15 boys team finished second overall.

In track and field we had a really good season with our U15 boys winning the Oxfordshire Junior Track and Field League and Witney taking the trophy for overall in the boys section.

New records were set along the way with Martha Sherwood improving on the shot putt 9.19 metres and javelin 23.9 metres.

Lewis Reynolds set a new time in the 300 metres of 38.87 seconds with team mate Will Shayler improving on the 1500 metres with an amazing 4 minutes and 20.9 seconds.

U13 Luca Roberts threw a fantastic 41.51 metres in the javelin to become number one in the country.

Each year we think that it is going to be difficult to improve on our already brilliant club records, but our athletes just keep on pushing the level higher.

Everything is set for another good summer in both the Oxfordshire League as well as in the Heart of England League, where luckily our furthest trips should be Nuneaton twice and Daventry once.

We need to say a very big thank you to one of our mums, Jo Gorton, who is one of the parents who has looked after the junior membership list and details for us for the last 5 years. Not an easy task but Jo has done an excellent job.

This job has now been taken over by another mum, Emma Allen, who is quickly getting to grips with this.

A special thanks to Paul Rushby for all of his help and guidance with helping Emma during this time.

As always, I need to say a massive thanks to Tony for all his help, input and patience with the running of the juniors.

I couldn't begin to guess how many miles we have travelled over the past years going from one competition to another, but it has to be in the thousands.

Also, a special mention to our fellow coaches, Amanda, Tina and Verity who also give up their time so freely.

We also need to say a thanks to U17 Charlotte McIntyre who started out helping for her school work and enjoyed it so much she has carried on working with us for the 12 months.

It is no surprise that Charlotte was voted team person at our presentation evening in September. A very popular choice.

Mike could not finish without saying a big thank you to John, our Chairman for his continued support both to himself and our juniors, and to the Committee for their support and patience too.

10. Nominations of Officers and Committee for 2023/24 -

Lyn Hopkins reported that an item had been published on SPOND for nominations for the 2023/24 Committee. As John mentioned Lindsey Smith decided to stand down this year.

Nominations are as follows -

Chairman John McCormac

Secretary Lyn Hopkins

Treasurer James Hackney

General Committee

Mike Miles
Ian Fowler
Andy Church
Regina Johnys
Fraser Howard
Paul Rushby
Bertie Field
Conrad Bailey
Trevor Jennings
Derek Bond
Jenny Bond

New members Jason Shailer
Lee Vanstone

Lyn thanked the new members for standing for Committee this year.

She asked if the members on Zoom had any objections to any of those standing this year, none were received and therefore they were all accepted en bloc. She welcomed Lee and Jason on to the Committee.

11. Ratification of Life Members -

Lyn stated that these had been nominated and agreed at various AGMs. They do not need to be nominated, proposed or seconded at future AGMs as they are Life Members of WRR.

It is part of our Constitution that this ratification takes place at each AGM.

President Vernon Blowfield

Vernon passed away a couple of years ago, but it was agreed that we would keep his name as President of WRR in his memory.

Life Presidents Martin Crabb

Jan Johanson

Both founder members of WRR

Life Vice-Presidents John McCormac

Lyn Hopkins

Mike Miles

Tony Lock

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.01pm.

DATE OF THE 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - the date has not been confirmed yet, but should be 6th March 2024

DATE OF FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING - 15th March 2023, at WWS&SC at 7.30pm

Attendees - John McCormac, Lyn Hopkins, James Hackney, Andy Church, John Green, Regina Johnys, Ian Fowler, Richard Stocking, Dave Johnys, Bertie Field, Derek Bond, Nigel Cotton, Lisa Holland, Mike Miles, Chris Babbage, Emma Howard, David Cadywould, Fraser Howard, Sally Howard, Tony Lock, Matt Lock, Paul Rushby, James Currah, Andy Richards, Mark Crosby, Lee Vanstone, Megan Hill, Steve Hopkins, Dan Wymer, Tamsyn Wymer, Peter Rendell and Jason Shailer.