MINUTES OF THE WITNEY ROADRUNNERS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 11TH MARCH 2026

1. **Welcome by the Chairman - Fraser Howard** -

   Fraser welcomed all to the 2026 AGM, his first Annual General Meeting as Chairman.

2. **Apologies** - Allan Jenkins, Amanda Clapp, Andy Church, Andy Green, Anna Flory, Antony Giles, Ashley Gubbins, Becca Bolt, Becky Edwards, Bob Green, Brian Moore, Charlotte Thomas, Chloe Yelland, Clare Beesley, Conrad Bailey, David Cadywould, David Worley, Freda Ford, Graham LeGood, Hamish Law, Hannah Makins, Harriet Bowyer, Hazel Shailer, Helen Ashton, Ian Fowler, James Clark, Jan Johanson, Jeanette Ashton, Jenny Bond, John Ashton, Kevin Hennessy, Leanne Smith, Lewis Cousins, Liam Walsh, Lo Cullen, Louise Henderson, Louise Rhodes, Mark Thomas, Martin Bale, Michele Hustler, Nathan Shayler, Olivia Sageot, Paul Molyneaux, Paul Rushby, Paul Taylor, Rick Bolt, Rosie Witton, Sarah Fry, Simon Arnold, Simon Rhodes, Stephen Roberts, Tegs Jones, Theo Shayler, Tony Lock, Verity Arndt, Will Downey and Will Spracklen.

3. **Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held in March 2025** -

   A copy of the minutes from the 2025 Annual General Meeting had previously been distributed via SPOND and in the newsletter for all Club members to see.

4. **Approval of the 2025 Annual General Meeting minutes** -

   It was agreed that the minutes were a true record of the meeting held.
   Proposed by John McCormac and seconded by Matt Lock.

5. **Matters Arising from the 2025 Annual General Meeting Minutes** -

   At last years Annual General Meeting it had been proposed and agreed that the Witney Roadrunners membership fees should be increased by 10% from April 2026. This increase has been actioned.

6. **Chairman's Report - Fraser Howard** -

   In my first Chair's article for the weekly newsletter back in March 2025, I wrote about how I thought participation was a key measure of success for the running club. In that regard, the past year has been very successful. It has been a real pleasure to see the numbers of people attending the weekly training sessions. Social events have been well attended throughout the year (more on that below), and we have had another year of record league participation. So thank you to all of the club members who have been involved in any or all of these things — getting involved and collectively contributing to that success.

   Witney RoadRunners reached the big 40 this year, which we marked with a whole variety of social events across the year. I would like to call out Lyn, Lee and Megan for all of their hard work in treating us to such a great range of well-organised events. We had really good attendance across the board, and it provided a very fitting way of celebrating the long and successful history of the club. I hope that the founding members of the club would be pleased with the club as it stands today.

   Membership continues to rise, with a total of approximately 350 members to date - in fact, 353 to be precise, based on the update I had from Paul a few hours ago. A growth of just over 30 from this time last year. This makes us one of the larger clubs within Oxfordshire. So thank you to Paul Rushby, for all his hard work as membership secretary.

   That growth is terrific, but it does introduce some challenges of course. As club members we all share a responsibility to ensure the historic club spirit and ethos are retained. I believe we are doing well on that front — as reflected by the support and camaraderie within the club, whether in training sessions or at local races.

Our club members have continued to participate in a diverse range of events, from short track races to ultra-marathons. We have had multiple teams at both the Ridgeway and Ox-Belt relays. Club trips in 2025 to the Snowdonia and White Peak marathons were well attended and successful.

Club training sessions have been popular throughout the year. It has become normal for upwards of 60 runners to turn up for club sessions, no matter how cold, dark or wet it might be! Additionally the loopback and walking groups continue to flourish, with good numbers each week - so thank you to all those involved with that. Another great example of club mates supporting each other and enabling people to come along to the club even whilst injured. I would like to thank all of the club coaches and the loopback run leaders for their efforts over the year in keeping things running smoothly. Thanks also to Bertie for his for meeting and greeting new members, helping them slot into the correct group.

The club has had a successful year of racing. There have been numerous individual achievements across the year, but the real success of the club is the culture of support and encouragement. The strength and depth of our teams over the course of the season was reflected in the 2025 Oxfordshire Grand Prix results, with the men's team winning and the women's team coming second. Over the year, we had 23 men and 18 women who contributed to the club 'A' teams at one or more of the races — a good reminder that it is a whole-team effort to do well in this competition.

I am pleased to report that the club has once again made a positive contribution to the local running scene with the races that we organise. The Cotswold Classic and the Ducklington Dash were both great successes again, with each race selling out. We also organised and hosted our usual XC race, again with great success. Thank you to all of the race directors and volunteer teams for putting in the hard work to make these events run so seamlessly.

Talking of XC, we have had another successful season, with lots of involvement across both the junior and senior sections of the club. On behalf of the club, I would like to thank the Oxfordshire XC League committee for all their work in coordinating another successful season of races that we get to enjoy as a club. Particular thanks to our own Dan Wymer for all of his hard work in managing the league over the past few years.

With work at Courtside still in progress, we remain somewhat in limbo in terms of a base for our Thursday club sessions. More on that later in the agenda, but I would like to thank Mike and the Juniors coaching team for accommodating us at Henry Box Sports Hall over the winter months - very much appreciated.

As anticipated when I took on the role of club chair last year, it has been a fun and interesting year. There is no little black book of all the things that need to be done! So thank you Lyn, Bec and all of the committee members for their support and hard work over the year. There are countless behind-the-scenes tasks that need to happen to keep the club running, and these just happen week in and week out. So thank you all.

I am very much looking forward to the forthcoming year. All the signs are good for it to be another successful year, whether socialising, training or racing. So thank you everyone for helping to make it such a fun place to be.

7. **Treasurer's Report** - Bec Ripley -

The accounts as at 31st December 2025 had previously been distributed via SPOND.

Bank balances as at the year end -

Current Account	£4,658
Deposit Account	£1,114
Total Cash	£5,772

The accounts for the year ended 31 December 2025 show total income of £48,315 and total expenditure of £49,087, resulting in a deficit for the year of £773.

Income during the year was mainly generated from membership fees, race events including the Cotswold Classic and Ducklington Dash, swimming sessions and various club activities. Membership fees and race events continue to be the club's main sources of income.

Expenditure during the year covered the running of race events, affiliation fees, junior section costs, kit purchases, pool hire and other general club activities.

Compared to the previous year, total income decreased by approximately £4,000. This was mainly due to fewer member events during the year, such as the Ascot and ABBA trips which took place in 2024. In 2024 the club also received a one-off donation of £1,000.

During the year the club began investing in the development of a new website, with costs of approximately £2,500 recognised in the 2025 accounts. This investment supports the club's communications and administration going forward. As a result, the accounts show a small deficit of £773 for the year compared with a surplus of £2,819 in 2024.

At the start of the year the club held funds of £6,545. After the deficit for the year, total members' funds on 31 December 2025 were £5,772. This level of reserves remains sufficient to support the club's normal activities and provides a reasonable buffer for future events and costs.

It was agreed at the previous AGM that membership fees for the 2026/27 season will increase by 10% from April 2026. This will help ensure the club continues to cover rising costs and maintain a healthy financial position.

In addition to cash funds held by the club, the club also holds a quantity of running kit for sale which is expensed when purchased and not held as inventory in the accounts. At 31 December 2025 the club held approximately £4,800 of kit.

Overall, the club remains in a stable financial position and continues to have sufficient funds to support its activities.

Finally, I would like to thank the committee for their support during my first year as Treasurer.

Bec asked the attendees if there were any questions.

Dan Wymer asked why the revenue for Junior fees were down on last year, Bec informed him that the question had been looked at before and the allocation was incorrect in last years accounts.

8. **<u>Adoption of the Accounts</u>** -

Proposed by John McCormac and seconded by Bertie Field.

9. **<u>Junior Report</u>** - Mike Miles -

We had another good track and field season with one of the main highlights being the Heart of England League, which is based in the Midlands.

Our athletes travelled to Kettering, Kidderminster and Worcester where they excelled against larger clubs and new competition and we finished fourth in the second division which is the division that we belong in.

The beauty of this division is that all the other clubs have track facilities and we don't have to host which has been a real challenge in the past.

They were long-ish journeys but worth every mile.

We had fun in the Oxfordshire Track and Field League and our juniors competed well against the other 7 clubs in the County.

Everything is set up for this coming season with the opener being in April at Horspath.

Keith Read and Lisa Butler looked after the U11 quad kids and made sure that they had a great time at all three competitions.

At the County Championships held in May last year we finished with Luca Roberts County Champion in the shot putt and Ruth Lindsay champion in the 75 meter hurdles.

Using the competition results we were able to work out the winners of our club championships and at our presentation evening Fraser handed out over 120 medals to our older athletes and the Quadkids .

The overall team trophy winner went to Livvy Butler who became the youngest ever winner of this prize.

U17 Charlie Palmer set new club records in the 60 meters indoors, along with 100 and 200 meters on the track.

Tom Pollard set new U20 records in the high jump and 400 hurdles and U15 Ruth Lindsay set a new record in the 75 m hurdles.

Mike travelled to Lee Valley in January to watch Ruth compete indoors, where because of her date of birth, she then had to compete in the U17 age comp.

Running against the fastest girls in the country she broke the club record in the 60 m hurdles and equalled a 20 year old record in the 60 meter sprint.

Thanks to Lee for posting the junior records on our website.

Our outdoor training will resume just as soon as we get enough light, and we are waiting for the go ahead to use of the Radley College facilities

The cross country season saw 8 new members join the club on a cross country only basis, also coming to the cross country training sessions.

We will continue to have practice cross country sessions throughout the year, where we have been getting up to 20 turn up.

Along with our regulars we had 15 U9, U11 compete this season with 11 finishing all 5 races and collecting the County medals for completion.

Almost all of those competed at the two Horspath races which were tricky to say the least.

We actually finished in third team place for our U9 girls and fourth for the U9 boys.

U17 Thomas Henderson was selected to compete at Exeter for Gloucestershire and enjoyed the experience.

Our Sportshall Indoor athletics season finished last Sunday at Bicester with our U15 boys taking County Championship honours.

We had five out of six age groups finishing in the top three.

U11 Bronwyn Tandy came first in her age group, and Tia Read came third in the U13s.

Ruth Lindsay was the overall winner in the U15 girls followed by Una Challender in silver position.

We had 12 athletes selected to represent Oxfordshire at Burgess Hill again back in February and they were all amazing.

U11s Bronwyn and Evelyn O'Brien came away with Silver in the indoor javelin.

It was a very long day but well worth the trip.

We hosted two matches in the Oxfordshire league and everything went off smoothly.

Big thanks to the Windrush Leisure Centre for their help with the bookings, and the Yellow Submarine upstairs for sorting out the refreshments on both days.

The Marathon Relay at Radley and the Christmas Pudding Relay both went well, and we aim to hold both again this year.

As always, I have to say a big thank you to my fellow coaches, Tony, Amanda, Tina, Verity, Keith and Charlotte for their continued support.

Also thanks to the Committee for allowing us to take on two more assistant coaches.

Lisa and Adam have already been busy on Thursday evenings at training and looking forward to moving outside with us when the light allows.

Krystal McCullion continues to be our junior team Membership Secretary, and we thank her for taking on this very important role.

Krystal knows that Paul Rushby is always on hand should any problems occur.

Our official's team of Tony, Amanda, Kath, Matt and Heather continue to help us at the track and field leagues along with a host of parents who regularly help out where needed.

Fraser and the Committee have also given their approval for me to buy 2 new spec 700 g javelins and a new triple jump mat, and I thank them for their continued support and being patient during the monthly junior reports.

10. <u>The Courtside at the Leys Update</u> - Fraser Howard -

Fraser stated that we had moved from the Windrush Leisure Centre to West Witney Sports and now at the Leys.
He is in regular contact with The Courtside and there have been several opening dates. As of yesterday, we should be able to use from May this year, fingers crossed that this is realistic.
There are no other alternative venues to use as our HQ.

Fraser thanked Mike Miles and the juniors for allowing us to meet in the hall at Henry Box.

He still feels that it was the right decision to make and will keep the members updated.

There are not many Thursday sessions between now and May, as there are the Time Trials and the Motavation.

11. <u>Ratification of Life Members</u> -

Fraser read out the list of Life Members, these had all been nominated and agreed at various EGMs and AGMs, they do not require to be nominated, proposed or seconded at any AGM, as they are all Life Members -

President	Vernon Blowfield
Life Presidents	Martin Crabb Jan Johanson

Life Vice-Presidents	John McCormac
	Lyn Hopkins
	Tony Lock
	Mike Miles

12. <u>Nomination of Officers and Committee for 2026/2027</u> -

Fraser read out the list of Committee for 2026/2027. No Committee members had stood down at the end of December, therefore no nominations were required for new members.

Chairman	Fraser Howard
Secretary	Lyn Hopkins
Treasurer	Bec Ripley

General Committee -

Paul Rushby
Megan Hill
Andy Church
Jason Shailer
Lee Vanstone
Mike Miles
Regina Johnys
James Field
Derek Bond

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55pm.

<u>DATE OF THE 2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</u> - 10th March 2027

<u>DATE OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING</u> - 18th March 2026 in the Meeting Room at Waitrose in Witney at 7.30pm.

<u>ATTENDEES</u> - Fraser Howard, Lyn Hopkins, Bec Ripley, Mike Miles, Megan Hill, Sara Wild, Anne Rouget, Sally Howard, Regina Johnys, Jason Shailer, Rachel Henderson, Keith Morgan, Lee Vanstone, Steve Hopkins, Claire Brennan, Matthew Lock, Tamsyn Wymer, Dan Wymer, Paul Ainslie, Sharon Christie, Mark Crosby, Jo Cook, John McCormac and Bertie Field.