



ELY RUNNERS - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Monday 12th March 2018 at 7:30pm
Paradise Centre Meeting Room

AGENDA

Present: (25) Mark Bell, Sarah Bell, Samantha Collins-Shirley, Emily Knight, John Turner, Charlie Barker, Peter Harris, James Lee, Sue Bridges, Debbie Fisher, James Fisher, Robert Pope, Emma Greaves, Peter Royle, ?? (female), Alan Rutterford, Ross Payne, Justin Smith, Charlotte Cook, Lauren Thomas, Lionel Smith, Ben Cook, Matthew Mason, Stephen Howard, Richard Hill

Apologies Received: Bob Shortland, Caroline Brown, Nicky Ester, Claire Geary

1. Chairman's opening remarks – Stephen Howard

Stephen opened the meeting at 7:36pm, and urged members to remember that the primary purpose of a running club was to participate in and facilitate running.

2. Matters arising from the 2017 minutes – http://www.elyrunners.co.uk/agm_minutes_mar17.pdf

None were brought forward.

3. Treasurer's report – Matthew Mason

MM circulated hard copies of and presented a comprehensive set of accounts and talked the meeting through them to explain and highlight items of interest:

Income Statement YE 31 December 2017

Membership subscriptions income is close to last year's figure. Beginners course subscriptions income is up ~50%. General interest is down >50%, better rates need to be sought. Overall income down slightly, possibly due to artificially high 2017 figure (release of aged creditors). R&R expenditure down slightly due to better vehicle hire price. Club events catering costs up ~50%, due to inflation at providers. Coaching courses & equipment costs up considerably, back to more normal level after low figure in 2017.

NYE 10k Income & Expenditure

Income up, due to different entry handling cost model.

Balance Sheet at 31st December 2017

Surplus for 2017 transferred to General Fund.

4. Secretary's report – Richard Hill

- Peak annual membership remains ~300 for the third year in a row. After a significant growth of the junior (U19) proportion in 2016, that now remains constant at about 1/3 of the club.
- Since AGM 2017, monthly winter track sessions at One Leisure St Ives have bookended the summer grass track training to ensure Ely Runners provide year-round track training. In Spring 2017 these were at cost to club on a trial basis, in autumn/ winter 17-18 these were at £2 per member per session, and almost recovering cost by time of AGM. These will continue in autumn winter 18-19 at cost to member, possibly at Wilberforce road or St. Ives.

- Club results database has been in abeyance since November 2016 due to: 1) the now large nature of the job updating all results for all members on a weekly basis 2) the complexity of the update process which was not designed to cope with results in such volume 3) the lack of volunteer to work on the database. Members have been canvassed for support, and this position will likely not change in the future. Club records will be monitored and updated in due course.
- The long running interest group hoping to site an all-weather athletics track in Ely 'Track4Ely' disbanded in 2016 but reformed with new initiative in 2017, bringing together Ely College, County and District council groups, Ely Runners and Ely Triathlon Club. There have been three meetings involving ER and the College. ER hope to hire traffic free winter training facilities for juniors when there is an available match of a slot and coaches. Also, ER hope to site a kit store of College grounds. These two interactions will form the basis of site access for ER, which will be the platform for partnership fundraising for a track.
- Club newsletter has been rekindled, now 4 editions in and scheduled quarterly.
- Club website www.elyrunners.co.uk remains key information source and reference point for members, prospective members, the running community and the general public. Though old styled and not optimal on mobile devices, it fulfils key functions for the club not available elsewhere such as documenting our insurance policies, training risk assessments and processing prospective and renewing members. Updates made are minimal, essential only. The hope for a development to a new website has received a small amount of new impetus from new members with skills. The suggestion has been made that development could be undertaken by a third party for a fee, and this suggestion will be considered further by committee if a volunteer to oversee that procurement and migration comes forward.

5. Training report – John Turner

JT outlined the club training group tiers:

Open: <7m/m

Club: 7-9m/m

Development: >9m/m

Self-allocation to these groups is voluntary and intended as a guide to tailor training sessions to the individual. This is working well.

One new session has been introduced – Butt Drove

A record senior training attendance of 50 was recently had

Alan Rutterford is introducing older juniors to senior training on Thursdays.

A new Sunday away training session to Rutland Water will be scheduled. Members are encouraged to recce and submit full details of any other session suitable for a group training.

6. Head Coach's report – Alan Rutterford

There are a reasonable number of coaches, but more will be required through 2018.

Half of Coaches are LIRF

2 new LIRF have qualified in 2017

2 new Junior Athletics Leaders have qualified in 2017

2 more new Junior Athletics Leaders will train in 2018

11 coaches work with juniors – 2 keen to train LIRF in April

SH queried junior numbers, possibility of a cap. AR agreed that 100 was probably maximum

7. Beginners Report – Justin Smith and Charlotte Cook

First presentation of 2018 has started, good numbers despite bad weather.

2018 dates will be fixed soon

Having first presentation in March brings forward good candidates

Uptake from beginners to club in 2017 was good

Balance of 'true' beginners versus club members joining in for a lighter session now correctly in favour of beginners, and members taking supportive roles in sessions

8. Junior Section report – Mark Bell

Ely Runners junior section continues to thrive.

We have a healthy number of juniors and 'just about' enough coaches to manage the training and development. We have needed to be flexible with coach allocation this past year (more than normal), but the fantastic volunteers in the junior section, have kept a busy, year-round programme for the juniors.

The current membership number stands at 84 junior members as full members. We regularly see around 42 members at the weekly training sessions, peaking above 50 in the early summer training sessions.

There have been 43 applications to the Joining list since the last AGM in 2017, including summer session memberships. Approximately 60% of those booking trials or summer memberships have continued to full junior membership. Allowing for casual enquiries, this is we believe a good take up rate.

Commitment to training and racing has been brilliant this past year, with some adding to training with extra sessions run on a Monday and Thursday by Alan. This extra training has demonstrated where keen juniors can really improve with focussed and dedicated coaching in smaller group numbers.

The competition has been really strong at our main competitive series, in the Frostbite Championships. Finishing in a strong (6th?) place has been our best performance for a long time. A brilliant job by our junior runners! There has been great support through the series from coaches and parents also. And some amazing cakes at the finish! The fun element to the FB series and team support and encouragement is really important, and is what Ely Runners Junior section is all about.

The coaches have met on several occasions this year with a progress and development agenda. This has helped to prepare for the upcoming sessions, and to address some of the challenges we face as a section. We still have our main target of a dedicated indoor facility for meeting, to achieve. We remain hopeful that the Paradise will have some free space following the opening of 'The Hive' that we can liberate. The Paradise have supported us for so long, and we hope we can continue to support this centre. For the long term, we have a plan in progress through the main committee with Ely College.

Much of the administration has now been shared around, which has helped significantly. We have recently welcomed Caroline Brown to this team, who is helping with the membership enquiries. So, a massive thanks, to all who support our junior section at Ely Runners. We need all the help we can get, and are always grateful for new offers of support. We look forward to the new Running Year ahead, and challenge to Senior Section to beat 6th place in the next Frostbite series
Mark and Conan

9. Chief Marshal's report – Charlotte Cook

Having one less open event in 2017 has greatly released pressure on the role
It is still difficult to get enough members to volunteer
30-40 volunteers at NYE10k ~10% of the club

10. Special Achievement Awards 2017 – Stephen Howard

Nicky Ester – three years' service as NYE10k Race Director.

11. Election of Committee three officers (Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer)

- Chairman - **Stephen Howard pLT, sJL**
- Secretary/Membership/Website - **Richard Hill pJS, sSH**
- Treasurer – **Matthew Mason pCC, sJT**
- Senior Training - **John Turner pRH, sEK**
- Senior Training Understudy (one committee place) – **Lee Thompson, Lionel Smith, Kyle Armstrong pRH, sRP** (*Post meeting note - One committee vote*)
- Membership Secretary – **Caroline Brown pRH, sJL**
- Club Captain – **Ross Payne pRH, sMB**
- Beginners Representative – **Justin Smith pCC, sSH**
- Social Secretary – **Lauren Thomas pRH, sMM**
- Ladies Representative – **Samantha Collins-Shirley pSB, sJT**
- Club Welfare Officer – **Emma Greaves pRH, sPH**
- Club Kit - **Emily Knight pRH, sJF**
- Head Coach - **Alan Rutterford pRH, sLT**
- Junior Section Secretary – **Mark Bell pRH, SH**

Carried

12. Election of Events Working Group (EWG)

- Race Director NYE 10k – **Charlotte Cook**

- Chief Marshal NYE10k – **Lauren Thomas**
- Chief Marshal KHL Ely – **Vacant**
- Race Director KHL – **Charlotte Cook**
- Course Director and Stores - **Matthew Mason**
- Club Events Race Director(s) (XC, TTR, 10kHC, 1mHC) – **Vacant**
- Chief Time Keeper/ Watches & Place Keeping – **Emily Knight**
- Assistant Time Keeper – **Emma Greaves**
- Start/Finish Areas - **Emma Greaves**
- Event Refreshments – **Vacant**
- Kevin Henry League Scorer – **Ross Payne**
- Frostbite Manager - **Alan Rutterford**
- RNR Open Class Team Manager – **Peter Holmes**
- RNR Club Class Team Managers – **Andy Thompson, Caroline Brown, James Lee**
- Hereward Relay Team Manager – **Samantha Collins-Shirley**
- Photographer (Events & Websites) - **Charlie Barker & Karl Bedingfield**
- Trophies – **Sarah Bell**
- Race Diary – **Ross Payne**

Carried

13. Consideration of donations – Matthew Mason

£2,200 available for allocation to selected charities. Based on suggestions received from members, Matthew proposed the following:

- £1,500 – Littleport Parkrun startup. Several members (Matt Holmes, Charlotte Cook, James Lee) have been integral to this project getting going, which now looks likely to start in 2018. It requires £3,000 to start and has received £1,500 from Littleport Council. Parkrun as an organisation has similar broad objective to ER i.e. supporting the running community and running in the wider community as a leisure activity.
- £350 – Ely Food Bank (Trussell Trust). This charity provides food and household necessities to the poorest households in the Ely and District community, through distribution centres in Ely, Sutton, Haddenham and Soham.
- This leaves £350 fund to use reactively through the year.

In addition, MM suggested pre-authorisation of NYE18 donation allocation as follows:

- £200 – any charity nominated by Bedwell's estate, in thanks for their patronage of KHL Ely
- Match xmas raffle funds to donate to Arthur Rank Hospices

Carried

14. Discussion: to raise membership fees for 2018-19 to £22 seniors aged 25+; £11 Juniors (U17) and £11 Young persons (18-24).

Carried

15. Annual review and re-approval of the sum set aside for the Track Fund

Carried

16. Renewal of Affiliations/Joining

- ARC - and continue with open event ARC permits
- ABAC - represents and lobbies for interests of clubs
- UKA - individual EA registrations (£15 for 2018-19) are now being paid by members if required (includes ECCA) – in addition to club fee
- SEAA Competitions Ltd - provides championships in the SE region
- CAA - provides championships for Cambridgeshire
- GCAN - Greater Cambridge Network of Clubs, especially to support Juniors
- Friends of the Roman Road & Fleam Dyke

Carried

17. Consideration to authorise Committee & EWG to organise the following events:

- Turing Trail Relay (3rd Sunday in March) - Private Club Event with other teams by invitation only
- Club 10k Handicap on a Thursday in June when Little Downham Pavilion is available
- Club One Mile Handicap on a Thursday in July
- KHL 5k Race on Thursday April – September TBC – Preferably May
- New Year's Eve 10k on 31st December
- Club Cross-Country Championships on a Sunday morning in January/February 2019

Carried

18. Authorise the Committee to enter the club for relay, team and league events, including:

- Round Norfolk Relay (Open and Club Teams) and stage 14-15 changeover with 4-5 staff
- National, Regional, Area and County Championships including relays E.G. SEAA Road Relays
- Frostbite Friendly League – the club is obligated to provide a reasonable number of marshals as requested, subject to availability. *Alan Rutterford indicated his availability to attend FFL AGM.*
- Hereward Relay (including helping March AC with marshalling at ERFC)
- Kevin Henry 5k League
- Green Wheel Relay – additional race
- Essex Road Relay Championships – additional race

Carried

19. Proposal (pRH) for the club's Officers or Committee (subject to the Treasurer's advice on the threshold reserve of funds) to authorise reasonable expenditure, to the benefit of the club and its members, including:

- Club membership (due 1st October) of the Paradise Centre for members to change/shower FOC after training or events
- Running/training/stretching/injury books for members to borrow
- Food after the 10k Handicap, One Mile Handicap and for the Christmas Drinks
- Club team entries for relays, league membership, and championships
- Fund appropriate coaching and support courses (subject to commitment) for members
- Supplies for events, equipment for club use, race kit, and bibs for night training
- Mileage at 30p/m for official duties on behalf of the club and/or carrying stores from/to Ely or HQ for the club's open races, selected teams in events, and training events
- Electronic race processing and recording equipment
- Trophies & engraving
- Support of new, local area races attended by and for the benefit of members
- Charities
- Kit store – possible capital purchase of new shed or container for storage
- Athletics equipment
- Access to training facilities e.g. track, safe winter venue for juniors

Carried

Extra Proposals/ Discussions:

20. Proposal: Direct Debit facility for paying membership subscriptions to be made available to new and renewing members. – Caroline Brown

RH presented proposal. Some discussion followed re practicalities. It was agreed to address these and implement on an optional basis as soon as reasonably possible.

Carried

21. Proposal: To make the club a zero user of single use plastic cups, and to promote this within the running community. – Richard Hill

Committee agreed in principle at last meeting (30th January). Practically this means no plastic cups at events. Alternatives to be used would be paper cups with table top holders. Some discussion followed re practicalities. It was agreed to address these and implement as soon as reasonably possible.

Carried

Post meeting note: Peter Royle has come forward to champion this.

22. Proposal: To expand the maximum capacity of the Committee from 3 officers plus 10 to 3 plus 12.

Carried

23. General Data Protection Regulation – Richard Hill

The club will continue to review and take guidance from the governing bodies. It was suggested that the membership renewal and application process may need modification to include new consents. Lauren Thomas offered expertise.

Any other business

Alan Rutterford reminded the assembled that the club now only has one flag, and requested the purchase of another. Approved.

Stephen Howard closed the meeting at 9:24pm

RH