

## **Minutes of Macclesfield Harriers & AC Committee Meeting**

**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

**Chaired by Keith Mulholland**

**Time: 20:15**

**Venue: Athletics Club House**

**Attendees:** Kevin Ranshaw (KR), Alison Gunn (AG), Neil Gunn (NG), Keith Mulholland (KM), Nicola Tasker (NT), Rob Hasler (RH), Ray O'Keefe (RO'K), Barry Blyth (BB), Tracey Porritt (TP).

**Apologies:** Brian Macfadyen (BMac), Bob Lynch (BL), Daisy Pickles (DP), Barbara Murray (BM), Jenney Airey (JA), Wendy Boardman (WB).

- 1) **Agreement of previous Meeting's Minutes** – already approved
- 2) **Correspondence (TP)** – all forwarded
- 3) **Club Membership Update (JB & NG)**

Nothing much to report from Julian. KM reported that club membership is going very well with increased subscriptions. NG said that EA membership will be increased and the fee proposed will be £14.00. KM said that he feels we need to contact the EA and ask about the increase as generally we do not see what is happening with the money we are paying over. NG suggested that we write to them and offered to do this. KM agreed that it was certainly worthwhile sending a letter. KR did also agree that we don't really see anything back to justify where the money goes.

#### **4) Finance (NG)**

NG has sent a summary of the club accounts for the end of August 2016, and wanted to mention the following:

**a) Macclesfield Athletics Development Fund (MADF) and Macclesfield Harriers Athletics Club Development Plan** – NG would like an update from MADF (the registered charity supporting Athletics Development in Macclesfield) and suggested writing to the trustees for this. KR was able to update the committee on the MADF trustees meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September which he attended. The current balance held by MADF is around £81,000. MADF have provided Everybody Sport and Leisure Trust (ESLT) with information on the proposed indoor athletics facility and MAHC provided them with a copy of the updated MHAC athletics development plan to support their business case for development of the leisure facilities at Macclesfield. The MADF trustees also met with local councillors who recommended contacting the portfolio holder for leisure services on Cheshire East Council to discuss the plans. As the portfolio holder has recently changed to the deputy leader of the council, there has been some delay with this contact. However, it is understood that ESLT are reviewing the Leisure Centres across Cheshire East and Macclesfield will be the next to be

progressed in terms of development required to maximise the leisure provision in the area and the income it can generate. Further updates may be available at the end of the year.

**b) Macclesfield Half Marathon** – NG wanted to make committee members aware that last year the race only just ‘broke even’ and that may be the case this year despite making a number of cost saving changes (high costs of traffic management are the main issue). KM has been looking at how many people will be turning up on the day but did agree with NG that given the amount of organising and hard work by many volunteers it may not be worth holding the event next year. BL reminded the committee that we as the Harriers make the decisions about what races to put on and what format they take. This will be discussed at a Macc Half post-event meeting later in October and also at club committee.

BL was not party to the whole meeting, but happened to be present when the half marathon was discussed.

#### **5) Everybody Awards**

KM informed the committee that he had put forward a nomination for ‘club of the year’, and has been told that MHAC have been shortlisted. The winner will be announced at Wrenbury Hall in Nantwich on 07 October 2016 and two tickets have been made available. KM will be attending. Further tickets are available for anyone who wants to go from the club at a cost of £31.00.

#### **6) C25K Course (NG)**

NG reported that a new course had started and Wendy Boardman was leading the course. Very enthusiastic group with several good runners on board. Graduation would be at the end of October. Proving very successful.

#### **7) Track and Field/Sportshall (KR)**

KR has sent a report in GO Magazine and last Sunday the Cheshire Track and Field held their last round of fixtures. Excellent attendance by Macclesfield athletes. The U11’s won their competition and the ladies and men won their competitions. Good day. KR had not yet seen the league table as three matches are due to take place on Sunday and not all the results are in. KR did say that the U11’s boys and girls combined have won all four of their matches and so have won the league. Big congratulations to them. The mini competition will be held at the club on 24 September, at the end of the meeting the track and field awards will take place for 2016 which NT has calculated for us and the trophies will be ready. KM will present the awards. KR went on to inform the committee that the first fixture for the sportshall will be 9 October at Crewe with the U11’s/ U13’s and U15’s.

#### **8) Cross Country (RH)**

RH has sent a report to Go magazine and has a lot of interest in cross country RH has gone through the current list and crossed people off who have not run in the last season. Email have been sent to see who wishes to remain on the list. The first race is 1 October and RH

has encouraged runners to take part in the North Staffs league. A taster day has been discussed previously but RH has not had time to organise this as yet.

#### **9) Road Running (RO'K)**

RO'K has sent his report to GO magazine with attendance and race results. RO'K advised the committee that all road races have been well attended apart from a dip in August (holiday time). New members attending the races all the time and updates are sent monthly through an email list. The North West road relays will be held on Saturday and a good turnout is expected. RO'K also reported that a meeting had taken place with the leaders of the road running groups to establish that everyone was up to date with training, DRB checks and qualifications. The group leaders are doing a fantastic job and people really enjoy going out with the groups. RH mentioned progression through the groups. R'OK commented that the social aspect is what keep people running and trying to force people to cross and move between groups is not a good idea.

London Marathon – R'OK informed the committee that Rossendale Trust had a London Marathon place and are very keen to find someone to fill it with a minimum amount of £1,500 to raise. We as a club may have 3 London Marathon places.

R'OK also wanted to inform the committee that he was looking into road races further afield for next year. NG commented that 'Snowdon Half' may be a good one to think about or 'Lady bower Trail Marathon' and if anyone has any ideas please put them forward for consideration.

#### **10) Fell Running (BB)**

BB has sent his report for GO Magazine and also emailed additions. Eccles Pike was the last of the summer season races and both our ladies and men took team prizes. Julian Brown also won for the second time the Bullock Smithy a 56 mile hike in the Peak District. Mandy Calvert competed in the Monta Rosa Italian Trail Race, congratulations to Mandy.

#### **11) Navigation Course (NG)**

NG asked the committee about the possibility of holding another navigation course due to the popularity of the event. The committee agreed that one should be held next year at a cost of £7.00 per person.

#### **12) Statistics (NT)**

NT wanted to discuss the Track & Field awards and inform the committee that the club records were completed and ready.

#### **13) Publicity (NG)**

NG reported that we did not have any one in place yet to take over but everything was covered in the way of advertising and photographs from events. AG did ask committee members to send in photographs from any events for the magazine.

### **Any other business**

#### **a) Running Style (Session) – NG**

NG wanted to ask the committee about a half day running style class (that was raised in April by Helen Rose) with a view to helping members run efficiently and eliminate certain injuries. KR asked which member groups would it be aimed at. NG responded that it would be targeted at everybody especially group leaders, junior coaches and runners over 17. The committee agreed to fund this idea and NG said that a volunteer would be needed to help organise and co-ordinate the event and it would more than likely be held next year.

#### **b) 'GO' Magazine**

KM thanked AG for another great edition of the 'GO' Magazine. All committee members agreed that Alison is doing a fantastic job.

Date and time of next meeting: Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November at 08:15PM