

Minutes of Macclesfield Harriers & AC Committee Meeting

Thursday 30 November 2017

Chaired by Keith Mulholland

Time: 20:15

Venue: Athletics Club House

Attendees: Tracey Porritt (TP), Neil Gunn (NG), Mark Godden (MG), Graham Brown (GB), Keith Mulholland (KM), Alison Gunn (AG), Gillian Lindsey (GL), Ray O'Keefe (RO'K), Christine Ritchie (CR)

Apologies: Nicky Tasker (NT), Bob Lynch (BL), Rob Hasler (RH), Barbara Murray (BM)

1) **Agreement of previous Meeting's Minutes** - Already Agreed

2) **Correspondence (TP)** – All forwarded

3) **Club Membership (NG)**

New membership & track fees to be implemented as previously discussed and publicised in GO! and on the website.. Membership form (paper and online) to be amended to reflect changes and will go live on 1st January 2018.

4) **Finance (NG)**

No issues with finance were identified. Surplus track fees go to MADF, this will be approximately £5k this year. MADF fund now stands at approximately £98k which is close to their target of £100k to support the new indoor training facility.

5) **Club Volunteers – Track and Field Manager, Secretary**

There is no volunteer to take on the important role of Track and Field Manager. This is a significant problem for the club. **GL** suggested advertising the post on EA website/forum. It was decided that there should be a big appeal at the AGM and **KM** will discuss further with **BL**.

6) **Communications Update (GB)**

A sub committee has met to look into updating the website. Members are looking at other club websites to help draw up a wish list. **GB** stressed the importance of the wish list adapting to technology and being mobile friendly. Wordpress is to be considered as a possible way forward with the technology. It is important that website content can be created once and then be used multiple ways. This way forward with communication will be a lot less expensive than the GO magazine. The next meeting is 12th December.

7) **Club Development Plan (BM)**

Game Changers Pilot Programme: There are now eight young volunteers on the programme. Five attended the T&F officials course on 25 November 2017 and the three others will attend the course in Manchester in March 2018. Three volunteers assisted at the Northern Athletics Indoor meeting in Sheffield on 18 November 2017.

Track and Field Officials Course held on Saturday 25 November: There were eighteen attendees at the course hosted by MHAC at the club house, including the five Game Changers mentioned above, plus 3 MHAC parents/coaches, An additional 4 parents/coaches will attend the T&F course. This will give the club a total of 15 new qualified officials by the start of the track season.

First Aid Training: 24 run leaders, coaches, officials and other volunteers attended the First Aid Training run by The First Responder Group. Many thanks to Kath and Val for delivering the session and to all who attended.

Club Development Plan: The annual review and update of the development plan is due in the next month. BM to send out a request to section leads for any updates.

8) **Track & Field Maintenance (BL)**

The long jump run up needs repairing. The area around the long jump needs resealing. The quote from Everybody is too high (the quote is to do more than is necessary). **BL** is to take this up with Everybody.

9) **Macclesfield Park Run (NG)**

Talks are progressing and the likely start date is Spring 2018. **NG** will continue to represent the club as part of the project team.

10) **Track and Field/Sports hall**

No input or update provided (see above regarding lack of T&F manager).

11) **Cross Country (RH)**

A new gazebo with sides, branded with Macc Harriers logo is approved to be purchased by **Rob Hasler** (a suitable lightweight model to be investigated). The old gazebo to be kept for track events at Macclesfield.

12) **Road Running/Boxing Day Handicap (RO'K)**

There is a good turnout of Macc Harriers at most road running events. The 2018 list of races for the club championship is to be published soon by **RO'K**. **RO'K** is keen to include new races next year and has asked for suggestions from members. **GB** has asked for the Killer Mile to be included in 2018. The Boxing Day handicap will not go ahead this year due to low attendance last year. **RO'K** is to organise a similar handicap race in May/June 2018 and will ask for help from run leaders.

13) **Fell Running (GB)**

Club Championships 2017 – With just the club handicap to go Robbie Peal now looks to have wrapped things up. Dan Croft is leading the Handicap for the Ken Hall trophy. Gillian Lindsey is in close contention.

The winter series of races start on 3rd December nine in all, and run through to the end of Feb 2018. **GB** stated that the races are intended keep runners motivated over the winter. In 2018 there are to be 20 races/Main Club Fell Champs and 8 races for the summer series. A big group of Macc Harriers are already entered in the 2018 Anniversary Waltz (this will be the last Anniversary Waltz). Many Macc Harriers are keen to do Lakeland races in 2018 and **GB** is looking into the Lakeland Grand Prix races for 2018. These races are only medium or long so an additional short race will be identified.

GB to try and encourage more Macc Harriers into Mountain and Fell Relays and to enter the English Championships.

GB will organise Fell Taster and Navigation sessions in 2018

GB is to try to provide support for fast/medium/slow groups on Wednesday Fell Nights during the summer of 2018. These will be more structured than the current Wednesday night Fell Groups. **GB** will need support from other runners/leaders to provide these sessions. They may not be weekly but maybe fortnightly/monthly.

14) **Statistics (NT)**

No update from **NT** (apologies sent).

15) **Publicity**

GL has requested ideas for the monthly club report in the Macclesfield Express. Articles for December/January are respectively: Charity (to emphasise the charitable donations made from club-organised races this year); Winter Road Running and Safety plus an outline of the Macclesfield Harriers structured running groups. We should consider an article on MADF (details to be arranged). **GL** to circulate a provisional calendar asking for input from the section reps.

16) **Any other business**

a) **New Treasurer (NG)**

Mark Godden (**MG**) to take over the Treasurer role from 1 January 2018.

b) **Runners Registering for races as Harriers but not competing members (R'OK)**

As this is a small problem with just one or two runners per race, **RO'K** is to continue to tackle this problem on a case by case basis.

c) **AGM 16 March 2018**

NG identified that many of the organisers of the AGM will be away (or no longer in post) for the AGM on 16th March 2018. The venue is booked (Bollington Arts Centre); the Vale Inn will provide food (ordered but not confirmed). Also decided:

- **BL** to collect in all of the trophies (assisted by **AG**)

- **AG** to take trophies for engraving and **KM** to purchase vouchers.
- The manager of each section (Road, XC, T&F, Fell, XD) will nominate and decide on the prize winners
- Each 'Section Head' will choreograph their particular section of the prize-giving evening
- **KM** and **RO'K** will help organise the trophies

Date and Time of next meeting: Thursday 25 January 2018 at 08:15pm

Chair: Keith Mulholland (**KM**)