

# Reading Roadrunners Committee Meeting

MONDAY 09JAN18 – 7:30PM

## THE COMMITTEE

Carl Woffington (Chairman)  
Simon Davis (Coaching)  
Simon Denton (ex-Officio)  
Anne Goodall (Membership Sec)  
Catherine Leather (ex-Officio)  
Hannah McPhee (Social Secretary)  
Paul Monaghan (Social networks/Web)  
Sandra Sheppard (Treasurer)  
Bob Thomas (General Secretary)

## APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

All present

## IN ATTENDANCE

Nicole Rickett, Phil Reay

Carl welcomed Nicole and Phil to the meeting. Nicole will stand for election as Treasurer at the AGM, taking over from Sandy, who is standing down.

Phil, Men's Team Captain, had asked to attend a Committee meeting to understand how it works.

## MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed as a true record by Catherine, seconded by Anne.

## MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

**Newsletter editor** In the absence of a volunteer to take over as editor, publication of newsletters has been suspended. Should anyone wish to volunteer to edit future editions, please speak to Carl in the first instance<sup>1</sup>.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**Events** Carl recounted some of the events in which the Club has been involved recently, including:

- 20Dec. Mulled wine after track
- 26Dec. Goring social run & walk
- 27Dec. Outrun from the stadium
- 03Jan. First of three "Club Run" events at the stadium

Notable forthcoming events include:

- 13Jan. Hants XC: Prospect Park
- 14Jan. TVXC: Reading Roadrunners
- 21Jan. TVXC: Tadley Runners
- 26Jan. Curryoke
- 04Feb. TVXC: Bracknell
- 10Feb. Hants XC: Aldershot
- 11Feb. Bramley 20/10
- 18Feb. Wokingham HM

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Sandy reported being well advanced in finalising the Club's accounts prior to having them audited.

The Berks XC event, members' entry to which is sponsored by the Club, is causing much additional work as Sandy has had to make numerous bank transfers to refund £7 entry fees to individual members. Sandy suggested, and the Committee agreed, that in future years, entry fees will be paid directly by the Club.

Nicole is taking over from Sandy and will stand for election as Treasurer at the AGM. Sandy remains in post until Nicole has access to our bank accounts.

## GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

**London Marathon coaches** Bob reported that he has booked three

---

<sup>1</sup> Email address at end of report

coaches for this year's VLM. As last year, two will depart Palmer Park at 06:00 and drop off at Charing Cross station; the third will depart at 07:00 and drop off in Fenchurch St, close to the Tower marshalling station.

Return will all be from Jubilee Gardens, at 16:00, 17:00 and finally at 18:00 for the Tower marshals.

**Online database** The WebCollect service is now fully populated with members' details and ready for use. Paul has embedded the WebCollect portal in our Club website and this will be used for this year's membership renewals. Bob will shortly be sending round a brief introduction to the service.

Bob noted that the trial integration had obviously been spotted as one new member had already joined through the portal (two as this is written).

Paul intends to upgrade our website so that use of the WebCollect service will be via the encrypted *https* protocol.

Sandy has paid the first year's subscription to the service, so we are now fully committed.

**Committee meeting minutes** For reasons of transparency, Club rules require that reports of Committee meetings are published and made available to members. In the absence of newsletters for the foreseeable future, minutes will be published on the Club website in the newsletter section. Hardcopy can be made available to individual members via the desk on request.

#### **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Anne reported that two new members joined during December.

#### **SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Hannah reported that she is now ready to take bookings for the Club dinner dance, and will be promoting the event at track sessions. She has booked the band, Pink Fish.

#### **COACHING REPORT**

Simon Davis advised that he has a coaches' meeting scheduled for 10Jan, to which Carl and the Team Captains have been invited.

Simon noted an upcoming England Athletics roadshow focused on road running to be held in London on 12Feb, and requested that the Club should fund travel expenses for interested coaches to attend the event. The Committee voted unanimously in favour.

#### **Team Captains' Report**

**XC leagues** Phil reported some significant successes at recent XC league events, with a win at the BBO XC and the teams pushing for podium places in the XC Leagues.

At the Berks XC event, some unfortunate administration mistakes and misunderstandings cost the men's senior team a podium position. It was agreed responsibility for entries would move to the captains in 2018 as is already the case for other team events. At the same event the men's vet team was downgraded from an initial award of Silver to Bronze owing to an administrative error by Berks Athletics, though congratulations are due to Mark Worringham, who achieved the overall Vets' Gold award for the event.

Phil remarked that the Club has a very strong Men's V40 team, which is winning in the leagues, and noted that there are quite a few new members to the Club taking part in the leagues and turning in very respectable results.

**Vets' Track & Field League** Phil noted that he and Sam, the Ladies' Team Captain, are agreed that they need someone else to volunteer to organise the Club's entry in the Vets' Track & Field League, if we are to take part this year. Carl undertook to ask the members for a volunteer to organise our participation, which needs to include provision for

practising field events ahead of the meetings.

### **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**Parking** Bob reported a proposal by Reading council to introduce car park charges at Palmer Park, ostensibly to dissuade non-stadium users from parking and so freeing up space for genuine users of the stadium. Clearly, this is an unwelcome initiative, not least thinking of the queues to pay it would cause at our track sessions. The rejoinder from the stadium was refreshingly robust.

**AGM** This year's AGM will be held on 6Mar18, starting at 19:30 at the Sutton Bowls Club.

**Equipment insurance** Bob reported that renewal of our equipment insurance is due and asked if any additional equipment needed to be added to the schedule. It was agreed that we would add Bramley's roller blind, as well as the Club's iPad and laptop.

**Non-Publication of Committee meeting minutes** Simon Davis noted that we are in breach of Club Rule 7.1e, which requires minutes of Committee meetings to be published in the newsletter, and asked for the Rule to be amended and submitted to the AGM for ratification.

**London Winter Run** Catherine reported that she has been approached to supply marshals to another new London event, the London Winter Run, to be held on 4Feb. She has declined, citing proximity to the Bramley 20/10.

**Mental Health Ambassador** Carl noted that he has had no response from EA regarding whether Laura Brookes's nomination as the Club's Mental Health Ambassador has been accepted. It appears that EA's management of this initiative is in disarray.

**First Aid** Simon Davis requested that first aid training should be available to all the coaches, which was agreed. Carl will

investigate using the EA first aid training capability.

**Track incident** The meeting concluded with a lengthy discussion of the tragic death of Peter Darnell at the track, focusing on the response to the incident by Club and stadium personnel.

The Committee agreed that our policy for dealing with emergencies should be reviewed top-down to determine whether there are any lessons to be learnt from how we responded to the incident. Simon Davis took an action to obtain feedback from those present at the incident, including stadium staff, coaches and members, and to consider whether any further action should be taken to provide an improved response to any future emergency. Simon is tasked to present his early findings at the next Committee meeting.

It was further noted that there are several gaps in the emergency contact details provided by members. Whilst not compulsory, we urge members to provide and maintain emergency contact details.

**Post-meeting note** Carl has asked for the following statement to be recorded on his behalf:

I note with sadness and regret the death of Pete Darnell. Our thoughts go out to his wife and family at this difficult time.

Pete collapsed during our training session at track and the tragic event was witnessed by many of our members. There were many stunned and shocked people at track that night.

Pete was first treated by some RR members who are trained medical professionals in the outside world. These were quickly joined by Park Staff bringing a first aid kit and defibrillator. Two ambulances with paramedics arrived a short time later. I would like to thank these people on behalf of the Club.

## **DOOR ROTA**

10Jan18 Anne, Christina  
17Jan18 Anne, Shirley  
24Jan18 Anne, Christina  
31Jan18 Anne, Jane  
07Feb18 Anne, Shirley

## **DONM: 6Feb18**

*Main Club contact points:*

Chairman, Carl:

[chairman@readingroadrunners.org](mailto:chairman@readingroadrunners.org)

Membership Secretary, Anne:

[membership@readingroadrunners.org](mailto:membership@readingroadrunners.org)

Secretary, Bob:

[gensec@readingroadrunners.org](mailto:gensec@readingroadrunners.org)

Treasurer, Sandy (Nicole):

[treasurer@readingroadrunners.org](mailto:treasurer@readingroadrunners.org)

Coaching, Simon:

[coach@readingroadrunners.org](mailto:coach@readingroadrunners.org)

Team Captains, Sam & Phil:

[teamcaptains@readingroadrunners.org](mailto:teamcaptains@readingroadrunners.org)