

Reading Roadrunners Committee Meeting

TUESDAY 02APR19 – 7:30PM

THE COMMITTEE

Phil Reay	(Chairman)
Alice Carpenter	(ex-Officio)
Simon Denton	(ex-Officio)
Jill Dibben	(Treasurer)
Anne Goodall	(Membership Sec)
Liz Johnson	(Social Secretary)
Paul Monaghan	(Social networks/Web)
Vroni Royle	(ex-Officio)
Claire Seymour	(ex-Officio)
Bob Thomas	(General Secretary)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Claire, Jill

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

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

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Shinfield 10K finances. On the basis that Tom Harrison has been apprised of the reason that the Shinfield Association lost money to fraud, the Committee has agreed to release the rest of the monies due to the Association from the 2018 race.

Dinton Relays. Kerri French has kindly volunteered to become Race Director for Dinton Relays, re-located to Woodford Park for the 2019 event.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Phil welcomed the members of the new Committee and thanked them for volunteering.

Coaching Co-ordinator. Phil noted that he had attended the recent Coaches' meeting and was delighted to report that Katie Gumbrell had been elected unanimously by the coaches to serve as the Coaching Co-ordinator for 2019/20.

Team Captains. Phil thanked Sam Whalley for standing as the Ladies' Captain for a third year and welcomed Grant Hopkins into his first year as Men's Captain. He noted that their first order of business is to select the men's and ladies' teams for the Ridgeway Relays and the Vitality London 10K.

Recent HMs. Phil noted an outstanding turnout at the Reading Half Marathon, with some 185 members running as well as a large contingent of marshals, and was really pleased to see everyone enjoying themselves around the Club tent. Collections for First Days Children's Charity got off to a good start with £676 raised.

The Committee congratulated the **five(!)** members who qualified at the Fleet HM for an England vest to wear at this year's Maidenhead HM: Seb Briggs, Carrie Hoskins, Nigel Hout, Tracey Lasan and Sarah Urwin-Mann.

Newsletter. Phil thanked Peter Reilly for all the work he has put in on producing high-quality, interesting and informative newsletters. Phil advised that Peter Cave is taking over as Newsletter Editor and hopes to publish a May edition.

Finally. Phil noted:

- All actions placed at the AGM have been completed
- Carl has published the Emergency Procedures to be used at track and on outruns
- Four members will be hosted by the organisers of the Düsseldorf Marathon this year under the auspices of an arrangement between Düsseldorf and Reading towns.

- Carl will continue to liaise between the Club and the London Marathon and will continue to organise members marshalling LM events.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Phil thanked Jill for providing a written report for the meeting as she was unable to attend.

Bank accounts. Jill's reports that she now has full access to BACS and that is now her preferred means of paying from Club funds. Hence members wishing to be reimbursed for expenses need to provide their account details with their claims.

Jill noted that the required signatories for cheques paid from the Club accounts are now out-of-date. The Committee agreed that the signatories should be changed to Jill, Phil, and Anne.

The Club's accounts presently require cheques to be signed by two approved signatories. NatWest is using this to prevent Jill being granted a Debit Card, which is a serious limitation, especially in regard to booking venues for social events. Noting that Jill already has access to BACS, which has no two-person rule, it would be sensible to dispense with the two-signatory requirement for cheques, which should remove the block on her receiving a debit card. The Committee unanimously approved Jill requesting NatWest to revise the account as stated.

CASC. Jill has been researching the Club's tax status and has received advice that the Club should consider applying to HMRC to become a Community Amateur Sports Club. Jill has contacted HMRC and awaits a response.

Bob noted that he achieved CASC status some years ago in a previous position as the chairman of a different club and has some concerns regarding the implications of this initiative. As a minimum, achieving CASC status will require changes to the Club constitution and may require

extensive membership attendance records to be maintained. This requires further research and discussion.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

AGM. Bob noted that the AGM went smoothly and that there were no objections to any of the matters brought before the assembly. All the actions placed have been discharged.

Harmonising male & female conditions.

The AGM unanimously endorsed the petition raised by Katie Gumbrell to harmonise how men and women are treated by the Club. The Championship has been aligned, and Bob has contacted the Race Directors asking them to work towards harmonisation across their respective events.

It remains to codify this principle into the Constitution, which requires endorsement by the next AGM. Bob presented draft wording to the Committee, which was approved so that it can be presented to the AGM as a Committee proposal.

The draft wording is:

“Pursuant to all members being treated equally, whilst continuing to provide separate events for men and women, any race or competition staged by the Club shall harmonise the rules of competition, race distances and prizes between the men's and women's events. Where feasible, the Club should encourage other organisations with which it engages to adopt a similar approach.”

Sports bodies affiliation. The Committee approved renewal of the Club's affiliation with England Athletics and Southern England Athletics Association, which Anne will action.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

Anne reported that twelve new members joined during March.

Anne reminded everyone that the period of grace for renewing membership after the end-Feb expiry has now elapsed and

people who have not renewed are now deemed to have resigned. Bob was tasked with disabling their online accounts.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Phil welcomed Liz as the new Social Secretary.

Dinner Dance. Anne requested approval to pay the deposit to secure Sonning Golf Club as the venue for the 2020 Dinner Dance, which was approved.

Spring Do. Liz explained that she is presently focused on organising a Spring Do, which she hopes to stage in May. The XC Championship awards will be presented to winners attending this event.

Socials schedule. Liz will publish a calendar of planned and potential social events for the year in due course.

COACHING REPORT

Vroni presented Katie's report.

Track etiquette. Despite repeated requests and reminders, track sessions are still marred by members who refuse to respect the Club's rules for use of the track. The Committee was tasked to consider what sanctions could be put in place to deter members from continuing to ignore these very simple rules.

Coaching structure. Katie advised that Claire Marks will be standing down as a coach shortly and that Katherine Sargeant is working with Claire in preparation for taking over her coaching group.

Katie requested a mandate from the Committee to undertake a bottom-up review of how the Club provides coaching, which she duly received. As part of this review, coaches will be encouraged to refresh and extend their qualifications, the cost of which will be borne by the Club.

In the light of this review, further requests to train to become coaches are temporarily put on hold until we have clarity on how many coaches are needed

and the qualifications they will require in the revised structure.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mortimer 10K. Bob presented the budget for this year's Mortimer 10K, pointing out that, with the loss of the main sponsor, making a profit will be challenging. Entry fees are increased from £10/£15 to £14/£18 (online/EOD), but finances will still be tight. The budget was approved.

XC Champs. Phil has received a request to review the way the XC Championship has been scored for the 2018/19 season as it appears to be inconsistent with the published rules.

Owing to the last scheduled event being cancelled at short notice, the required number of qualifying events was reduced from five to four on the basis that members were prevented from completing the required five events. However, this meant that some members who had already completed their five events felt that they were disadvantaged; and members who had not already run in five events and were not intending to run in the last event were rewarded.

Following a lengthy discussion in which the validity of both arguments was acknowledged, the Committee resolved unanimously to ask the XC Championship organiser, Andy Blenkinsop, to recalculate the results based on the five-event qualification, as published in the rules.

Social media. Phil has received a request from Kerri French to provide an external-facing Facebook page to be used to promote our open events. The Committee agreed in principle.

Phil has also received a request for a Club to provide an Instagram account, which will be considered.

Paul noted that the Club's Twitter account is not used to any great extent and intends to investigate how it could be re-launched to add value.

Anne sought approval to remove non-renewing members from the Club's closed Facebook account, which was approved. Removal of ex-members will take place at the start of May.

RR of the Month. Phil would like to launch a scheme to recognise individual members' efforts and achievements and invites members to make suggestions on how they would like to see such a scheme be used.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Since the last minutes were published, Kerri French has volunteered as the Race Director for the Woodford Park Relays and Peter Cave is set to take over as the Newsletter Editor.

There are presently no more Club official vacancies to fill.

DOOR ROTA

03Apr Anne & Jane
10Apr Anne & Shirley
17Apr Anne & Jane
24Apr Anne & Sandy
01May Anne & Shirley
08May Anne & Jane

DONM: 07May19

Main Club contact points:

Chairman, Phil:

chairman@readingroadrunners.org

Membership Secretary, Anne:

membership@readingroadrunners.org

Secretary, Bob:

gensec@readingroadrunners.org

Treasurer, Jill:

treasurer@readingroadrunners.org

Social Secretary, Liz:

socialsec@readingroadrunners.org

Coaching co-ordinator, Katie:

coach@readingroadrunners.org

Website / Media, Paul:

webmaster@readingroadrunners.org

Team Captains, Sam & Grant:

teamcaptains@readingroadrunners.org