



## RFRC Committee Meeting Minutes

3rd September 2014 – The Kings Arms

**Chair:** Sandra Williams (SW)

**Present:** Phil Wilson (PW), Kate Mackenzie (KM), Liz Williams (LW), Ron Foord (RF), Peter Hall (PH), Nadine Prouse (NP), Malcolm Boon (MB), Kris Saint (KS)

- **Apologies:** Mike Nicholls (MN), Dave Loader (DL)
- **Previous minutes**

The minutes were approved with some comments below.

- Xmas meal has been booked for Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December at the Wyvern Club.
- Time Trial – PW to deal with this
- Hi-Viz with club logo – RF to deal with this
- Dropbox has been set up. PW to send invites to all committee members
- Facebook has been sorted.
- Barndance has been booked. Friday 17<sup>th</sup> October at the Wyvern Club. Food will be provided. There is to be a charity raffle with profits donated to the Women's Refuge and Escape 50/50. A band – Scallywags has been booked for the event. Times are 7.30 until 11pm. Cost is £10 for members and £12 for non-members.
- ICE tags – Sandra is still pursuing this.
- **George Hudson Award Nominations**
  - PW proposed Emma Greig for her running achievements.
  - RF proposed Jo Carritt for her coaching work at the track
- **Treasurer's Report**
  - The current balance in the bank is approximately £6500. NP is struggling to get bank statements at the moment and will look into online banking to view statements only without the option of transactions.
- **Herepath Half**
  - Entries are going well. Just over half full with 74 entries at the moment. The race limit is 150.
  - 19 marshals have volunteered so far. Not sure how many marshals will be needed in total.
  - PH is waiting for a permit from the Forestry Commission for the race. Everything else is on track
- **Longrun Lollop**

- This will go ahead at Longrun Meadow on the 28<sup>th</sup> December at sunrise
- It will be for club members only
- Entrants will run laps of the meadow on a 2k loop. There will be a minimum of 8 laps but these do not need to be done in one go. Entrants can sign in and sign out as they want throughout the day until sunset.
- It will be free to enter but runners will need to pre-register (no registrations on the day).
- **Humdinger**
  - PW and SW attended a meeting of the Safety Advisory Group (SAG) meeting for Somerset where the Humdinger race was discussed. This is a precursor to the application to Somerset Highways for the road closure and permission to hold the race on county roads. A very successful meeting. Highways will not process the application until January but have given tacit approval for the race which means we can go ahead and open for entries. PW to aim to open for business by the Taunton 10k
  - The main race is now a half marathon distance. This will be measured and certified (now in hand). The Humdinger will be a tough race with over 1000ft of ascent! The Hurtle will be approximately 5 miles and will be unmeasured. Unfortunately this does mean the Hurtle is no longer considered to be a “fun run”. Minimum ages set by ARC are 18 for the Humdinger and 16 for the Hurtle.
  - There will be a road closure for the duration of the race. Because of a last minute problem with a new housing estate being built inside the road closure area the start of the road closure will be from the new estate road (Pyrland Fields). Rather than have a large number of runners moving along a section of live road before the road closure it has been agreed that the start of the race will be inside the road closure. Runners will be walked from the Leisure Centre to the start. PW has advised the course measurer and we will ensure that the start is sufficiently far inside the road closure to allow runners to line up. A new section has been added to the route to allow for the new start.
  - The road closure will be applied from 10.30am until 2pm. The Humdinger will start at 11 and the Hurtle at 11.10. The chip timing team need about 20 minutes to set up the timing mats and computers. There will be a 3 hour cut off for the Humdinger – no cut off for the Hurtle.
  - Various costs were approved including website hosting and CMS to Alistair Whitely. Taunton Deane DLO – one off cost for the Traffic Management (TM) plan and labour and signage to close the road. Advance signs of the road closure to be put out 8 days in advance. We will also do a letter drop to local residents.
  - Somerset Highways costs are £450 for the advertising of the road closure in the local press and £90 administrative charge.
  - The course will be measured by an official course measurer, Ian Isaacs. His fee for the day is estimated at £100 including travelling.
  - Chip timing will be by a local company, Full On Sport. The cost is £3 per runner. We are to pay a deposit of £400 based on a theoretical maximum entry for both races/
  - Entry limit to be set at 350 for the Humdinger and 150 for the Hurtle. This is based on being able to park approximately 300 cars at the leisure centre plus on the street parking is available. Marshals and officials will be discouraged strongly from parking at the leisure centre!

- **Club Website Updates**
  - PW has been working with LW and our developer on revamping the club website. We have been quoted a 40% discount on standard costs which gives us a good deal. Costs are £745 for the website redesign and build. This includes a major upgrade to the CMS which is very much needed. We can also have a version of the website that runs on mobile phones and tablets. Cost for this is £245. Both these options were approved. PW has since contacted the developer and will get a proof of the new website design and will further liaise with LW
  - PW also proposed a new system for producing membership cards within the CMS so this can be automated. An approximate figure of £200 has been suggested by the developer. This was approved in principle. PW to work with the developer to produce something more concrete and to get a firm price.
- **Taunton RC**
  - It was agreed that we can and should do nothing about a new running club in the area but concern was expressed about attempts to recruit from our membership.
- **Newsletter**
  - PW has been working with KM on a new format for the newsletter using Mailchimp. The newsletter will be send out monthly and will be just two pages. One page will be for club news and events. This can be anything related to the club but will not feature race reports since these are more direct and relevant on Facebook. The second page will have forthcoming races for the next month. PW to work with LW and KM on a format. We will aim to start this in the New Year.
- **Groups**
  - KM expressed concern that there is no group 7 at the moment because they have no group leader. The runners from group 7 are running with group 8 at the moment and are causing a few problems because they are a bit too fast for the group. SW and PW will alternate as group leaders for the group until a permanent group leader can be identified. SW will run with group 8 next week and work out who needs to move up to the new group and will then lead the group the following week.
  - A Facebook announcement will be made so everyone in the club is aware of what is going on.
  - The beginner's session has been running very well. PW is now running this on his own and sometimes struggles for group leaders. We are now up to three groups having taken a bit of an influx of new runners! The session is now continuous in that anyone can join at any time rather than having a set course with progression through a number of weeks. Quite a few of the beginners are now in the Transition Group and more will follow.
- **New Member's Pack**
  - LW and PW have been working together on an information booklet. PW expressed the view that rather than offering this to those new to the club, that it should be sent to all new members. Initially it will also be sent to all existing paid up members. A leaflet or possibly card will be produced separately for those new to the club with club times, benefits of membership and a membership application form.
  - The new member's pack will be available to email to all members/new members. Also we can produce a small number of printed booklets for those who prefer them. LW has offered to print these at work for free.
  - LW to circulate a copy of the new member's pack for final proof reading.

- **AOB.**
  - EA have announced an increase in the affiliation costs for 2015/16. The club affiliation will increase from £50 a year to £100 and the athletes individual affiliation will increase from £10 a year to £12. Membership of the club therefore will be increased for both affiliated and non-affiliated members (?). This increase will start from the new membership year but will be subject to approval at the AGM.
  - Time Trial. This has been set for the 24<sup>th</sup> September. PW to organise using the same route as before. NB – we will not be able to use the carpark by Viridor as agreed after the last time trial because it is about to be closed.

Next meeting date – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014