



RFRC Committee Meeting Minutes

7th August 2013 – The Kings Arms

Chair: Geoff Eggleston (GE)

Present: Phil Wilson (PW), Kate Mackenzie (KM), Liz Williams (LW), Mike Nicholls (MN), Sandra Williams (SW), Peter Hall (PH), Mike Sharpe (MS), Dave Loader (DL)

Apologies: Ron Foord (RF), Graham Strang (GS), Chris Reah (CR), Toni Vernelli (TV)

1. Approval of last Minutes:

The minutes were approved with the following points:

2. Policy Statement re: club races and volunteers.

This was presented by MN and agreed by John Scanlon. The policy covers all club races present and future. This was agreed by majority vote, eight in favour and one against with no abstentions.

3. Forum and Committee BIOS

PW expressed disappointment that there are still blank spaces on the committee list on the club website. It was agreed that everyone who still has not submitted a bio and photo will send one to PW as soon as is possible. Post committee note: LW and DL have now sent their bios.

4. Club Logo

PW questions why an alternative and unapproved club logo was being used by MS on his documentation and his version of the membership form. MS expressed surprise that this has only just been queried since he has been using his version of the logo for over a year. A vote was taken on which was the official club logo. The original logo with the intersecting lettering was agreed with a majority vote eight in favour and one against with no abstentions.

5. Track Subscriptions

MS questioned whether the track subsidy was in fact still being paid and who collects the monies on track nights and who they are paid to. A historical point for newer committee members is that some time ago 1610, the organisation who manage the track and sports centre increased the cost of using the track for the club from £1 per session to £3.50. At the time a deal was agreed by Rich Palmer that the club makes a monthly payment of £17 to 1610 by Direct Debit and in return members only pay £2 per session. This is detailed in the

minutes for the committee meeting dated 1st August 2012. These and other historical minutes will be uploaded to the committee Facebook page and website. Rich Palmer is to be asked to check what if any arrangements are still in place, and who collects the money and where it is taken. TV to confirm that the direct debit is still in operation.

6. Role of the Running Events Coordinator

MS questioned what events are being listed for new and existing members. LW produced a list of local races that she has been working on. It was noted that the events need to be put onto the club website where there is a specific section for races. PW is to give LW instructions on how to do this. It was also suggested that LW selects three local races as potential races for the club to support. A Facebook poll was suggested as one way to vote on this. LW to action. LW also requested a club email address for race organiser. Post Committee update: PW has created a new club email address of raceinfo@runningforeverrunningclub.org.uk with a forwarder set up to Liz's personal email address. PW has also sent instructions on how to update the club website and specifically the events page.

7. At this point MS expressed his dissatisfaction at the decisions made by the committee on this and other occasions and resigned from the committee with immediate effect. GE gave thanks from the chair to MS for all his hard work while serving on the committee.

8. Summer Runfest

In view of MS' resignation it was felt that the runfest should be abandoned. An alternative plan was offered to run a less formal version than originally envisioned. All group leaders will be asked to organise a run that finished at the barn in Longrun Meadow where cakes and possibly other refreshment will be provided. All will be free of charge. GE to investigate how many tickets have been sold for the runfest and to arrange for refunds. Post meeting note: the runfest has now been abandoned completely.

9. parkrun

PW outlined the current plans for setting up a parkrun in Taunton. A basic organisational structure has been agreed with four club members agreeing to be Race Directors. These are PW, SW, TV and Jan Burton. SW has also agreed to become Event Director after the current Event Director, Dave Bullock stands down (probably 3-6 months after the start of the parkrun). PW explained that as a club no input or commitment was required as the event stands on its own with its own organisation. But parkrun do actively encourage the involvement of local clubs and allow them to recruit members. It was agreed that this can only serve to benefit both the club and Taunton.

10. AOB

- i. Newsletter. KM apologised for the lateness of the newsletter and gave an assurance that it will be ready and published this month (August). KM also proposed that the frequency of the newsletter be dropped from four issues per year to two. This was agreed unanimously.
- ii. Complaints Procedure. GE asked if the complaints procedure was agreed. PW suggested that instead of complaints being directed to any committee member available that they should be sent to the enquiries@ email address. This is more anonymous. PW receives these emails at the moment and either deals with them himself or directs them to the appropriate

committee member. It was also agreed that while the constitution does not need to detail the complaints procedure specifically, it does need to refer to it.

- iii. Herepath Trail. It was agreed that the race is cancelled for this year. At the moment no committee has been formed. PH will update the race website and Facebook page.
- iv. Bank Signatories. The bank mandate has been completed and handed to the bank. GE thanked TV for her work in getting this done.
- v. Complaint. The complaint between *name* and *name* has now been fully resolved.
- vi. Groups. It was felt that the lower groups are not working as they should at the moment. A reorganisation was agreed with a new group to be created in addition to groups 5 and 6. GE will become Group Leader for Group 5. Eliza is to be Group Leader for Group 6. GE's current group is to be incorporated into Groups 5 and 6 as appropriate. Gerald, who is the current Group 6 leader is to form a new Group 7 which will be specifically for runners who are not able to run with the higher groups and will therefore form a stepping stone group for new runners, runners returning from injury and runners moving up from any of the beginners' groups. The group will be somewhat ad-hoc because most runners starting in this group will be expected to progress to one of the higher groups. GE to discuss and organise the transition. It was also noted that all groups should have the aim to run for approximately one hour (plus or minus ten minutes). The exception to this guideline is Group 7 and any beginners' groups.
- vii. SW agreed to take on the role of Groups Organiser vacated by the departure of MS

The next Committee Meeting is booked for 9th October and will be in the upstairs skittle alley.