

Wymondham Athletic Club

Annual General meeting minutes

21st February 2005

Present: Peter, Dawn, Terry, Russell, Paul, Karl, Ian, Eurwyn, Jeremy, Eva, Lisa, Dean, Peter, Ron, Jenny, Roy, Mike (H), Mike (W), Steve, Dennis, Andrew, Mike, Roy, Hazel, Geoff, June, Adrian, Anne, Roger, Jeff

Apologies for Absence: Veronica, Alex, David, Pat, Trudie, Margaret, Alan, Terry, Mike, Kate,

2. Approval of minutes 16/02/2004

The minutes were approved by the members present. This was proposed by Ian and seconded by Peter.

3. Matters Arising from the previous AGM

None

4. Reports

Chairman Peter Clarke

Once again I am pleased to report on another very successful year within our club. Over the last year we have seen a general increase in new members and we now have over 115 registered members.

On the financial front we are in a very sound position – you will here these details in the treasures report.

WAC road races – New Year's Day 10k, 10/20, ladies/Men's 5k have all generated excellent results both in attending runners and income. We have seen more sponsorship for these races being obtained through the year. This is all down to the excellent organisation of our race committee, ably led by Eurwyn and to you the members who regularly turn out to assist in various capacities on the day.

Road running has seen the Wymondham vest in prominence at local, county, National and international level with members returning with individual and team medals. A great all round club effort from runners and helpers enabled us to enter a Ladies and Men's team in the Round Norfolk relay – a wonderful achievement by all. Thanks to Margaret and Russell for co-ordinating this so ably.

Track and Field again a Ladies and Men's team entered the Vets league, however, at times it was difficult to field a full team – please give more support this coming season. Thanks to Steph and Adrian for organising these events. Steph will be stepping down as Ladies team captain this year, so a very special thanks to Steph for all she has done over many years in this position.

Cross Country is still being well supported in such events as the Ryston, Midweek and Norfolk AAA as well as the team event The Hereward Relay.

The coaching within the club is of a very high standard and thanks must go to Ron and his team for their dedication in compiling these various activities which all members should take advantage of.

To more general issues we have continued with the Summer handicap, winter handicap, Ketts Park charity event and presentation evening, these will all be on next years programme.

Your committee has been working extremely hard and with great enthusiasm dealing with your requests and ideas over the last year, to this end I would like to thank them personally, and on your behalf for all their commitment and time.

Finally as you are aware I will be standing down as chair after tonight, so a very big personal thank you to past and present committee members of various positions within the club (sorry to many to mention individually) and to you all members, your commitment, time dedication and support was very much appreciated, and now all this I trust you will continue to give my successor, whom I congratulate and wish well for the future.

Secretary

I have now completed my second year as your secretary and have thoroughly enjoyed my time in the position. However, due to increasing work commitments, I have decided that it is time to pass the role on to another member.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the committee members and you as WAC members for the support and help I have received during my time as secretary.

I would like to take this opportunity to update you all with your committee's activities over the last 12 months:

Our 10/20 race was well supported last year and looks to be a popular event with runners this year too. Waitrose supermarket have again agreed to provide the water for the race and Poynter Professional Services who provided the cups last year have agreed to present them again on the day. Well done to everyone on the race committee for all your tireless work.

The club was awarded 3 places for this year's London Marathon and these we secured by Kim Reader, Ron Marsh and Mark Tufts. I would like to wish you all and any other members who are taking part, good luck with the marathon. I appreciate how much training and effort goes in to this because while not doing the race myself I have been training with Kim and I know it hurts!!

Our Christmas meal and presentation evening was held on 11/12/04 at the Norfolk Golf club and was very well attended by all members and I believe we all had a great evening. My thanks to Paul and Karl for organising the event. We will be planning the event again for this year at the same venue.

The Round Norfolk Relay was very well organised by Russell and Margaret our club captain's last year and both our teams did very well. My thanks to Russell and Margaret and I know Russell is looking to organise this again for this year, so if you are interested in taking part no matter what standard of runner you are please speak to Russell.

The Sunday House runs have been successfully revived by Ian Sturgess and have been well attended. My thanks to Ian for organising these and if you wish to stage a house run please let Ian know.

The handicap series was also well attended by members last year and this year so far. My thanks to Steve Cobbold for organising the summer events and to David Hazleton and Karl Chapman for the winter events. Well done to all the winners.

The Ketts Park relay was held for the second year last year and despite the bad weather we had a good attendance from other local clubs. Our chosen charity was the Neuroblastoma society for which we raised £160.00 we are looking to stage this event again in the summer to raise money for another charity.

Thanks to Kim for her work on the Footprints magazine. If any members would like to contribute anything please let Kim know.

Finally I would like to thank the coaches for all their work on a Monday and Thursday evening. Remember the coaches are here to help you so please ask them if you would like any running advice. I would also like to thank Peter and Paul for their work and support as Chairman and Vice Chairman and the work they have done over the last two years for the club.

Please remember this is your running club and the committee is here to work for you so please them know if there is anything you would like them to do to make your running experience with WAC even more enjoyable.

Treasurer

Terry handed out a copy of the income and expenditure report. Terry thanked Adrian for auditing the accounts. The main club income has come from member's subscriptions and race income. We now have 118 members, 20 up on last year. The total fee for race income is £7012.00 – 15% increase on last year and the race profit is £4,200.00.

The club spent £800.00 on race equipment and the shed. Rugby club hire cost £700.00 per annum and Hethersett old school is £520.00 per year. The club subsidises members who use the track at the UEA at £1.00 per week. The presentation evening was subsidised by the club and together with the trophies this bill came to £990.00. Footprints printing costs £175.00 per year and we contributed £160.00 from the Ketts Park relay. The club finished the year in a

healthy financial position of £4,832.00. The committee has been looking at ways to spend/invest the funds, so any requests/ideas from members would be welcomed. Terry asked for any questions but none were raised.

Coaching

Ron advised that this year he had allowed the coaches to do their own thing and it seems to have worked well. The sessions have increased every week.

Some members have advised Ron that they are using an outside coach and Ron advised that he was happy about this situation. He hoped that the coaches would be able to offer more in the future to members and if members want help please ask. There has been no response to the call for more coaches but if new members are interested please talk to the coaches.

Race Committee

Jeremy thanked all members for their help at the races and particularly mentioned Mike Smith (W) for his help with marshalling, Ron for his help with time keeping, Trish for all the background work she does and Dawn for arranging the sponsorship.

2004 was a very good year for the races with a £4k profit made. This years New Year 10k was the most popular ever with over 300 runners taking part. The race committee have purchased new equipment over the last year to raise the club's corporate image. They also purchased a new photo copier, which has been very useful. Jeremy appealed to members to help with this years 10/20 on 6/03/05.

Track and Field - Veterans

Adrian advised that last year we did not get to the finals but the teams gave a very good performance. New members are very welcome to attend and Adrian explained the criteria required. He advised that there will be a meeting held at the beginning of the season to discuss the team tactic etc and everyone is welcome to attend.

5. Change to the club constitution

Peter advised the members of the proposal to the change form Rodney Freeboon:

First claim longstanding members (at least 15 years continuous paid membership) should on reaching retirement age (60 for women and 65 for men) be awarded lifetime membership of the club.

Peter advised the members of the current constitution rule:

The club operates a life membership scheme whereby club members upon reaching the age of 60 may elect to become life members upon payment of a lump sum of 7 times the current subscription.

Peter asked for a seconded to the proposed change and Eva agreed to second it.

Ian advised that the committee had looked t the proposal and rejected it. A discussion followed and it was agreed to put the proposal to a vote. Members voted and the proposal was declined.

6. Election of officers

Peter advised that the following committee positions were up for nomination:

Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer.

A nomination for chairman had been received from Ian for Karl Chapman and this was seconded by Terry. Karl accepted the position.

A nomination for secretary had been received from Dawn for Paul Wightman and this was seconded by Steve. Paul accepted the position.

Peter advised that no one had expressed an interest in becoming treasurer but Terry had agreed to stand again.

Peter advised that two committee members are required and Russell and Ian will continue to stand. Hazel advised that Kate Barlow was keen to join the committee and Lisa Chapman also advised that she would like to stand. Lisa was proposed by Paul and seconded by Dawn. Kate was proposed by Hazel and seconded by Ian.

Peter advised that Russell has agreed to stand again as men's captain but Margaret now wishes to stand down. He thanked Margaret for all her work. Lisa Chapman agreed to stand as captain and this was proposed by Karl and seconded by Eurwyn.

Peter asked if any members would like to stand as the independent auditor of the club accounts and Adrian agreed to carry on as no one else wished to undertake the role.

7. Other Matters – Club Kit

Eva advised that she had been approached by some new members who had asked if the club could provide some light weight tops or jackets that could be worn when members attended races.

Paul advised that he had approached Ron Hill for a sample jacket and this would be in grey and burgundy club colours and will have the logo embroidered on. This should be with him in two to three weeks. There will be cost to members who require them. Paul also advised that he had ordered some more club t-shirts and sweat-shirts.

Peter thanked members for attending and wished Karl and the new committee good luck for the future.

Karl thanked Peter for the excellent job he had done over the last two years.

The meeting concluded at 8.45pm.

