

Roadhogs Committee Meeting

17 May 2016, L.C.C.C.

1. **Present:** Amy Barnes, Keith Dakin, Barbara Hermann, Alison Lodwick, Dave Lodwick, Colin Smith, John Stew, Steve Wheeler, Terry Woodhouse
2. **Apologies:** Ron Atton, Dan Bannantyne, Steve Martin, Mark Ramsden, Kim Richardson, Dave Swan, Barry Waterfield
3. **Minutes of meeting held on 17th March 2016:** AGREED.
4. **Matters arising from the minutes not appearing elsewhere on the agenda:**

Recruitment posters have been printed (with thanks to Ian) and are awaiting distribution.
5. **Finances**
 - i. Steve W reported that membership subscriptions were approximately £500 less than 2015, reflecting a membership reduced from 100 to 79. Total income is projected to be approximately £850 less than last year, as we are not organising any races. However, outgoings will be slightly reduced (as we have fewer affiliation and race fees to pay) and we have received more by way of easyfundraising donations. Additionally, the £800 surplus from last year will provide something of a buffer. To date, we have a net balance of £1100, but with more costs to come through.
 - ii. There was a discussion regarding whether life members who are still competing should pay for all the Winter LRRL and Derby Runner races they enter - it was pointed out that if they competed in all the races, their total expenditure would exceed the current full membership subscription. It was agreed to ask competing life members to pay £25 to cover affiliation and a contribution to race fees.
 - iii. Steve W has been progressing the club's registration for on-line banking, but the process has proved to be lengthy and complicated, including a requirement for the application to be signed by all five account signatories. However, it is worth persevering as there will be significant advantages including being able to view statements in real time and more convenient payment arrangements, particularly for affiliations.
 - iv. At the last meeting, Dave L informed the committee of a generous donation of £400 from Secure One and a decision needed to be made about what to spend it on, as it is important that it is not simply absorbed into the club's general running costs. Various suggestions were put forward:
 - A branded gazebo (useful for events such as Equinox)
 - Could be costly; how much use would it get?
 - Medals for county standards, to go alongside the certificates
 - Not everyone is motivated by the standards – some members, particularly in the senior rather than vet age groups, find them dispiriting
 - Fitbits as an alternative to trophies at the awards evening
 - Expensive (more than the cost of a full subscription)

The consensus of the meeting was to explore the cost of a branded event shelter, with side panels.

6. Presentation Evening – survey of members

- i. Amy presented the results of the survey of members on perceptions of the most recent presentation evening. The key results were:
 - There were 35 respondents (35 online and 10 paper). Of these, 23 attended (12 did not)
 - The two main reasons why people did not attend were “already had plans” and “fancy dress”
 - The most positively rated aspects of the evening were: the food, the venue and value for money
 - The least positively rated aspects of the evening were: the entertainment, the theme and the disco
 - In terms of preferences, there was strong support for retaining the raffle and keeping the event in November
 - There was very little support for the suggestion that the event be cancelled or that it should be a much more formal occasion
 - In terms of what we could do differently, respondents suggested abandoning the fancy dress and entertainment elements. It was also suggested that we hire an inspirational speaker.
 - Conflicting views were expressed in the “other thoughts” section – with some suggesting that we have live music/dancing and others stating that “I hate discos and dancing”.

- ii. In discussion:
 - It was felt that there were significant disadvantages in having an inspirational speaker: there has been no take-up from the club when similar speakers have addressed local events in the recent past; it would be costly; it would make the event more serious rather than fun
 - All professional entertainment options will add significantly to the ticket price, although something like line dancing with a caller would encourage participation
 - It was noted that the survey didn’t include a question about how much people would be prepared to pay – some follow-up market research may be required
 - It was felt that we need to be much more prescriptive about timings and a served meal rather than a buffet would assist with this
 - It was agreed that, for the next meeting, costings would be obtained for:
 - A three course menu, with two options for each course (John S)
 - A DJ (Terry)
 - A live band (Barbara)
 - The date of the event will be Saturday, 26th November 2016

7. *Heartsafe Runners* Project

- i. Amy reported that 52 runners attended the Barrow training event on 18 April 2016, including the competitor who collapsed at the first Derby Runner race last year. Four Roadhogs attended. The next event is later in May at Aylestone Leisure Centre.
- ii. A committee is being formed – Amy has been asked to join. A Facebook group has already been established.
- iii. It looks as if clubs will be able to hire training equipment from *Heartsafe Runners* – a donation of £1000 has already been received from Leicester Freemasons.

8. New members update

Dave L reported that three new members had joined since the last meeting, taking the total to 62 full, six social and 15 life members. He undertook to go through the list of non-renewing members to identify the reasons for non-renewal for the next meeting.

9. Coaching and athlete development

The Tuesday coached sessions have not gone as well as hoped – there have been some cancellations and only a maximum of four runners at those that have gone ahead. It was suggested that it would be helpful to have more information about the sessions in advance. There was some discussion about whether to alternate between Tuesday and Thursday but whilst this might help with diary clashes for some members, on balance it was felt that it would lead to confusion.

10. Results round up/Members' Achievements

- Clare came in first lady Hogg at the West End 8 – continuing her fine season
- We had three LRRL Winter League trophy winners: Emma, Jackie and Charlotte
- Ben and James T are spurring each other on to good times at all distances
- Igor and Mark R had good runs in the London Marathon
- Lee Hennell recently completed a 40 mile ultra

11. AOB - None

12. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday, 28th July 2016.