

Saltaire Striders

Minutes of Committee meeting held on 10/1/24

1 **Present and apologies for absence.**

All members present, no apologies.

2 **Minutes of the last meeting** held on 1/11/23

Agreed as correct record

Outstanding action points (unless covered later in agenda) (see minutes for detail)

- “Business” Cards – **Done**
- AGM Financial update – **Done**
- Ian Jenkins gift (AG) – **Done**
- Wendy hey gift (DH) – **Done**
- Christmas Party (SS) – **Done**
- Club records: parkrun (TM) – **Done** but still to separate on website: **Action DB**
Ultra (EG) – pending: **Action EG**

3 **Financial update (TM)**

- Northern Athletic and Yorkshire Vets subscription both paid
- Current quarterly update: approx £200 less than prediction
 - Change of bank signatories mandate: TG to replace AG – **Done**
 - Need to take Alun off Paypal account also: **Action TM**

4 **Training (LN)**

- Hullabaloo as a winter base (EG)
Good response to club poll on facebook: approx 50% said not a good idea, only a small number said they would regularly come back for a drink, so it was agreed not to go ahead.
However it’s been brought to our attention that “Cultures” on Caroline Street will be open, and members are welcome to go in for a drink and/or to use toilets before or after club runs. The meeting place remains unchanged, i.e. Victoria Road/Caroline Street
- Rowing club plans 2024 summer base
Worked well last year so agreed to do it again
Proposed start date beginning of May (exact date tbd due to bank holiday)
LN to liaise with Will Kerr to finalise arrangements: **Action LN**
- Checking license renewals
2/3 outstanding but majority done: LN to check remaining ones: **Action LN**
- Return to running group? (DH)
RtoR instead of beginners course this year (possibly alternate)
6 week course
Pre-requisites: club member (or join after the usual 3 free “taster sessions”), already been a runner
Promotion lower key than beginners course: facebook, website, etc.
Start mid-Feb: probably 12th Feb (tbc).
Ask for help from the usual leaders as required, not expecting any problems there, even though Donna is on holiday late March.
DH to request help from other leaders and make it happen! **Action: DH**
- Track taster session

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Louise reported track numbers are down and subs not always breaking even. If numbers can't be increased, subs will have to rise, but every time a taster session has happened in the past, numbers have increased.

Agreed to offer a taster session, free, in the hope this increases numbers. If it doesn't, consider how much to increase subs by.

Considered doing 2 x separate nights for group 1/2 and 3/4, but agreed to stick with only one, though possibly with different programmes for faster/slower runners (?)

Date: LN suggested mid Feb, though some suggestions were made for April after RtoR course has finished and weather may be nicer. Ewan suggested Louise & Ali would know best so delegate date choice to them. **Action: LN**
Stewart asked if possible to revert track night back to Tuesday, as faster runners who want the long fast training run on Thursday are having to step down a group due to recovery from track. Louise reported that track is much busier on Tuesday and after some discussion it was agreed to leave as is.

- Leaders' new communication strategy
This is going superbly using "WhatsApp Communities".
- Next LIRF meeting date
Virtual meeting on 16th Jan.
- Focus race(s) 2024 where a training plan would be helpful (like Grimsby 2023)
Agreed yes: ask for suggestions from club members. **Action: LN**

5 Membership update (MF)

- Current membership 225: 179 full, 10 second-claim, 32 social (non-competitive), 4 honorary.
- Lists on WebCollect: agreed to simplify just to one email list for all current members: Martin to ensure this is up-to-date. **Action: MF**
- Facebook closed group: Once Martin has updated membership list on WebCollect, Donna to action purge of lapsed members on facebook. **Action: MF/DH**

6 Club main events

BMWR (AG)

- No current updates or concerns: all in-hand: not discussed

John Carr Day of the 5000 PBs (SS)

Business cards being handed out, promotion active via social media etc. Ewan communicated to BAN. Stewart encourages us all to "spread the word"!

16 signed up so far

DJs and PA procured for free via friends of Si Frazer

Catering sorted (they come with the alcohol license, so no action on us)

Cancellation Insurance: decided not needed

Stewart to set up a small sub-committee and put out pleas for volunteers at the appropriate time. **Action: SS**

Louise to run a "build-up" at track sessions, possibly leading to a 5K time trial. **Action: LN**

7 Running Events (CT/SD)

- Club champs races 2024/25
Stuart presented (previously circulated) provisional schedule

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Agreed Guiseley Gallop was OK despite being 31st March

Various changes were suggested. Ewan reported on fresh news that Bradford City Runs are happening in Peel Park in April, so this could go in.

Tim M suggested a different of the Punk Panther races.

Agreed to stick with suggestion of Myrtle parkrun, but change Lister to Horton, to try different local ones.

EA Bradford 10K for March '25 was suggested, Stuart said he'd prefer not to include races that aren't "certain" because of the recent problems of lots of cancellations!

Stuart to sort final list. **Action: SD**

- Future of vets races: SD to continue to promote, see 9.1 below
- parkrun competition
 - New format to include Ilkley Harriers and be less of a knockout and more of a league in the early stages.
 - Will probably run for about 6 months.
 - Still work in progress between Stuart and Richard Lund (Baildon Runners) so watch this space. **Action: SD**
 - Need to ensure all Striders have set their running club correctly on their parkrun profile, or results are much more difficult to process.

8 Social Events (SS)

- Club abroad trips
 - Norway progressing well
 - Bilbao: Stewart can't now go, so he will look for a new organiser from amongst those who have expressed interest. **Action: SS**
- Upcoming social events
 - Awards night: agreed Golf club again: book via Graham Darcy. Need to make sure they provide more food! Also need to have a push for more better raffle prizes, decide in April whether the club can fund some depending on our financial state.
 - Pie & Peas: Junction pub: booking problem last year, landlord is now leaving and it was thought we'd need to find a new venue. Stewart reported that it looks as though it will re-open under new management, so we'll review this later in the year.
- Away weekend event (in addition to focus race above)
 - Stewart suggested an overnight camping trip for a race: suggestions welcome!

9 Club Captains (CT/SD)

- Discharging workload of AB/CT vets captains
 - Stuart reported that help is needed in promoting races, organising relay teams etc. Will Kerr has offered to help, Lee Casson has been asked, and Andy Brown is still willing to help. Marcus Isherwood was suggested but it was felt that he probably has enough on with the (excellent) job he's doing organising the run leaders. It was suggested that the organisation of teams for an individual race could be delegated to another club member (eg John Singh for fell relays was suggested). Stuart to compose an appeal for help via email. **Action: SD**
- Change of role from "vets captains" to "vice captains"?

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One thing Stuart commented on is that, as a definite vet himself (!), he would welcome captaincy support to reach and cater well for the younger members, so that we don't lose them.

Stewart suggested considering having different captains for different disciplines, eg cross-country, road, fell etc.

Louise shared some thoughts she had emailed to Ewan about club governance and aligning better with EA guideline. She will send the email to the committee ahead of the next meeting. **Action: LN** This was backed up by Ewan and Tim M as a result of recent EA training on the issue.

It was agreed a broader discussion about club governance should be prioritised at the next committee meeting.

10 Welfare issues (DH/AG)

Donna reported that a current member who attended the beginners course has been convicted of "Sexual contact with a child" and given a 2-year prison sentence, of which he will serve 12 months inside. He will then presumably have conditions attached such as not being with children etc. Donna confirmed there are no concerns that he was a danger to members during his time at the club, but concern was raised should he re-join on release from prison because we do allow 16-17-year-olds to be members. Agreed to do nothing for now, allow his membership to lapse and re-consider if he attempts to re-join in the future.

Chris Hassal has had a baby boy (well, not him personally, but his wife). Donna will organise a gift. **Action: DH**

Anthea reported that a long-standing club member who has cancer has been given bad news that there is nothing more that can be done for him. Anthea not yet spoken with the family, only friends. She will keep in touch as appropriate and keep us up-to-date. **Action: AG**

11 Miscellaneous Issues

- Number swaps
Ewan stressed that integrity was vital above all other concerns and that the rules of an event must be followed, even if this means fielding an incomplete team.
- Award categories
Moved to next meeting
- Role descriptions
Moved to next meeting

12 AOB None

13 Date of next meeting and close

Tuesday 20th Feb, 7pm. Tim to book Hulaballoo. **Action: TG**