**Minutes of the Saltaire Striders AGM on 7 December 2017 at Caroline Street Social Club.**

Chair: Mike Moss

***Agenda (rearranged in the order discussion actually took place)***

1. Confirmation of minute taker
2. Presentations of charity cheques
3. Request for items of AOB
4. Apologies for absence
5. Minutes of meeting on 1 December 2016
6. Chairman’s statement
7. Treasurers report
8. Membership update & 2018 fees
9. Election of officers
10. Club constitution
11. Data protection policy
12. Health and safety policy and incident reporting
13. 2017/2018 social events
14. 2018 club trips
15. Proposals for training runs
16. 2018 club championship races
17. 2018 London marathon club places
18. AOB

Mike Moss welcomed everyone to the 35th AGM and thanked Caroline Street Social Club for their hospitality.

Requirements regarding notice, nominations and quorum had been met.

1. ***Confirmation of minute taker***

As the club secretary had stood down prior to the meeting, Louise Nash was nominated and confirmed as minute taker for this meeting.

1. ***Presentation of charity cheques***

Mel Akeroyd presented a donation to a representative of Cave Rescue. Stuart Dunbar presented a donation to a representative of Comfort Rwanda.These donations were from profits from the John Carr and Bradford Millennium Relay races held during 2017. Donations to three other charities had been made earlier in the year.

1. ***Items for AOB***

The Chair asked for any items of any other business to be discussed under the AOB section. There were no additional items.

1. ***Apologies***

Apologies were received from Catherine Morrison, Charlotte Martin, Kamil Kazowski, Graham Terry, Keith Jump, Bernadette Cook, Rahul Mehra, Noel Fitzpatrick, Clair Fitzpatrick, Ben Marchant.

The meeting met the quorum requirements as set out in the Club Constitution

1. ***Minutes of the meeting on 1 December 2016***

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2016 were approved.

1. ***Chairman’s statement***

Mike Moss reported his highlights of the year as follows:

* Will not being the first Strider home at the latest PECO, where there was a turnout of 60
* Hannah Oldroyd returning briefly from New Zealand and winning the first PECO of 2017/18 season
* The men’s team winning the Leeds Country Way Relay
* The John Carr series and the money distributed from these. Thank you to Helen Pennington for organising. The new course was well received. The next series of John Carr races will be held on the first 3 Wednesdays of May 2018. All Striders are encouraged to run, volunteer or both.
* The Bradford Millennium Way Relay – there were more teams than ever this year. Mike confirmed that Ribble Valley had followed the rules. Thank you to Jen Willingham for all her hard work.
* Some good individual and team results in the Yorkshire Vets races. In 2018 Saltaire Striders will be hosting one of the Vets races. All Striders are encouraged to run or volunteer.
* Good results and PBs all over
* Good turnouts and organisation of parkruns
* Increasing popularity of track sessions
* Doing well at the regional and national 12 stage and 6 stage road relays
* The best think about the club is that we’re all friends and we all love running.

1. ***Treasurer’s Report***

Richard Stone talked the meeting through the club accounts for the period ended 31 March 2017, circulated by email in advance of the meeting. Jeremy Wright had prepared the accounts and club member Ian Jenkins had provided independent verification.  
  
 The main points to note highlighted by Richard were:

* The accounts reflected the change in year end from 31 October to 31 March, in keeping with the England Athletics year end. Therefore the accounts were for a shorter period this year.
* Richard explained his role and the three accounts owned by the Club: current, deposit and PayPal accounts.
* The main sources of income had been from the John Carr races, Bradford Millennium Way relay and members’ subs
* The main expenses had been charity donations and investment in members, including funding for run leader qualifications and paying members’ PECO entry fees.

It was proposed that the accounts be accepted and this was approved by all members present.

Richard thanked Jeremy and Ian for their support in preparing and verifying the accounts.

1. ***Membership update and 2018 fees***

Rachel Parker advised the meeting:

* Current membership 255 members. For the first time we have more female club members than men: 131 female athletes, 124 male athletes
* 2017 has seen the club grow again testament to another successful beginners group led by Lindsey in January and all her helpers which show we are out engaging with the community. We are often seen at parkruns, at races and seem to have a growing reputation locally for the club that keeps improving people
* England Athletics have released a data protection statement about information held by clubs which will be added to our site

*“When a club member joins or renews his/her membership and provides their details to an EA affiliated club, the member is also registered by the club with EA, which means that the club transfers the member’s personal data to EA (i.e. via the Portal)”*

* EA have not raised the fees this year so we are aiming to have a price freeze from 2018– 2019; this may change next year.
* Social membership – Rachel proposed a nominal £5. This was accepted unanimously.
* Fees will be due March 1st in order to renew memberships with EA from 1 April. Rachel will ask for fees in February.
* Going forward Dairine Nethercott will be helping out and will be involved in subs collection.

Rachel thanked Richard Stone for his support with the membership database over the year and Louise Nash for standing in temporarily as membership secretary.

1. ***Election of officers***

The following positions were vacant; nominations had been requested and received prior to the meeting:

* Chair
* Secretary
* Men’s Captain
* Social Secretary
* Chair of Coaches
* Welfare Officer
* Ladies’ Vets Captain
* John Carr Chair

An election had taken place for Secretary, candidates being Alun Griffiths and Justin Ions. The winner of the election was Alun Griffiths, who was therefore elected as Secretary. Helen Pennington asked why the candidates had not been asked to prepare an election statement. Mike apologised, explaining that this had been intended but overlooked.

Mike Moss stood for re-election as Chair. Nobody else stood for election. Mike was re-elected unanimously by those present.

Will Kerr stood for re-election as Men’s Captain. Nobody else stood for election. Will was re-elected unanimously by those present.

Ewan Gibb had been acting as Social Secretary following Dairine Nethercott’s resignation from this post earlier in the year. Ewan stood for election as Social Secretary. Nobody else stood for election. Ewan was elected unanimously by those present.

Jack Verity stood for re-election as Chair of Coaches. Nobody else stood for election. Jack was re-elected unanimously by those present.

Helen Brant had been acting as Welfare Officer following Lindsey Pearson’s resignation from this post earlier in the year. Helen stood for election as Welfare Officer. Nobody else stood for election. Helen was elected unanimously by those present.

Helen Brant had stood down as Ladies’ Vets Captain earlier in the year. Helen Western stood for election as Ladies’ Vets Captain. Helen Western was elected unanimously by those present.

Helen Pennington stood for re-election as John Carr Chair. Nobody else stood for election. Helen was re-elected unanimously by those present.

Mike explained that the club’s constitution proposed under item 10 stipulates that committee members should serve a maximum of two terms in any one post. Therefore some of the roles, including that of Chair, will need to be taken by other members when current terms expire.

Mike thanked Dairine Nethercott, Lindsey Pearson and Jeremy Wright for all their hard work and commitment during their terms of office, stressing that the club is a better place for each of their contributions.

Mike also thanked Chris Jones for his organization of the leaders’ monthly rotas. Chris had stepped down earlier in the year. Mike thanked Ben Pearson who has volunteered to take on this role.

1. ***Club constitution***

Mike outlined some proposed amendments to the Club Constitution, addressing some problems which had arisen with practical implementation of the constitution during the year. The revised document had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Amendments included:

* maximum terms for committee members;
* allowing members to be co-opted into roles should they fall vacant for 3 months before the AGM. Co-opted committee members would not have voting rights;
* removal of the requirement to have club accounts audited. England Athletics and other charities have suggested the accounts be checked but they do not need to subject to a full independent review. A check by a person independent from the committee with appropriate financial experience would suffice.
* disciplinary committee – in the event of a conflict of interest, the affected member of the disciplinary committee can nominate someone else to take their role on the disciplinary committee.

The revised Club Constitution was accepted by members unanimously.

1. ***Data protection policy***

Mike advised that all club officers have agreed to abide by a data protection policy which is available for members to read on the club’s website.

1. ***Health & safety policy and incident reporting***

Mike advised that club officers have developed and agreed to a new policy on health & safety and incident reporting, available for members to read on the club’s website. Run leaders were asked to familiarise themselves with and act according to the policy.

1. ***2017/18 social events***

Ewan told the meeting about some key forthcoming social events:

* Christmas meal at the Aagrah Shipley 7 Dec
* Pie & pea supper at The Junction 21 Dec
* Club annual dinner and awards to be held likely in March, further information to follow
* A possible 3 peaks club trip – more to follow
* A possible endurance event – various ideas discussed, Ewan will look into these ideas further – more to follow

Dairine talked about the annual summer Red Lion trip, proposing a switch to a Saturday rather than Friday. Members voted on their preferred date, which was Sat 21 July. Dairine will organise.

1. ***2018 club trip***

Richard Stone advised that Lindsey Pearson had carried out a thorough review of potential European club trip destinations for 2018. She had recommended a trip to Palma Mallorca, based on ease of travel, cost, location and choice of races which take place on 14 October 2018 – marathon, half marathon and 10k - making it suitable for the majority of members. The majority of members interested in going on a club trip were in agreement with this proposal.  
  
Thanks to Lindsey for doing the research. Richard agreed to ask Lindsey to contact members with details.

1. ***Proposals for training runs***

Jack explained to the meeting that a working group had been set up to look at the current structure of club runs and ran through some proposed changes including:

* Mondays – a joint warm-up and a monthly “out and back” run
* Tuesdays – track every Tuesday plus a social run. Structured training to stop, due to low numbers
* Thursdays – suggested new groups:  
  - Group 1: beginners/improvers, aimed at members who take 30 mins+ to do parkrun  
  - Groups 2 and 3: intermediate, aimed at members who take 22-30 mins to do parkrun – two distance options  
  - Group 4: structured training sessions for anyone
* Faster runners in groups 1-3 running back to the group if they get too far ahead

Jack proposed a 3 month trial starting in January. During discussion some concerns were raised, including: the safety/feasibility of a Monday joint warm-up (Tracy Foy and Martin Fillingham); members being left to run alone during “out and back” runs (Jadine Smith); the view that the new structure caters for slower members and those who want to do structured training, but doesn’t meet the needs of other members (Vicki Johnston and Jeremy Wright); and objection to the proposal to ask faster runners to run back to the group when ahead (Vicki Johnston and Jeremy Wright.)

Jack agreed to circulate the proposals to all members, giving the opportunity to make constructive comments so that plans could be reviewed prior to trialing.

1. ***2018 Club Championship***

Stuart Dunbar talked about the 24 races which have been agreed for 2018 and had been made available to members prior to the meeting.  
  
Justin Ions expressed disappointment at the exclusion of races of marathon length or greater. There followed a discussion about how to include a 25th race of “any marathon”, although it was recognized that marathons vary in difficulty.

It was agreed that a 25th event of “any marathon” would be included but the onus would be on members to make Stuart aware of obscure marathons if they wanted them to be included in their championship score.

Some members expressed concern about the Sue Ryder Bolton Abbey runs, which had experienced some problems during the initial races this year. It was agreed to keep the Bolton Abbey festival in based on the fact that there were 23 other options and hopefully the organisers would make improvements for 2018 based on feedback from 2017.

It was proposed that, in future years, members be given the opportunity in September/October to suggest races for inclusion in the Club Championship for the following year.

1. ***2018 Club London Marathon places***

Jeremy Wright explained that England Athletics had reduced the number of club places available, so this year there would only be two places. Members had previously been invited to request to be included in a club ballot provided they met minimum criteria as agreed at last year’s meeting. From these members a draw took place. The club ballot places went to Darren Longhorn and Gavin Hamilton.

A discussion took place about whether there should be a guaranteed female place. Dairine stressed that this had been discussed at last year’s meeting following input from Tracy Foy.

Mike advised that the committee had considered this during 2017 and agreed not to allow any potential discrimination within the ballot process, based on gender or any other criteria. Mike advised that the committee will be revisiting all the criteria during 2018 and will liaise with members about this.

1. ***Any other business***

Bernadette Cook, who was unable to attend, had asked whether there was any interest in organizing weekend fell training sessions. Mike confirmed that Ali Nash would be undertaking a Fell Leader in Running Fitness course.

As there was no further business the meeting was declared to be closed.