

Minutes of the Beeston Athletics Club Annual General Meeting, Wednesday 10 November 2021

Present: Simon Elliott (Chair), Chris Bexton, Mark Rowson, Paul Dennis, Karen Barnfield, Claire Friel, Andy Hunter, Chris Robson, Sophie Eadsforth, Lucy Grant, Rob Henderson, Neil Byford, Charlie Pearce, Marie Pardon, Tim Hills, Sunil Sharma, Andrew Taplin, Dave Beighton, David Cross, Catherine Simkins, Jon Earp, Gabriele Neher, Clint Southern-Warburton, Gary Fox, Dan Rawson, Louise West, John Tallamy, Dave Evans, Shane Fenn, Genie Mihaylova, Caroline Challender, Beth Davey, Anthony Davey, Michael Blades, Nigel Turner, Jackie Welburn, Harry Taylor, David Paterson, Jenny Gibbon, Guy Carney, Michael Lyons, Mathieu Lecoecue, Simon Barnes, Gemma Smart, Alec MacLean, Ken Allen, Chris Bexton

Apologies for absence were received from: Andy Granville, Steve Rooney, David Broadbent, Ian Sayers, Robert Jackson, Mike Davey, Janet Barnes, Ken Lyon, Jackie Cunningham, Rab Acid, Phil Herd, Wendy Herd, James Isherwood, Guy Barwell

1. Minutes of the AGM held 21 November 2020: Approved.

2. Chairman's Report

Another difficult year – I don't think anyone at last year's virtual AGM foresaw quite how difficult the winter and first half of 2021 was going to be with the lengthy lockdown until the end of April and no proper racing until the summer.

However, we have finally managed to get back to what I talked about in the last paragraph of my 2020 report, namely 'doing the things we love doing, racing, club handicaps, organising the Not the Trent 5 and of course going down the pub!'

Indeed, Beeston AC was at the forefront of organising normal races with Mark Rowson and team putting on the very successful Not the Trent 5 in Wollaton Park on June 23rd. This was in lieu of the cancelled Summer League and was so well received that we have been booked to put it on again next year.

We subsequently managed to squeeze all the club handicap races in this year, thanks again to everyone involved with them. Phil Herd finally realised his dream of taking a large number of members to his part of the world when they ran in the Lakeland Trail races in July.

And Gaby has launched a popular Trail running section within the club with regular weekly runs on a Thursday night followed of course it seems with a visit to a pub!

The club continues to grow steadily with quite a large number of new members joining following them discovering the joys of running during the height of the pandemic. As a result the club continues to be in a good position organisationally and financially.

On this note I'd like to thank the committee for all their hard work during the last 12 months, and give particular thanks to the outgoing members Jackie Welburn and Penny Page for their efforts over the last 4 years. Special thanks are also due to Mark Rowson who is stepping down as Road Race secretary after at least 15 years. Mark is 'transitioning' to Chairman and as those of you who saw his Tammy Wynette rendition at the Christmas 'Do' a couple of years ago will testify, Mark transitions well!

So, fingers crossed that the coronavirus remains reasonably under control and here's to a great remaining 2021 and 2022!

3. Secretary's Report

The Committee has met 4 times in 2021, at first via Zoom but later on we were able to meet in person. Items for discussion have included the format of the Wednesday night runs, quality of the Club vests, potential social events and the organisation of the 'Not the Trent 5' race which took place at Wollaton Park in June in line with England Athletics Race Guidance. Another topic under discussion is the potential augmentation of the Club's website with more archival material.

The Notts Amateur Athletics Association were in touch to enquire if there was support for a Track and Field County Championships weekend, and the Club was supportive of this. Both Charlie Pearce and I went along and raced with youngsters plus representatives from other athletics clubs in Notts, and had a great time so would recommend this as a fun day out (there are special events for veteran athletes too).

Neil Byford has continued in his role as Club Covid Officer during 2021, as required by England Athletics and thanks are noted to him for doing this.

The Committee agreed that members who wish to train for the Leadership in Running Fitness licence will receive a contribution towards the training and DBS licence costs on the understanding that they participate regularly in leading club training sessions.

The Committee also discussed the return of the Club handicap races, and these have all gone ahead this year, with Sophie Eadsforth winning the Trent Lock Handicap, James Isherwood winning the Double Gravs, and Mike Davey winning tonight's Single Gravs race!

The Club goes from strength to strength with more members than ever, and a good turnout at many of the training sessions; we will look forward to more races and rehydration sessions in 2022!

4. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer's report for 1 November 2020 to 30 October 2021 was circulated, showing a final balance of £2,120.98 with a net increase from 2019/20 of £807.47. The Club holds £350 of kit/vests in stock.

The Club is in a solid financial position, and has this week reached the milestone of 200 members. The 'Not the Trent 5' race was very successful financially with a profit of £400 to £500 and for this reason there is no need to increase the membership fee with England Athletics being paid £16 out of every £20 paid by registered Club members.

5. Report from the Independent Verifier of the Accounts

The accounts have been verified independently by Steve Mason, and they are confirmed to be a true and accurate record.

6. Road League Secretary's report

Even though it has been a shortened league this year, with only 6 races since September, there's still been 84 members taking part in at least one race.

The league will conclude on Sunday with the Derby 10 with both the Men's and Women's championships still to be decided. Sophie, Lucy or Caitlin could still win the women's championship while David Cross, Simon Barnes, Andrew Taplin, Christopher Hicks or Harry Taylor could all win the men's.

We normally have a trophy presentation at the AGM but would like to suggest we have it at the Christmas Party.

There's been no Summer League for two years now but the races will restart in the New Year. Beeston AC will host the third race in the series at Wollaton Park on Wednesday 15th June.

There's only been one County Championship race which was the Half Marathon but it didn't stop us claiming medals.

Sophie	Open V45	Gold Gold
Lucy	V35 Open	Silver Bronze
Andrew Taplin	V45	Gold

Well done to the many runners have achieved PBs during the year and I wish everyone an injury free 2022.

Thank you very much. After 21 years, that concludes my final Road Race Report.

7. Membership Fees for 2022/23

The Treasurer had provided the Committee with some projections on future income, including the positions forecast with the Trent 5 taking place or not in 2021.

It was agreed these will remain unchanged from 2020/21: £20 first claim, with England Athletics increasing the registration fee from £15 to £16 for 2022/3.

8. Election of Officers

Position	2020/21 Postholders	Proposed 2021/22 Postholder	Proposer	Seconder
Chair:	Simon Elliott	Mark Rowson	Simon Elliott	Chris Bexton
Treasurer:	Dan Rawson	Dan Rawson	Rab Acid	Charlie Pearce
Secretary:	Chris Bexton	Chris Bexton	Mark Rowson	Geoff Pennington
Road Race Secretary:	Mark Rowson	Dave Cross*	Lucy Grant	Mathieu Lecoeuche
Fell Race Secretary:	Dave Bish	Dave Bish	Charlie Pearce	Phil Herd
Cross Country Secretary:	Charlie Pearce	Charlie Pearce	Neil Byford	Penny Page
Ladies Representative:	Jackie Welburn	Gaby Neher*	Jackie Welburn	Susan Wheatcroft
Social Secretary:	Phil Herd	Phil Herd	Jackie Welburn	Chris Bexton
Coaching Coordinator:	Neil Byford	Neil Byford	Penny Page	Rab Acid
Trent 5 Race Organiser:	Rab Acid	Rab Acid	John O'Donnell	Simon Elliott
Members representative:	Penny Page	Sophie Eadsforth	Simon Elliott	Paul Dennis
Members representative:	Geoff Pennington	Geoff Pennington	Chris Bexton	John O'Donnell

* A paper ballot took place to decide on the holders for the posts of Road Race Secretary and Ladies Representative with Dave Cross and Gaby Neher duly being appointed. Nominations had been received from Steve Mason (proposer Mike Kirk, seconder Tasso Gazis) and Dave Cross for the position of Road Race Secretary. Caitlin Bradury (proposed by Lucy Grant, seconded by Susan Wheatcroft) and Gaby Neher both stood for the role of Ladies Secretary. All approved. The Chairman thanked Mark Rowson,

Jackie Welburn and Penny Page for their sterling work as Road Race Secretary, Ladies Representative and Members representative.

9. Presentation of the Athlete of the Year Trophy

This was won by Lucy Grant.

10. Thanks to the Outgoing Chairman

Mark Rowson recorded thanks to Simon Elliott for his chairmanship and contribution on the Club Committee for the past four years.