

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Darwen Dashers Running Club on Thursday 30th April at the Fernhurst Hotel, Ewood.

Jonathan opened the meeting at 20.35 & thanked everyone for their attendance.

Present

Jonathan Stubbs, Chris Cash, Rebecca Simms, Barry Shackleton, Brian Tull, Des & Carol Reilly, Joanne Nelson, Paul Brindle, Russ Corsini, Linda Clarkson, James & Kym McGarry-Stanley, Brian Morris, Sarah Louise Quinn, Debbie Bevitt, Jim Taylor, Barry Clark, Gary Taylor, Karen Shackleton, Simon & Cath Fox, Chris Gosling, Debbie Robinson, Vikki Livsey, Alex Buckland, Barry Ross, Elaine Turner, Jonny Bromilow, Lee Shorrocks, Don Clarkson, Tina Kuczer, Alison Abbott.

Apologies received

George Thompson, Gareth Taylor, Carly Edwards, Mark Walsh.

Approval of AGM 2014 Minutes

Agreed as a true record.

Captains' Report

Barry Shackleton explained that he was speaking on behalf of himself & Carly Edwards, women's captain. The most noticeable aspect of the club was the enthusiasm within the club shown by many over the last 12 months. Barry highlighted James McGarry who posted on FB on the Saturday that he would be going out for a run if anyone wished to join him at 8.30am the following day. 12 people of mixed abilities turned up & joined him, which is an absolutely fantastic response. The club is now very inclusive with different groups out running every club night when there can be over 50 people in attendance at the Sunnyhurst. Thanks to people like Don Clarkson, Michelle Connolly & Alison Pickup who along with many others regularly take out groups. Races too are well attended, last weekend having Dashers in races from Edinburgh to London in a variety of races from 10k to marathons & more. May well this enthusiasm continue.

Treasurer's Report

Rebecca Simms explained that as part of the clubs constitution the finances are required to be audited and that George Thomson had completed this prior to the AGM. A summary sheet showing income and expenditure was made available on the night.

Finances had increased over last year from £2,158 to £2,968 due largely to the increase in membership, income from the races we hold (£1,521) and the sale of merchandise. We still have £275 in hand to provide subsidised membership to new members who have progressed through the beginners group. We have continued to

support our chosen charities & have made contributions to Cardiac in the Young (CRY) (£621), Bolton Mountain Rescue (£294) & East Lancs Hospice (£142).

Secretary's Report

Chris Cash reported that 33 members had left/not renewed membership during the year. However new members joining the club stood at 71, an increase of 38 members. Total membership registered with England Athletics is 135 + 10 honorary members. The Wednesday Night Beginners Group continues to go from strength to strength with over 30 attending last night. This group graduates by running Bolton Parkrun on Saturday 30th May and I would ask Dashers to support this by their attendance at this. London Marathon Club Places- members had to be aware that club places for the London Marathon was limited, last year we had 3 but this can never be guaranteed. To enter members have to completed 4 Dashers championship races before the ballot takes place and provide their rejection slips which are received during October. Joanne Nelson made the suggestion that the draw should be made as soon after as opposed to waiting for the Xmas party. This was supported by the members. The draw is to take place on a club night the first week in November. England Athletics Affiliation- the club membership has doubled from £50 to £100 and each members from £10 to £12. It was suggested that these increases be absorbed with the exception of family member membership (which only covers EA membership) be raised to £12 to absorb the increase. This again was supported by the members. Clothing- a healthy variety of merchandise has been offered in the last year from running vests to mugs and hoodies by a small number of Dashers, with demand often outweighing supply at times. A big thank you goes to Neil Duerden who has provided many of the designs free of charge.

Chairman's Report

Jonathan gave a month by month resume of events that have occurred over the last year ranging from Dashers races, treasure hunts, train trips, births, engagements and marriages. In recognition of the hard work & dedication shown by members he presented the following with small tokens of appreciation:
For editing The Dash, Simon Fox.
For Beginners Group Run Leaders, Vikki Livsey, Alex Buckland, Alison Abbott, James France, James McGarry-Stanley, Chris Cash.
Jonathan explained that following interest expressed at last years AGM he was pursuing the possibility of the Dashers hosting a road race of 10 to 13.1 mls distance starting at either DACA or Blacksnape playing fields.
Jonathan thanked all members for their support over the last 4 years as chairman and confirmed his decision to step down from his chairmanship role. It is also Carly Edwards decision to step down from that of Ladies Captain. Jonathan thanked Carly for her hard work over the last two years.

Election of Committee Members

Chairman: Chris Cash, proposed by Jim Taylor, seconded by Russ Corsini.

Ladies Captain: Alison Abbott, proposed by James McGarry-Stanley, seconded by Chris Gosling.

Mens Captain continues with Barry Shackleton.

President continues with Brian Tull.

Treasurer continues with Rebecca Simms.

Secretary: Jonathan Stubbs, proposed by Sarah Louise Quinn, seconded by Kym McGarry-Stanley.

Open Forum

Jim Taylor informed the meeting that at the forthcoming Geoff Doggett Trail Race Andy O'Sullivan is to present a cheque to our chosen charity.

James McGarry-Stanley thanked the committee for advertising routes & groupings on club nights on F/B each week.

The meeting closed at 21.15pm