

HARROGATE HARRIERS & AC

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022 Harrogate Cricket Club

Tuesday 5 April 2022

1. Introduction by Jeff Parris. Apologies were received from:

Mark Seymour Brian Miller
Nat Southworth Wendy Marks
Carole Ann Jones Ian Cooper
Harry Dowdell Paul Dowie
Andrew Dobby John Young
Nick Androlojc

2. Matters arising from 2021 AGM – Nil

3. Chairman's Review: Adam Prentis. Before starting his review, Adam wanted to record his and the whole Club's joint admiration and appreciation to Simon Watson. Admiration is forthcoming from all of us for Simon's amazing achievement last week in the Marathon Des Sables. Appreciation is forthcoming for the consistent and valuable contribution that Simon has made to the Committee and the Club over several years – most recently as Competitions Officer. This comment was warmly endorsed by all present and a lengthy round of applause followed.

Adam talked about leadership and about how culture is right at the heart of an organisation's success, and great culture is generated through leadership. Leadership is about ensuring everyone knows what an organisation stands for, where it is going and what each person's individual role in that journey is. He commented that this time last year, wearing somewhat rose-tinted post Covid spectacles, our stated aim was as follows:

- to be ambitious and aspirational both as individuals and as a Club, to compete well not just locally but at County and National Championships
- to offer a high standard of performance-based training to help you get the most from the sport you love,
- to look out for one another and have a lot of fun along the way.

Adam wanted to commend and thank all for our part in the journey together over the past 12 months. He also thanked the Committee for their extraordinary efforts and hard work in moving the Club forward so that it is both well managed as well as being financially robust. He thanked the Run Leaders, both new and established, for giving their time for the development of other athletes and he thanked the members, for volunteering, for the enjoyment of running, for our pride in wearing a Harrogate Harriers vest and for our special part in making our community what it is.

Adam specifically wanted to pick up on the performance of the Club at the Northern Road Relays, at the National Fell Championships, and at the various Cross Countries and congratulate every athlete who competed for Harrogate Harriers both on and off road. Mark Bryant, Issy Rowe, Lexi and Eve Whitaker had all been prominent and it was good to see Andy Grant back. Adam, like the rest of us was particularly in awe of the ladies performance at the Ilkley Fell Race recently which was truly fabulous.

Adam gave a personal critique of his own performance as Chairman saying that in his view it has been mixed these past 12 months. He thought it could have been better in areas like Socials, like our external Media presence, like our planning for Club races with which we only had short visibility, like our ability to access Athletics Tracks, and as a by-product our work with Harriers Juniors. But it has been a strange year and we can't do everything.

He did report that he was proud of the fact that we put on a fabulous 10k at the start of our return to racing and in the process, we supported Rob Atheys chosen charity.

He reported that kit wise we are finally getting there although these things always take more time than we'd like.

He went on to say that sadly the track project with HRUFC was officially abandoned last week and so our search for a site continues. He thanked Alex Green and Ben Holmes for their amazing work in supporting the project.

Adam was most proud of efforts binding our community and delivering high quality training sessions which manifest themselves in extraordinary individual running performances out in competition. These aren't perfect and we are working on enhancement, but we all know they're accessible to all athletes and are delivering some amazing results.

Looking forward he intended to continue to focus on Performance based training, as a Club we will enhance our IT services in 2022, we will be making some adjustments to our Risk & Welfare strategies in line with revised standards within England Athletics, and what is inevitable is an enhanced debate about Equality in Sport particularly around Transgender athletes.

Adam did stress that we need more new faces on board to help us. Please don't be shy.

In finishing Adam said a few words about our friend & runner Paul Layfield who took his own life recently. We are a Running Club, a wonderful Community and not Mental Health specialists but like many Adam was devastated that something like this has happened. Paul was a supporter of CALM and Adam indicated that he would do what he can this year to help support CALM, and if anyone feels they need access to specialist help in the area of Mental Health please just talk to someone, just ask, just speak out.

That concludes Adam's Chairman's report

4. Treasurer's Report: Nat Southworth. Unfortunately, Nat was unable to attend due to Covid, but he had prepared and circulated a full report in advance of the AGM. In summary, Jeff reported that the club's finances are in a healthy position and the committee intend to maintain that situation. There were no questions at the meeting, but Jeff stressed that Nat was happy to take any enquiries after the meeting by email.

It was proposed (by Sue Moul) and seconded (by Andy Laverick) that the accounts be accepted as a fair and accurate representation of the Clubs finances. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. Membership Secretary Report and Fees: Sue Moul. Sue summarised the membership numbers for the Club and the gender mix. She also listed the number of V65 and Honorary members and the International members. She went on to explain that the committee proposed to offer a reduced, but time limited to 2 weeks, early bird option for first claim members of annual membership for £35, this being a reduction of £8. Thereafter the fees will revert to £43 with the club absorbing the £1 increase in the England Athletics affiliation fee.

This proposal was warmly received and formally proposed (by Alan Couldwell) and seconded (by John Dalby) it was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. Election of Officers: Jeff explained that the current committee were keen to attract additional support through new members and that although several of the committee were prepared to stand for another year there were vacancies that needed filling if the club is to continue to thrive. Jeff also explained that Harry Dowdell had kindly offered to get involved and after discussion it was proposed that the roles of Training Coordinator and Competitions Coordinator be merged and executed jointly by Issy Rowe and Harry Dowdell. The following were proposed, seconded, and elected:

Chairman: Adam Prentis was re-elected

Proposed: Simon Watson

Seconded: Ben Holmes

Poll – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Treasurer: Nat Southworth was re-elected

Proposed: Adam Prentis

Seconded: John Dalby

Poll – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Club Secretary: Jeff Parris was re-elected

Proposed: Ben Holmes

Seconded: Neil Rutter

Poll – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Membership Secretary: Sue Moul was re-elected

Proposed: Neil Rutter

Seconded: Ben Holmes

Poll – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Events Coordinator: Mark Seymour was re-elected

Proposed: John Dalby

Seconded: Andy Laverick

Poll – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Training and Competitions Coordinators: Issy Rowe and Harry Dowdell were elected

Proposed: Mark Walker

Seconded: Shaun Morrison

Poll – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Welfare Officer: Ben Shacklock was elected

Proposed: Adam Prentis

Seconded: John Dalby

Poll – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IT/Communications: Neil Rutter was re-elected

Proposed: Richard Willis

Seconded: Simon Watson

Poll – CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Press/PR: There were no nominations

Social Secretary: There were no nominations

Jeff emphasised that even if members didn't want to formally become committee members but were willing to help with either of these two roles it would be very much appreciated and to please approach any committee member if you are prepared to help.

7. AOB: Jeff had not been alerted to any other business prior to the meeting but asked if anybody wanted to raise anything. One member kindly offered his appreciation for the approach the committee had taken to Club membership fees.

There being no other business Jeff thanked all those for attending and closed the meeting.

Jeff Parris
Club Secretary
6 April 2022