

MINUTES OF AGM & COMMITTEE MEETING, BELGRAVE HALL, 7 SEPTEMBER 2012

1. Apologies for absence: G Ashdown, G Biscoe, D Crookes, M Edwards, R Hale, A Walker
2. Minutes of AGM of 9 September 2011: Accepted
3. Matters arising: None or dealt with elsewhere in these minutes
4. Minutes of Committee Meeting 27 April 2012: Accepted
5. Matters Arising: Dealt with elsewhere in these minutes.
6. Secretaries Business: The Secretaries report was accepted. The 2012 Championship race was confirmed as being at 2pm on 15 December at Richmond Park, hosted by Kingston & Poly. The 5 Mile Team race was confirmed as being at 2pm on 24 November at Reigate Priory Park, hosted by Reigate Priory AC.

The secretary had been approached by the granddaughter of William Henry Cornelius who won the championship race in 1898. He sadly died a few years later, before she was born, and she was trying to collect as much as she could about his life and athletic exploits. She was put in touch with Brian Boulton who was able to be of considerable assistance in this matter.

He suggested that John Snowden or Tom Richards be approached to see if they would agree to become President and this was agreed by the meeting.

7. Treasurers Report & Business: The treasurer reported that the Association had made a small surplus last year. The accounts were presented and provisionally agreed subject to audit. Tom Pollak noted that the figures indicated that only a fraction of member clubs had paid their affiliation fee. The Treasurer said that there had been some confusion regarding which year's affiliation fees were received for. No changes in affiliation fees or race fees were proposed.

8. Election of Officers and Committee for 2012/13
President: Matt Hyett of Kingston & Poly AC

The outgoing president Rachel Disley was not present and John Gebbels chaired the meeting. Matt is the first member of K&P to be President and the youngest president for many years. He has been running since his schooldays, has been XC team manager for K&P for 3 years and has a preference for races of 6 miles / 10km with a best time in the region of 36 minutes.

Secretary: Geoff Newton
Vice President: Andrew Walker
Elected Committee: vacant
Auditor: Sarah Smith
Race Secretary and Treasurer: Don Turner
History & Trophies: Brian Boulton
Life Members: as per handbook

9. The secretary had been approached by Will Cockerell who suggested that women's teams in the championship race should be 4 or 5 to score instead of the current 6. He was invited to speak for this motion at this AGM, but did not appear on the day. Both the committee meeting of 27 April and the AGM were unanimous in their support for complete equality between men's and women's race. The number of complete teams in the women's championship race was at a reasonable level and increasing year on year, so it was felt that there was no reason to change.

10. AOB

Alan Mead sadly reported that the previous secretary Derek Crookes was seriously ill and unlikely to live much longer. Given his unprecedented 31 years as secretary to the Association, there was some preliminary discussion as to the action the Association would take should the worst come to the worst.

John Gebbels also reported the sad death of past president Vic Fowles of HHH at the age of 82.

Tom Pollak proposed that the Association do away with separate committee meetings and relocate the AGM to April, operating in a manner similar to the Surrey Cross Country League. This found wide support. Alan Mead suggested that an EGM be called for late April 2013 to vote on this matter and that this be followed immediately afterwards by either an AGM or a committee meeting, depending on whether the vote was for or against the status quo. The secretary agreed to prepare and send out agendas for both the aforementioned AGM and committee meeting, with the agenda for the EGM, so that the matters could proceed whatever the outcome of the EGM.

Tom Pollak proposed a vote of thanks for Geoff Newton and Don Turner for carrying on the business of the Association and this was supported by the meeting

The meeting closed.

Geoff Newton, Hon Gen Sec