** Committee Meeting Minutes**

**18th February 2025 at Ilford Sports Club**

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|  | **Notes** | **Action** |
| 1. | **In Attendance:**  Committee members**:** Ernie Forsyth (Chair), Andy Catton, Wes Clarke, Fabrizio Stefanoni, Neil Crisp, Danny Holeyman, Bill Green, Anna Crawley, Carlie Qirem and Rob Sargent (invited) |  |
| 2. | **Apologies:** Diane Crisp |  |
| 3. | **Previous Minutes** – Previous minutes of meeting 21st January agreed and signed as a true record |  |
| 4. | **Coaching (EF)**  EF – at last count 101 registered young athletes in “development group”  Committee agreed purchase of requested training hurdles and training javelins. Other equipment requested to be costed first before approval. AC chased up Craig B & Nat S.  AC – arranged via London EA for a national level coach (Julie Pratt-Benterman) to visit to hold a workshop on hurdles plus sprints and relays on either 15th or 29th April. EA – would prefer 29th as 15th within Easter school holiday. |  |
| 5. | **Membership and Subscriptions (CQ)** |  |
| 5.1 | **New Members**  Tomas Krukauskas SM  Donagh Horley SM |  |
| 5.2 | **Resignations**  None |  |
| 6. | **Track & Field (AC)**  League dates and venues confirmed for SAL & EYAL  SAL :-  Sat 17th May Stevenage  Sun 22nd June Woodford  Sun 13th July Cambridge  Sat 30th Aug Ware  Cost of coach transport provided by Gary F for Stevenage, Cambridge & Ware. Committee agreed to book, albeit prices increased from last year.  EYAL :-  Sun 13th Apr Thurrock  Sun 18th May Watford  Sun 15th June Chelmsford  Sun 27th July Banet Copthall  Gary Floate obtaining cost for coach transport for Watford, Chelmsford and Barnet  Essex AA indoor champs at Lee Valley - 1st / 2nd March  Essex AA outdoor champs 10th / 11th May at Chelmsford |  |
| 7. | **Road & Cross Country (BG)**  **Chingford League – Epping Forest**  13 Seniors  Manuel Vigo 28th, Seb Parris 67th, Dan Holeyman 80th  Steve Chissell 3rd M60  Team 1st in Div 2  16 Juniors  U11 Danilo Reina 7th boy Georgia Broom 13th girl  U13 Khalif Ali 4th boy Sophie Lawes 10th girl  U15 Fabio Reina 1st boy , Barney Perkins 2nd boy  Hawaa Patel 4th girl  U17 Ryder Islam 4th boy  **South of England Cross-Country Champs**  U17 Samuel Crane 97th Ryder Islam 140th Leila Lauder 103rd girl  Jordan Hinds only Snr Lady 121st  **Chingford League - Victoria Park 5**  29 Seniors  Ronan Edwards 4th, Josh Adler 11th, Tomas Krukauskas 17th,  Manuel Vigo 18th, Donagh Horley 20th, Richard Morris 22nd  Mens team 2nd  Jordan Hinds 10th, Anna Crawley 15th  Ladies team 8th  17 Juniors  U11 Danilo Reila 6th boy, Hannah Lawes 21st girl  U13 Khalif Ali 5th boy, Iris Wan 12th girl  U15 Fabio Reina 1st , Barney Perkins 2nd boy, Hawaa Patel 6th girl  U17 Ryder 4th boy, Leila Lauder 1st girl  Overall series awards :-  Barney Perkins 1st U15  Khalif Ali 3rd U13  Ryder Islam joint 3rd U17  Samuel Crane 6th Essex finisher in the **South East Inter schools county match**  **Essex Cross Country League Hockley**  Ladies 1st team and won Division 2 title  Team – Jordan Hinds 16th , Anna Crawley 31st , Alison Sale 61st Pauline Tester 62nd  Mens team 7th in Div 1  Team – Josh Adler 37th , Dylan Harrod 53rd , Steve Philcox 68th , Richard Morris 83rd ,  Age group league series medalists :-  Steve Philcox M55 gold  Andy Catton M70 gold  Alan Pearl M65 silver  Pauline Tester F60 silver  Terry Knightley M60 bronze  Rob Sargent M70 bronze  4 Juniors  U11 Danilo Reina 17th boy  U15 Fabio Reina 19th, Luke Thake 33rd boys  U17 Samuel Crane 6th  **VAC / Eastern Masters Indoor Championships**  Fabrizio Stefanoni 1500m 2nd M50  **Mercury 10 XC – Epping Forest**  Danny Holeyman 23rd , Seb Parris 24th |  |
| 8. | **Race Organisation (BG/AC)**.  Hilly 5 – provisional date Wed 9th July, to confirm at ELVIS AGM  ELVIS AGM is on 24th Feb. EF to attend.  BG to contact Hainault Country Park for booking. AC to obtain permit.  Essex xc league – AC raised concerns over holding again at Chigwell Row on Woodland Trust land due to parking difficulties. To see if possible to hire Country Park. | BG/AC  AC |
| 9. | **Media & Publicity (BG)**  As before all is still going extremely well with great coverage in Ilford Recorder, particularly young athletes results, with many full back page articles recently. |  |
| 10. | **Chigwell Row Portacabin** :  AC – painting of the mens changing to finish asap. To paint ladies changing room C/F  EF – new flooring installed in ladies changing room  EF - smart meter cable covering replaced  EF – security lights need repairing or replacing  AC – heating now fully working following pump replacement. Cost £190 including servicing of rads. | AC/DH  EF |
| 11. | **Social (ACr) :**  Group run for Nicola well attended  Games night in Romford date TBA  Bluebell run date TBA (subsequently advised Sunday 20th April)  Parkrun plus pie and mash date TBA (subsequently advised Saturday 15th March – Southwark Park) |  |
| 12. | **Finance Report (WC)**  WC highlighted items of major expenditure over the last current financial year :-   1. Chigwell Row heating system - £3,600 (covered by donations of £2,500 from Ronnie O’Sullivan in both 2023 & 2024) 2. Transport (coaches) for T & F matches (£2,833) 3. Loss on awards night (£1,191)   WC passed year end accounts to John Mackenzie for annual audit report.  Large expenditure for cost of transport to SAL & EYAL matches in 2025. Consider reintroduction of charges for senior athletes and parents of young athletes. |  |
| 13. | **Development (FS)**.  Update on priority issues:-   1. New members welcome pack – further updated draft provided by FS. CQ has provided input and FS, AC and EF are working to try to finish by the AGM. 2. New club kit supply – (Steve Wilkin - Chelmsford AC). Website for online ordering is now fully functional and ready for members orders for an initial range of kit. Final queries being dealt with by FS and then will give green light to launch.   Next priorities - Coach and officials recruitment and succession planning. FS has spoken to club members willing to take up volunteer and/or committee roles. They require more detail of what specific roles entail. Suggested speak with either EF or AC or both.  As part of club development initiative committee discussed a paper produced by RS covering recruitment and retention of athletes. Main points for further discussion or consideration :-   1. Improve communication between coaches and team managers particularly regarding club priority events and team selection 2. More frequent coach meetings 3. Try to attract good runners from local jogging clubs that want to compete in Essex and Area competition. 4. Try to attract road runners from local jogging clubs that want to try xc and track. 5. Re-brand the “Harriers” / beginners running group - ”Run Together” ? 6. Maximise our reputation as a leading masters club in the South East (multiple County and Area Champs medalists and Southern Vets T & F League winners last three years)   It was noted that the committee members and team managers use a number of communication mediums including email, dedicated club WhatsApp groups and the club Facebook page to inform members about races and encourage participation in priority events. It was difficult to ascertain what additional methods could be taken to enhance communications within the club. | FS/AC  FS  FS |
| 14,  15. | **Correspondence (AC)**  None – other than usual Essex AA minutes and communications  **AOB**  FS/CQ - website update carried forward from last meeting. Certain info out of date. AC advised that it is up to all committee members to advise as to what needs changing. Once the new welcome pack is prepared then that info can all be incorporated. Consideration to be undertaken on the need to launch a new “re-branded” website on an alternative platform to streamline the joining and membership process and other beneficial improvements. EF &/or AC to discuss with Martin C  Following EF & AC meeting with Vision managers on 30th Jan a skip is being provided (on 21st Feb) for us to clear the shed next to our portacabin. Contents from our “clubhouse” will then be transferred to the shed pending a temporary new portacabin being obtained.  AGM – AC to circulate list of Officers and Team Manager posts etc, and check on willingness of current (subsequently done) | EF/AC  AC |
|  | **Meeting finished 21:55**  **Next committee meeting**  **Tuesday 15th April**  **AGM Tuesday 18th March** |  |
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