

ERME VALLEY HARRIERS

Minutes of Annual General Meeting

Held on Tuesday 6th November 2018

1. Apologies

These were received from Rebecca Lee, Mike Hansen, Dan Marks, Cleo & Martin Perry.

2. Minutes of last A.G.M.

The minutes were adopted as a true record.

3. Matters Arising.

None

4. Officers Report:-

Chairman's AGM Report 2018: - Mark Livermore

Well how quick has this year gone - since I was duped oops sorry volunteered in to the role of Chairman. And what a fantastic year it has been for us as a club - I have really enjoyed it.

Firstly a big thank you to the committee - Keith Reed, Sharon Terry, Paul Ross, Michelle Peters, Shirley Watson, Steve Watson and Nathan Brown who is currently at University - without whom nothing would happen, but this year it has also been good to see other people stepping forward to volunteer to take events etc forward.

The attendances we have achieved across all groups under the EVH Banner has been excellent this year, Monday - Cleo Perry, Tuesday - Club, Wednesday - Sharon Terry plus Alison and Dave Engledew in South Brent, Thursday - Ali McEwing and Fridays - Steve Watson. We now have specialist groups that span the whole week catering for a much wider audience - which is great for the club.

I have been also really pleased at the number of newbies we have attracted this year, the positive feedback we have had from individuals who have been with us on holidays or work plus the fact we have managed to retain our new runners as well!

I have been delighted at the group discipline we have shown in our running groups this year, whether it be in the official club run, including the Spirit of the Moor run (Kev Paull) or where people wanted to do something else at a different pace (Jo Jayes), we have all been much more mindful of runner safety, which not only makes common sense but also makes people feel there is a point of running with a club in the first place. We even had a water station set up on one of our longer runs in the heat this year (Dave Fox)!

During this last 12 months we had runners starting on our Couch to 5k, run their first 10k, run their 100th marathon, represented Devon at junior and senior level as well as England in the Vets marathon! Not without counting that the juniors won Sportshall for the first time in our history which is awesome - that's the inclusivity I was talking about last November!!

Our 10k (Ian Crossley) and relay races (Paul Ross) proved to be even more successful and thank you to all of you who volunteer to support these events, without whom they could not take place. The cross-country season is now upon us so thank you to Sharon Terry and Ken Summers for leading on the male and female teams.

We held a hugely popular awards evening here at the rugby club in April, again with a fantastic spread of food - thank you!

We organized - and more to follow - free coach trips to race events for our athletes which proved really popular for Taunton and Torbay (Dave Church / Ken Summers) the plan for 2019 is where we identify a need then we will look to volunteers to take the lead to organize the coach etc.

I wanted to finish by saying that our Xmas meal for 2019 organized by Ken Summers is a sell out with 70 people attending - this is testament to the "club atmosphere" we have all engendered this year. Thank you everyone for your continued support this year.

Secretary's Report 2018 - Keith Reed.

At last year's AGM Mark Livermore took on the role of the Chair and as a result the club has progressed well in the last year. I would like to thank Mark and praise him massively for the way he has gone about the job. We still have a very small committee, but we work well to make things happen. It would really be good to get some new blood onto the committee to spread the workload. It has not always been an easy relationship with the Rugby Club, but we have begun to improve dialogue and plans are afoot to improve the facilities particularly for our ladies. The really good thing is the social atmosphere after training sessions, which was absent for so many years when we were based at the Leisure Centre.

Our membership currently stands at 219 (19 less than last year). The breakdown is 112 seniors and 107 juniors of which 46 are under 11. The junior decline is a bit concerning partly due to a high turnover of members which is 32%. This is mostly made up of juniors who do not renew. It would be interesting to know if this is similar in other clubs.

Our programmes have gone well in the past year using principals of the successful Couch to 5K programmes. Thanks to Cleo, Sharon, Ruth and Jo Jayes for all they have done with this. We have improved the structured approach to groups at training and hopefully now can cater for all abilities even more, to ensure everyone is catered for. We updated the club development plan last year and we have made significant progress this year.

Both of our club promoted races did extremely well one again. Thanks to our 10K race director Ian Crossley who did another fantastic job and also Paul who was the race director for the massively popular relays. We are certainly held in high esteem when it comes to putting on quality events. The races could not happen without the help of a number of key personnel and of course members who help on the day.

Coaching is another area we improved in the last year. We have had three new coaches plus new assistant coaches and LIRF's. We have structured our junior sessions well and also the Tuesday evening junior endurance session has gone well. We are now trying to encourage more volunteers in the 14-25 age group to get involved and we were successful in gaining a grant from England Athletics as part of the Gamechangers project to fund this. It has been difficult to get off the ground but we now hope we can kick start it.

Club competition is good with lots of impressive performances by our athletes at all levels. We won the Devon Sportshall League last year for the first time ever and had a good cross county season. The track and field season was not as good with not enough taking part. The ones who did however enjoyed a lot of success. The growth of Parkrun is massive and we have a lot of our members who take part regularly. It does seem to bring runners into the sport and also they are starting to join clubs. At the moment they are not affecting existing competitions, which was always a fear from some of us.

Communication is still key and we have improved in this area too. We have encouraged the use of Facebook and set up new groups and pages. We still heavily use email as well. Dave Fox produces the fantastic Harrier magazine each month which is again sent out by email. The website is kept up to date and is a very useful tool. We have developed a GDPR policy this year and it is vitally important that everyone keeps us informed of any changes in address or email. You should also keep your England Athletics profile up to date.

Finally I would like to thank all of the committee for all their hard work especially Steve, Shirley, Sharon, Michelle and Paul for all they do. I would also like to thank Nathan who served as our junior rep on the committee but now has left to go to Loughborough University. He is still a member so we will see him from time to time.

I am happy to continue as club secretary if you still want me to. I hopefully try to keep everyone up to date and help to drive the club forward. As always I have to thank Jayne for all she does for the club and I could not do it without her.

Treasurers Report 2017- Shirley Watson

Club in a very good position with a healthy balance.

This would not be possible without the profit from our club races.

We cover cost of entry fees for Sportshall and Devon League in the summer. Westward Winter League and entry fees for Devon County Championships.

Fees Paid for use of Ivybridge Rugby Club,

Throughout the year we also put on a Presentation Evening, and support Athlete's in their travelling expenses.

The club also put on 2 trips to support other races. The Taunton $\frac{1}{2}$ Marathon and Marathon.

Torbay Relays, transport was also provided.

Continue to support local charities in the Ivybridge area.

Shirley informed the meeting that Club's yearly membership subscription fees were discussed at the committee meeting held the previous evening. Shirley proposed that the fees should remain the same for 2019. This was agreed by Mike Woodland and seconded by Ken Summers.

5. Newsletter

Dave thanked everyone who had submitted articles for the newsletter. The newsletter is produced the weekend after committee meeting.

Dave also commented on the coverage that the club has received through the Sport Gazette, with lots of club photo's online. Also articles in the Ivybridge Gazette.

He also commented articles received from members especially the 10 page article from John Baptiste Rouvillan.

Mark thanked Dave for all his hard work throughout the year.

6. Gamechangers

Keith produced a screen presentation on the role of gamechangers.

Discussed the role of volunteering, areas that volunteering can help within the club.

7. Election of Officers & Adoption of Committee

Monica Bristow in her role of President came to the front of the meeting, asked Mark to stand down as Chairman.

There had been no new nominations received for the Officers positions.

Monica asked Mark if he was willing to stand again, he agreed, This was proposed by Ken Summers and seconded by Ian Crossley.

Keith Reed (Secretary)

Shirley Watson (Treasurer)

Sharon Terry (Welfare Officer)

Paul Ross, Steve Watson & Michelle Peters, were all willing to stand again. This was seconded by David Church.

8. Open Forum.

Jim Burns Chairman of Ivybridge Rugby Football Club joined the meeting.

Mark informed the meeting of the discussions that EVH had with IRFC held a couple of weeks ago.

Jim told the history of the club which was build in 1998, and how times have changed.

The Plan,

Short Term. Ladies to use changing rooms at bottom of the stairs, as per 10K.

Medium Term. Portable changing facilities. Being looked into by Rugby Club.

Long Term. Extension to include purpose built changing rooms, New Grandstand and Gym
Meeting rooms

Set up small working committee,

Jo Jayes asked what guarantee we would have if we contributed to costs at Rugby Club. Jim Burns reply was we work on a Gentleman's agreement.

Mike Lee questioned if we would ever have our own facilities. Reply costing would be out of the question.

Ken Summers thanked Jim Burns on his honesty to the Gentleman's Agreement.

Jim left the meeting.

Mark thanked Jim for attending the meeting and Carol Mitchel for the buffet. Shirley put a drink behind the bar for the two of them,

Jo Jayes asked about leaders for her run group on the Moor. Nick McMahon offered his services.

David Church asked if we were putting on a coach for Christmas meal at Elfordleigh. Linda Bracher and Ken Summers looking into. Also Dress Code - Formal

Ken also asked if the club would support putting wine on the table.

Richard Welch asked if Mark could attend a Thursday junior training session, so the youngsters would know who the Chairman is.

9. London Marathon Draw.

6 names went into the draw for London Marathon.

The name drawn out was Martin Perry.

Keith also informed the meeting that they should go into their England Athletics' portal, offers available to members.

10. Summer Handicap Winner.

Nick McMahon was this year's winner. £100.00 cheque make payable to Sheikinah Mission, for the homeless.

Nick thanked marshals for managing the series.

Mark thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was closed at 8.45pm.