

ILFRACOMBE RUNNING CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

Held At Ilfracombe Town FC, Marlborough Way, Ilfracombe on Wednesday 6th December 2023.

Present – Andrew WOOF – Chairman (AW), Chris Burley – Secretary (CB), Jay Boccock – Treasurer (JB), Colin Hickles (CH), Dan Owen (DO), Ross Fuller (RF), Ray Williams (RW), Kevin Reed (KR), Cheryl Madden (CM), Ian Madden (IM), Mark Edmunds (ME), Matt Hayne (MH), Debbie Freeman (DF), Jude Millage (JM), Kathryn Beades (KB), Beth Barrington (BB), Steve Gear (SG), Gavin Burnside (GB), Luke Day (LD) and Rebecca Roles (RR).

Prior to the meeting a cheque for £1000 was presented to representatives from Chemohero after the success of the Doone Run. members were invited to attend a box filling session sometime in the new year to see how the money is distributed.

Chairmans welcome and address – AW welcomed the members and expressed his delight at what appeared to be a record turnout! AW said it had been a good year for the club and it was good to see an influx of new members. He congratulated the teams who presided over two excellent races which were sold out.

Apologies – Stuart Cook, Gary Kemp, Tim Baker, Vince Irwin, Sally Tapp, Abigail Orr, David Monge Garcia and Steve Humphreys.

Election of committee – SG enquired who the committee members were. AW introduced those present. Both Ian Madden and Mark Edmonds were co-opted onto the committee.

Treasurers report – JB had compiled a financial report which was made available to those present, and which will be placed in the club document cache on the IRC Facebook page. Briefly JB explained that the club was still in a healthy position financially. JB asked how much should be donated to the charity CEET which was the charity being supported by the Doone Run.

A donation of £1000 was agreed. A discussion then took place on how some of the money could be spent. Leo Holroyd had expressed an interest in becoming a LIRF. JB expressed her opinion that we should see more from any sponsored LIRF and perhaps the fee to become a LIRF should be returned to the member after a period of (perhaps) three months after the member has contributed to club runs. LH was to be asked whether he would be happy to supervise a beginner's group. It was agreed CB would discuss these issues with LH.

RF stated he had approached a breathing coach that had been mentioned to him by Tim Baker (TB) but had yet to hear from him.

Monday/Thursday runs - RF reported that the Monday runs continue, with a number (small) of regular attendees. He stated he would continue to provide these runs. A discussion took place, and it was questioned whether the timing was right for other runners to attend. Various options were discussed but it was later agreed the runs would continue in their present format but advertised earlier. Thursday runs were now better attended. AW stated that it would now be better to probably have three or more runs including a short run, a slower longer run and a longer run. Everyone agreed that this would be good for those attending on a Thursday. New members were discussed and how we could promote the club to potential new members. CB stated that last year we had 56 members and this year we have 72. A general discussion took place but no actions at this time were agreed or formally proposed on any future club promotions. BB agreed to run a six week beginners course in January, 2024. This was welcomed by the club.

Combe Crawler/Doone Run – KB stated that it was her intention to again organize the Doone Run in September next year. This was greeted with unanimous support by those members present. CH then talked about a proposal he put forward for the club to obtain a chip recording system for timings in future organised races. It was his intention to approach local councilors for them to donate money to the club to complete the purchase. A general discussion took place, and it was agreed a steering group would be formed to further the idea. This would then be discussed later at Committee level. The steering group would be CH, SG, RF, RW and IM.

Relays – KR and RR would continue as captains. RW brought up the junior teams and expressed a desire to see the club again support the juniors this year. It was unanimously agreed that the support is vital in nurturing potential new members, and we could possibly agree to having juniors attend on a Thursday evening. Safeguarding issues were discussed but the idea will be investigated at committee level. LD stated that he would like to investigate the possibility of organizing a junior race. It was agreed that this could promote the club further and agreed for LD to further his ideas.

Food Bank Run – RR stated that this was an idea she would like to organize, possibly in February. All members present were happy for this to be organized.

Web site - RW reported issues with the HTTPS being not as secure as he would prefer but was not a major issue. Traffic to the site was increasing. RW suggested that an email address for the club would look more professional if it was linked to the club domain. RW stated he had a lot of photographs to upload. KR and RF volunteered to assist.

Any other business – CB stated that he had been contacted by EA stating that our updates regarding Welfare officers were not up to date on their site. After a short discussion GB and SG were nominated as Senior Welfare Officer and Welfare Officer respectively. CB will liaise with them to show them how to access the EA training.

CB stated that he had been disappointed with the reaction to the London Marathon ballot. He stated that the information from the organizing committee had been late and that an earlier than planned date for returning the details was also an issue. He therefore informed the club members that the ballot would take place on the 6th of December, one day before the information was required by the organizing committee of the marathon. He also stated that he had researched club documents and could find nothing on paper that recognized a normal approach to a club ballot. CB recommended a proposal that in future any ballot would be open only to 1. Club Members and 2. Members that had entered the main London Marathon ballot but been rejected. The winning member, if not personally affiliated to the EA, can then pay their subscription and this proposal be documented for future reference. This was agreed by all present.

MH thanked the club for their continued support at the clubhouse, especially on Crawler days! MH was thanked for allowing the IRC continued use of the club and its facilities.

