

Keswick Athletic Club – Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Wednesday 20th November 2019, 7.30pm, Crosthwaite Parish Rooms

Welcome and apologies - The chair welcomed everyone to the AGM.

Attendance and Apologies

The following people were present:

Andrew Slattery (AS)(Chair), Phil Winskill (Treasurer), Trudy Beetham (Secretary), John Battrick, Emma Cooper, Rob Jones, Allan Buckley, Carl Bell, Jenn Bell, Steve Harwood, Nicky Butler, Patrick Butler, Steve Hebblethwaite, Zoey Hebblethwaite, Dave Spedding, Harry Blenkinsop (President), Tom Partington, Rob Brown. Sam Stead, Marie Nunes, Rachel Findlay-Robinson, Calum Tinnion, Lindsay Walker, Sally Nutter, Lyme Hulme, Rachel Mellor, Jacob Tonkin, Claire Warner, Simon Veitch, Paul Titley, Katie Hall, Jacob Adkin, Cat Evans, Mike Mallen.

The following people provided their apologies:

Therasa Paul, John Beetham, Lesley Malarkey, Peter George, Lyn Thompson, Kathleen Proctor, Angus Wightman, Bethan Naylor, Rachel Kearns

The following people also completed a proxy voting form;

Lesley Malarkey, Peter George, Lyn Thompson, Angus Wightman, Bethan Naylor, Rachel Kearns

1) Minutes of last AGM.

The minutes of the previous year's AGM were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

2) Chairman's report;

Well, taking over as Chair twelve months ago was spectacularly poor timing on my part and none of us could have imagined what 2020 would bring. After all your fantastic success in 2019 and a really enjoyable Club Dinner the dark clouds began to gather. As the Covid virus began to spread, the first Championship race of the season at Yr Aran would be the last, although arguably that means Hannah Horsburgh has won this year's ladies Championship. For former British U23 Champion and new signing Nichola Jackson, it was to be her first and only appearance in a Keswick vest but we look forward to many more.

The situation became very serious in March and the Committee had to take the difficult decision to cancel training and competition. Rather than cancel each race one at a time, it was decided that the best course of action was to cancel all races for the year and re-start them when possible. This proved the right course of action as raising and dashing people's hopes through the year would have been unfair to all concerned. As restrictions were eased during the summer some return to competition has taken place in virtual races and some short-lived attempts to hold Covid-safe trail races.

Rob Allen managed to squeeze in an impressive completion of the 268 mile Spine Race before lockdown and this weekend a record breaking Lakes, Meres and Waters. Cat and Jo continued their dominance of their class in the Marmot Dark Mountains and Katie took advantage of a brief travel window to finish first Brit in the Matterhorn Ultra. Keswick men won the local inter-club challenge and Steve Jones set about completing all the Wainwrights

from Keswick under his own power, which is an amazing feat. Unfortunately, there was an inevitability about a resurgence of the virus in the Autumn and we are back in some degree of lockdown which may well persist until next Spring.

Training for both adults and juniors returned with the summer months and the committee are very grateful to all those coaches and leaders who made this possible, working within the guidance from England Athletics. However, the EA Guidance sets out what is possible within the law at any time but not what is right for each club at a particular time. As the Director for Public Health in Cumbria responded to the worsening local situation by advising that people stopped meeting in groups indoors and outdoors, the committee had another difficult decision to make. We unanimously agreed that for the sake of our members and the club's relationship with the community in Keswick, the right thing to do was to suspend training once again. This wasn't easy and we recognise how important sport and social contact is to people's physical and mental wellbeing.

Despite all this bad news, the club spirit is not diminished and club members have met and trained together throughout the year, according to the restrictions at the time and we have appointed Lucy Burnett as a Welfare Officer to look at ways to keep the social contact and mutual support going.

This year was definitely the 'Year of the Rounds' with some incredible feats of distance running as top runners sought to channel their efforts into endurance records. The Moot Hall regularly featured in media coverage as Sabrina Verjee, Kim Collison, George Foster, John Kelly and a host of other top athletes posted historic times. Keswick runners joined in with Calum's solo unsupported BGR, Craig's Joss Naylor Challenge, Cat's Lakeland Traverse, Jacob's Frog Graham and quick Abraham's Tea Rounds from Katie, Brennan, Rachel, Jacob, Trudy, Catherine, and Lesley. The ladies also kept the team spirit going with team relays of the Wainwright's 7 Summits, 10in10 No Cure Always Hope Ultra and the Hodgson Brothers virtual relay.

I must thank members of the committee who are standing down this year. Julie Carter has been really helpful this year in debating the issues surrounding the virus and we wish her well with her running and her writing. Jenn has a lot of things to juggle now that she is looking after the beautiful Elsie as well as Carl and we must thank her for being a fantastic Ladies Captain. Steve Harwood has put an incredible amount in to Keswick AC through the committee and race organisation as well as his work with the cricket pavilion. Steve was a leading light in the club when I joined in the early 1980s and has maintained his interest and enthusiasm throughout that period so we really do owe him a huge debt of gratitude.

Can I also thank the remaining and new committee members for their hard work, particularly Trudy for keeping me right when my attention has been elsewhere. There have been some hard decisions to make and it hasn't been easy for the committee. As we move into the new year we can look forward to a return to competition and training when the circumstances allow but the production of effective vaccines is definitely a light at the end of what has been a very long tunnel. I wish you all the very best for the forthcoming year and as I keep saying to people, I hope I see you at a race soon.

3) Treasurer's report –

Obviously a very quiet year for the club, but spending took place earlier in the year, followed by very little post-March.

- End of year payment/donation for St John's ongoing support at races during 2019
- Subscriptions made a profit (the only thing that did).
- The club absorbed the overspend for the club dinner at the George Hotel along with presents for leaving committee members
- Some kit was updated by Steve and a new laptop purchased
- Trophies and presentation prizes combined for a spend of £425.34
- A smaller spend this year for the juniors of £248.44
- Website maintenance and hosting carried the usual costs
- 90 for Causey Pike (any ideas??)
- An old payment from last year for Lords Seat and Grisedale paid in this financial year.

Keswick AC			
Receipts and Payments: Annual Summary			
30th Of November 2019 to 22nd November 2020			
Details	Payments (£)	Receipts (£)	2019/20 (Net)
Donations	500	0	-500
Subscriptions	849	1341.46	492.46
Presentation dinner	1508.45	820	-688.45
Sundries	169.5	7.44	-162.06
Clothing/equipment	923.56	160	-763.56
Pavilion	720	0	-720
Trophies, engraving and prizes	425.34	0	-425.34
Coaching	450	0	-450
Juniors	248.44	0	-248.44
Website	915.75	0	-915.75
Derwentwater	0	0	0
Buttermere	0	0	0
Causey Pike	90	0	-90
Latrigg	0	0	0
Lord of the Forest series	393	0	-393
Round Latrigg	0	0	0
Round the Houses	0	0	0
Skiddaw/Helvelyn	0	0	0
Barrow	0	0	0
NET (PAYMENTS)/RECEIPTS	7193.04	1808.9	-4864.14
Previous Bank Balance carried forward	6275.88		
Current Account	1411.74		
Savings	18,334.59		
Total Balance	19,746.33		

4) Election of committee and president's –

AS updated the meeting with the sad news about the passing of Pete Bland, our vice president, in early December from Coronavirus. AS has passed on the condolences of everyone at KAC and our thoughts go out to the family at this sad time.

All the elections went through uncontested as below;

Detail of Proposed Committee and Presidents

1. President (Harry Blenkinsop)
2. Vice Presidents (Joss Naylor, Kenny Stuart, Miles Jessop, Ron Hill, Dave Spedding)

Elections of officers - Lucy Burnett and Lindsay Walker – these roles went uncontested and therefore join the committee.

The following individuals have been nominated and seconded for the following roles:

1. Chairperson (Andrew Slattery)
2. Club Secretary (Trudy Beetham)
3. Treasurer (Phil Winskill)
4. Training Coordinator (Rob Jones)
5. Men's Captain (Calum Tinnion)
6. Women's Captain (Lindsay Walker)
7. Junior Coordinators (John Battrick/Emma Cooper)
8. Webmaster (Rachel Kearns)
9. Member representatives (Cat Evans)
10. Lucy Burnett (Welfare and Inclusion Officer)
11. Wednesday Ladies representative (Lynne Hulme)

Optional committee positions

- Safety Officer (Allan Buckley)
- Honorary Auditor (Dave Howarth)
- Statistician (Patrick Butler)
- Membership Secretary (Sam Stead)
- Publicity Officer (Jacob Tonkin)
- Fitz Park Representative (Steve Harwood)

5) Motions/Resolutions – none submitted

6) Life memberships - non proposed

7) Lindsay Walker formally thanked Jenn for all her contributions as an inspirational ladies' team captain between 2017 and 2020. Jenn was presented with a card specially designed by Zoey Webber featuring all the Keswick ladies, a bouquet of flowers, a voucher for afternoon tea and a bespoke KAC vest for Elsie handmade by John Battrick's mum.

AS thanked Steve Harwood for all his contributions to the club for at least the last 40 years and for agreeing to continue as our Fitz Park representative. Steve said he will continue to help with time keeping and race organising. The committee presented Steve with a wonderful caricature of Steve timekeeping by Jim Tyson.

Close of meeting.