



# SEAFORD STRIDERS

RUNNING CLUB

## COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Present:** Victoria Maleski (VM), Kay Crush (KC), Nick Farley (NF), Jeff Young, Tristan Daynes (TD), Ralph Jennings (RJ), Gareth Hutchinson (GH), Amanda Feast (AF), Jo Robinson (JR), Ray Smith (RS), Karen Feast (KF), Emily Danvers (ED), Kate Parkinson (KP),

**Present via Teams:** Leanne Pearce (LP)

### 1. Welcome

VM welcomed the committee and extended a special welcome to the new members of the committee.

### 2. Apologies for absence

Julie Taylor, Josh Nisbett, Joel Eaton, Ollie Sprague, Steven Teale, Anneka Redley -Cook .

### 3. Vote to adopt minutes of last meeting- 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

The adoption of the minutes was proposed by RJ and seconded by NF.

## **4. Report Opportunities**

### **Chair's Report**

Welcome to new committee members Gareth Hutchinson, Amanda Feast, Emily Danvers, Kate Parkinson, Jo Robinson, Ray Smith, Fabian Eason & Kat Chamberlain.

As last year I will be sending out conflict of interest forms to all the committee

Positive feedback for the awards evening. Many thanks to the social team.

AGM – well attended and productive. Presentation by Hayley Bennett went down well, as did having the bar open after the formal part. Planning on repeating the format for next year – ideas for speaker welcomed.

After the AGM we gave attendees some proposed new logos to look at. Mixed feedback, but the overall thoughts appeared to be if we are going to change then the changes could be greater, with the possibility of a complete rethink.

Two people have asked to be considered for the backyard ultra place Joel Eaton & Ray Smith, both very worthy individuals. I'm proposing we choose by way of a simple draw.

### **Treasurer**

RJ reminded the committee that the bank balance reported at the AGM for the end of December 2023 was slightly less than £1000. The reason for this was due to waiting for the Mince Pie income to arrive in the bank account.

The current balance is approximately £12,000. This figure includes £6000 from Mince Pie income and £7000 from renewals. There has been £1000 spent on LiRF training and approximately £1000 on miscellaneous expenses such as track. From this balance about £2000 will be needed to pay for affiliation fees to England Athletics, the exact amount will not be known until April.

The cost up front for the Mince Pie race event was £5000. NF advised that he felt this year the expenses could be less as last year was the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary event so medals, trophies etc cost more than usual. It was

agreed to investigate the cost of insurance if the event should need to be cancelled. NF advised that the event has only been cancelled twice in thirty years once due to covid and once for adverse weather.

RJ advised that if further large expenditure was planned this year for example extra floodlights for juniors an alternative way of fundraising would be required.

RJ has not received an invoice from Cradle Hill School for the premises hire for juniors. RJ to contact DE regarding this.

VM asked about training for KF as Assistant treasurer. RJ confirmed that this will take place within a month.

### **Club Welfare**

VM welcomed the three new members of the welfare team. All will complete the online training. There have been a few issues logging in to the England Athletics site. KP has emailed for help but will follow up with a telephone call. The welfare team will need to decide on a lead welfare officer as a requirement from England Athletics. The team will meet to discuss this and support each other with their training.

### **Club Secretary**

Nothing to report.

### **Men's Captain**

JY suggested that as some members are reluctant to move groups during "Step up Weeks" it might be beneficial if he moved around other groups. It was agreed that this may be helpful.

### **Women's Captain**

AF also agreed it would be beneficial to move around different groups to enable her to meet group members of different ability. She added that track night was a great forum for this. AF also suggested a similar event to be held in Seaford possibly a "Speed Wednesday".

It was agreed that Club Captains would also pass on information to RT for social media updates. KC suggested that both Captains become admin on

the social media accounts as that covers the need for more than one person being admin as stated in the clubs social media policy.

### **Mince Pie Race Director**

The course this year will be slightly amended to avoid the Pelham Rise section as this has become a slight Health and Safety risk.

NF has run the new route and the course measurement is more accurate. NF will complete the relevant risk assessments. The hall has been booked and the committee will look at any ways for saving costs. The entry number will also be increased this year to 700 so this will bring in further income.

### **Junior Leader**

DE did not attend the meeting and no report was received. VM advised that DE will be going travelling with his family in a few months' time so plans will need to be put in place for a handover. To assist in this being a smooth transition this should start to take place soon.

ED reported juniors is going well, albeit some sessions have needed to be cancelled due to adverse weather. The juniors are planning to move back to the Salts after Easter.

### **Social Reps**

RS and JR updated the committee on the ideas being planned during the year by the Social Committee.

The next Thirsty Thursday will be on 28<sup>th</sup> March, this was originally going to be at the Cuckmere Inn, but it was felt this would be a better venue in the Summer.

It was agreed that the Equinox run that was due to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> March should be postponed until after Easter so that it could be held on a lighter evening. It was hoped to meet at the rugby club afterwards for a drink. It was then suggested that the route should start and end near the rugby club.

Bowling in Brighton has been suggested as another activity, a date for this has not been confirmed.

Other ideas include a cycle ride and Striders got talent. AH will send out an email to gauge interest in the talent contest.

There are planned coach trips subject to interest for Arundel 10k, Bacchus half Marathon and the Great South Run.

AH has also suggested entering a team in the Lewes raft race.

NF asked if a Striders Sports day could be considered as this had proved popular in the past.

The short relay events were also mentioned. The team captains will investigate this further.

### **Press Officer/Newsletter**

This position is currently vacant.

### **Membership**

LP reported that the new membership uptake is going well. There are currently 124 expired memberships. Renewals will continue to drip in until April when the EA affiliation for the new year starts. There are currently 2 pending payments. There are now 272 active members. LP will work on the 2023 expired memberships.

### **Coach/Track Coordinator**

Nothing to report.

### **Social Media**

RT was not at the meeting and no report has been received.

### **Cross Country**

With regards to cross country since the last meeting, Lewes and Pett have taken place. Where as a team we got into 4th position overall and stayed there now the season has ended. Which is a couple of places better than last year. The league haven't published the final results just yet via email, Facebook or on their website, but the results have been finalised.

We only had two age group winners this season so down on last years individual efforts. But the season is one race shorter and last Sunday's race was on Mothering Sunday so attendance was down.

Hastings Runners who organised Sundays race did actually hire portaloos for runners even though they hire the village hall which had toilets already. A positive step forward on that account.

The season debriefed normally happens in July with the AGM set for September again. So it'll be quiet on this front now.

### **Club Grand Prix & Sussex Grand Prix**

OS was unable to attend the meeting.

There was a discussion as to whether there should be more focus on the Sussex Grand Prix. RS stated that the club grand prix was originally set up to encourage members to enter the Sussex Grand Prix events. It was agreed that the CGP needed to include a variety of events including different distances and some that had no cost. NF felt that if you entered several SGP events it would be very costly. The committee felt that there was a good balance to this years CGP but would consider looking at linking it to more SGP events next year.

### **C25K Organiser**

ST was unable to attend the meeting but sent the following report :-

There is an article in Seaford Scene regarding the C25K 2024. Thank you to Bronwyn Ryan for doing this.

All C25K participants who were unable to start or complete the 2023 programme have received an email inviting them to sign up again this year.

A volunteer request email will be sent out in the next week or so.

ST asked who to contact regarding social media posts. It was confirmed that this is RT. Likewise the website needs updating , VM confirmed this will be JE.

## **Martello Half Marathon**

VM informed the committee that a group had walked the route and identified that extra marshals will be needed as there are extra gates. Volunteers will also need to assist with signage on the Saturday before the event. However, with extra marshals the need for signage is less.

## **5. Any Other Business**

JY asked whether there was a set date for running trails on a Wednesday night run. VM confirmed that it was as soon as it is light and safe to do so. RS has compiled a Club records sheet, this will be shared on the website by JE.

VM advised that the LiRF training practical session will take place this Saturday with support from JE.

## **6. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 8.00pm

**The meeting concluded at 8.50pm**

**Produced by the Club Secretary on behalf of the Club Chair**

**Victoria Maleski**

**Club Chair**

**Date Approved by the Club Committee**

14<sup>th</sup> May 2024

