

**Minutes of Club Genera; Meeting on 1930 hrs Tuesday 13th September, 2022.**

**In Attendance**: 17 Club Members

**Apologies**: 13 Club Members

**MINUTES**

* **Chairman’s Welcome and Introductory Comments** 
  + The Chairman opened by thanking all present for coming.
  + The Chairman welcomed new Committee members for respective roles of Treasurer; Safeguarding and Welfare Officers; Social Secretaries and Membership Secretary. All are settling well into their roles and making a valuable contribution.
  + The Club continues to retain its membership numbers and remains financially strong and stable.
* **Attendees Recorded and Apologies Confirmed** by the Club Secretary.
* **The Minutes of the Previous Meeting General Club Meeting** on9thFebruary, 2022 were approved and seconded.
* **Treasure’s Report** 
  + Our new Treasurer is getting to grips with the Club’s accounts but slowly due to delayed handover and bank issues (specifically the extended time taken by Barclays to establish him as a named person and signatory for the Club’s bank accounts).
  + The Treasurer is developing a proposal to move away from PayPal as a financial platform for Club transactions and instead associate with a more competitive provider (tba). It is anticipated that approximately £200 per annum of charges to the Club could thereby be avoided.
  + An enhanced breakdown of the Club’s income and expenditure is being explored and developed because, at present, clarity is not sufficient to provide the Treasurer with sufficient detailed analysis to enable accurate budgetary planning.
  + The Chairman advised that the Club remains in a stable and robust financial position with circa £15,000 in its reserve account and circa £6, 000 in its current account. There is also money held in the Club’s PayPal account as well as tied up in stock (kit mainly) which could go onto the budget sheet too.
  + In response to a question as to whether the Club incurs bank charges (from Barclays)? It was given in reply that this is not known for sure but (a) it is unlikely and (b) if it emerges from the Treasurer’s investigations that we do then the Club will seek to move the account elsewhere to a place that does not levy bank charges. .
  + In response to a question of what references people should put onto electronic transfer payments to the Club? Treasurer advised that he will work out a code structure just as soon as he gets access and clarity re our Barclays account.
  + The Treasurer advised that the aim of securing a Card Reader for the Club is still on the agenda. In response to a question around whether using a Card Reader would lose clarity of transactional postings? Treasurer advised that such detail would be looked at and considered prior to taking further.
* **Junior Head Coach Update** 
  + The Juniors have just returned to Monday evening training and so it'll be a while before he can appreciate how numbers will hold up during the Autumn.
  + A Junior team is being established for the upcoming season's Kent League Cross Country. The first fixture will take place at Swanley Park on the 15th October.
  + All present supported the Junior Head Coach’s request for the Club to finance the entry fee of £10 each for Juniors re above (as it has done in previous years). Juniors are potentially the Club’s future and its policy of supporting the Juniors wherever it can continues unwavered. For budgetary purposes however, clarity of total costs is requested. **Action**: Junior Head Coach to compile costs and communicate them to the Treasurer.
  + Congratulations to Assistant Junior Coach for successfully completing his level 2/3 coaching award.
* **Seniors Captain’s Update.** 
  + The Men’s Captain gave an excellent and comprehensive report on behalf of the Club Captains; the scope of the Club’s activities and performances continues to be impressive as it moves away from the restrictive background of the pandemic and back to more normalised training and events. Some truly outstanding performances from right across our Club and at all levels were highlighted.
* **Thanet 10 Update and TRAC Managed Races for Next Year** 
  + The Race Director for the Alan Green Thanet 10 & 5 Mile races advised that plans and actions, in readiness for the event, are proceeding satisfactorily, no major issues.
  + Looking ahead to 2023 the Club will aim to produce a similar programme of events as this year, namely the Harbour Wallbanger, Sackett 10K and either the Ricki Savage 20 Mile or a return of the Thanet Marathon incorporating a Half Marathon.
* **Welfare/Safeguarding Officer Update**
  + Our new officers are settling nicely into their roles and are looking to develop their skills further via training courses for which they have recently enrolled.
* **Social Events Update** 
  + Our new Social Secretaries have “hit the ground running” by pencilling in our annualChristmas event, this year at North Foreland Golf Club. A “Hold the Date” notice has been posted on social/Club media. Regarding a question on the level of Club subsidy towards the ticket fee of £33 per head the response was given that this is subject to discussion between the Social Secretaries and the Treasurer.
  + A further initiative is a request for members to furnish the Social Secretaries with any ideas they might have for new social events and, already, a member has offered to host a “pizza evening” next year utilising his home wood burning pizza oven.
  + A Sunday morning social run was suggested, akin to a breakfast run. Action: Social Secretary and Captains to consider viability.
  + Plans will be developed for our traditional Boxing Day run in due course.
  + We continue to be a very social club and have a good momentum for social events that our new Social Secretaries are keen to capitalise on and develop.
* **Any Other Business** (All)
  + Our Lady Captain proposed that, rather than present money to a charity at the conclusion of each Club managed race, we instead nominate a charity at the beginning of the year and make a singular donation to that organisation at the year end (or other appropriate time eg at the Awards Evening). This idea was universally supported and a selection of charities will be identified for members to vote for with the charity attracting the highest number of votes being confirmed as our “charity of the year”.
  + A point from the floor expressed a concern that Club e-mails may not be reaching all Club members. The response given was that the Club Membership Secretary will be made aware of this and the Club Membership circulation list checked following the completion of the system maintenance work that is currently underway. Action: Club Secretary and Club Membership Secretary.
  + A request was made by our Lady Captain that Club e-mails are made more distinctive eg through their title/subject line to avoid them being “buried” within congested in-boxes. Action: Club Secretary to review and ensure.
  + It was proposed and generally supported that the Club look to include Juniors within the Awards Night and include parents too. Action: Executive Committee to discuss with Junior Head Coach and agree how this might best be taken forward.
  + A request was made that our races include maps for marshals so that they can see the overall course, their location on it and their proximity to other marshals etc. It was agreed this should be standard practice going forward for each event. Action: Race Directors and Marshal Secretary.
  + A question was raised requesting clarification of Club Meeting Minutes’ distribution. The response given was that, currently, Minutes are circulated to all in attendance and those who have sent in their apologies. In response it was further suggested that circulation should be widened to encompass the full membership. The Club Secretary agreed to consider this suggestion and means by which it might most efficiently be done ie the optimal approach would be via a link within the Club website (as was originally envisaged - but not executed due to system constraints). Action: Club Secretary to progress this opportunity with the Club Web manager particularly in the context of current systems’ maintenance work.
  + The Meeting formally closed at 20:58.