

Carmarthen and District Harriers Annual General Meeting
Ivy Bush Royal Hotel
Monday 5th February 2013, 7-30pm

Present

Hedydd Davies, Ivor Hopkins, Bob Dowdeswell, Nathan Jones, Carol Jones, Kevin Evans, Simon Mansfield, Ralph Siggery, Helen Williams, Steve Glynn, Rhian Glynn, Edward Morgan.

Welcome

Hedydd opened the meeting by thanking everyone for making the effort to attend and noting that it was the best attended AGM that he could remember.

Apologies for absence

Dai Roberts, Delyth Brown, Joan Goldsmith, Sharon Price, Ossie Morgan, Helen Mansfield, Michelle Phillips.

Minutes of previous AGM held on 11th February 2013

The minutes were accepted as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes

***Track** Work on the track was finished at the end of the track season*

***Portacabin:** The cabin continues to need constant work in order to keep it tidy. Ralph Siggery offered to do this. Also the equipment room was found to be flooded recently so this will be investigated.*

***Buses:** Only six or seven athletes use the buses that are provided for away events. This expense may be reduced for the coming year as a result of the later discussion and decision on which events to compete in this year.*

***Website:** Nathan Jones is now helping Lesley Rees with the running of the excellent website. Regularly updated and a vital source of information about the club and events.*

***Chairmans report:** The main points of note for the AGM are that although the number of members in the club remains healthy the number of registered athletes willing to compete regularly for the club is falling overall. (There are certain age groups which buck this trend). It was felt to be useful to try to find out which athletes were keen to compete at the outset and then devise ways to provide better support for the more able and enthusiastic athletes.*

Chairmans report 2014: Maintaining a supply of volunteers to support the club in the multitude of ways that are required remains the biggest problem facing the club. Refreshments remain the biggest issue at present as Eiddwen and Hedydd simply cannot continue with the level of physical effort required. Three volunteers have offered help so far, Sarah Siggery, Helen Williams and Joan Goldsmith.

Ivor continues to work to encourage more help from volunteers and has been in discussion with CAVS (Carmarthen volunteers association) to see if some support can come from this source.

It was felt that parents should be the first source for support and practical help. Also it was questioned as to whether parents of younger children are aware fully of the needs of operating an athletics club, or even of the events involved and how they are managed. It was suggested and agreed that an induction event be organised along with a registration session in the sports hall. This would ensure that the needs of the club were made clear and also that all athletes in training are members of the club. This situation needs constant monitoring, as no athlete should be coached if they are not members.

Another area of shortage is the provision of sufficient coaches, particularly specialists. It was pointed out that some coaches are not being used effectively as athletes are not being moved from coach to coach as their coaching requirements evolve.

Also noted was the fact that in the summer when tea and coffee was available (6pm to 7pm) from the cabin more parents remain in the area and can be easily contacted and possibly become more involved.

The stand has been condemned. The council has no money for provision of a new facility which may cost as much as £38000. Repair of the existing stand would also be expensive, as would removal from the track. This situation is not progressing at all at present.

The U13/15 league, this has provided good competition for athletes but few Carmarthen and District Harriers athletes have competed possibly due to the amount of travel needed. It was decided that the club would not register for this competition this year. The club will, for younger athletes, concentrate on the U15 League (Louise Arthur).

Help needed for the Welsh cross country championships at Parc Dynefwr Llandeilo on the 15th February. See website for details or contact Hedydd.

Congratulations to all club members and volunteers who have received awards in recognition of their achievements/contributions. Details are available from the club website.

Treasurer Report:

The club remains financially healthy due to the efforts over the year to maintain income via grants, sponsorship, refreshment sales and fund raising events. The grants figure this year was inflated due to the running of the SIAB event but has had no impact on the overall balance.

Election of Officers

President: Kevin Evans

Chairman: Hedydd Davies

Vice Chair: Joan Goldsmith

Secretary: Bob Dowdeswell

Treasurer: David Roberts

Registration Officer: Hedydd Davies / Michelle Phillips

Website Officer: Lesley Rees / Nathan Jones

Team Managers

Welsh Senior League: Hedydd Davies/Joan Goldsmith (provisional)

Louise Arthur League Boys: Nathan Jones plus help

Louise Arthur League Girls: Gill Edwards/Rhian Glynn

Cross Country: Hedydd Davies/Delyth Brown/Steve Glynn/Carol Jones/Nathan Jones

Team Captains

Louise Arthur Boys: Thomas Jones

Louise Arthur Girls: Sioned Glynn

Cross Country U17 Achraf Liles

Subscription Fees

In light of the current financial situation it was decided to make no change to the membership fees.

Training Levy

The training charge is to be amended to £3 on Tuesday and £2 on Thursday from 1st March 2014.

AOB

Transfer request from Christian Lovatt approved.

Date of next Meeting

Monday 14th April 2014