



ELVET STRIDERS - AGM 2017

THE AGENDA

1. Apologies

2. Matters Arising from the Minutes – see items 5 & 7

3. Election of Officers:

The Role of Chair: E-mail votes accepted until Monday 16th October - only from members who cannot attend the meeting. Paper vote available for members on arrival. All other officers elected unopposed.

4. Officers Reports:

Chair, Treasurer, Captains (joint), XC Captains (joint), Track & Field Captains (joint), Coaching Co-ordinator, Transport Officer (sent by e-mail), Publicity Officer, Web Officer

5. Structure of the Committee:

Proposal from Paul Evans – The role of Publicity Officer should be abolished, since it has served its purpose and can be undertaken by the combined forces of other officers.

Proposal from Tim Skelton – The case for a Social Secretary for the club

6. Size of the Club:

Proposal from Dave Robson – Decisions on the numbers of members of the club should only be taken at an AGM or after consultation of all members.

The increase in membership from 400 to 450 is queried by Denise Benvin/ Sue Jennings.

7. London marathon Club Numbers:

Proposal from Paul Swinburne – Club London Marathon numbers could be made available to those members who have never done the race before.

8. Screening of New members:

Clarification of criteria used for this process is requested by Denise Benvin/Sue Jennings

9. Number Swapping:

Statement from Catherine Smith

10. Changes to the Constitution

Section 4b – to clarify the process of applying for membership.

Section 10d & e – to clarify the process of conducting an election for club officers Pam Kirkup

11. The Committee:

Agenda items/input of members to committee meetings. Denise Benvin/ Sue Jennings

12. Runners of the Year/Most Improved Runners of the Year:

Voting process to be reviewed at the meeting.

13. Items from the Chair:

- a) Adoption of Tier 1 of the Sport England Code for Sports Governance
- b) Creation of President roles to provide guardianship
- c) Code of Conduct revision to include a 'three strikes' policy
- d) Appointment of Life members

14. AOB

- CDAN affiliation
- Club Age Grade parkrun
- Date Christmas Handicap

Thanks to everyone for attending tonight, and I hope you enjoyed a slightly different run. Here's what we need to get through tonight. We're grateful to Durham Amateur Rowing Club for the use of their hall at no cost, and I'm sure we'll support them with a drink in the bar later. Last year the AGM concluded at 2130hrs, so lets try to be as efficient as possible.

CHAIR'S REPORT



Another successful year for this club - thank you.



In terms of the important stuff (running), this has been another great year for this club, and we'll celebrate some of that success tonight.

I want to take this opportunity to place on record my thanks to all who volunteer and give their time, and to all of you who have made a contribution to this club as members.

I want to thank our outgoing officers, and welcome those taking up a new challenge. Thanks to Anita who has provided great service to this club in the role as Treasurer. Welcome to Stephen Lumsdon as he takes on the Treasurer role. Thanks to Joanne Patterson who kept us equipped with purple garments. Welcome to my own chief advisor and patient Wife, Lesley who has taken on the Kit Officer role. Thanks to Lesley Charman who hands over the Ladies' Vice-Captain role to Kerry, and we're delighted to see Lesley continue in her joint Track & Field Captain role with Katy. I've really enjoyed working with Dougie in the web department but now welcome Anita Wright to the team. Finally, not with us tonight but our thanks to Andy James who has clocked up over 20 years of service in managing our transport requirements. A hard act to follow but we welcome Mark Foster who takes on the Transport Officer role.

CHAIR'S REPORT



Excerpt from Committee meeting minutes 29 March 2017

JH - "There have been troubled times recently. It is important to move on and focus on running rather than politics."

I became Chair earlier this year at a challenging time in this club's history.

We've come a long way. We've made great progress, achieved a lot, and we've been able to cling onto the principle that I set out in opening my first committee meeting. This is a running club. It is not a place for politics. This is Elvet Striders and we are a club that is held in high regard.

On occasion, and involving a very small minority, I have come under personal and professional attack but I am undeterred. I remain convinced that this club will benefit from stable, continued leadership. We'll see how that goes later. I want to thank the outgoing committee and members who have supported me in the role.



Considering some of the highlights. It would be impossible to cover all the victories, your achievements - I suspect the Captain's will try to summarise but there have been so many. Well done everyone.

We have enjoyed not only running together but the fellowship that our social meetings bring. The Awards evening seems a distant memory and we're already thinking about the next one.

We showcased this club to the running community and the public, with the inaugural Willow Miner Trail Race - a resounding success that you should all be proud of.

You will also have heard recently of our successful nominations to the Active Durham Sport & Physical Awards.

We have benefited from the the input of our medical professionals who worked tirelessly to provide vital training to many of us in CPR.

We're grateful to Maiden Castle who enabled us to admit another 50 members. I think I reflect those new members well when I relay their gratitude that we were able to admit them, and that they did not have to wait.

Then in responding to the challenges of managing a club this size, we introduced a new club management solution, Team App which many of you have used and provided great feedback about.

THE WAY FORWARD?



Continue to focus on running and the excellence we achieve

Where do we go from here? Put simply it's about continuing to focus on running and our success.

We are a large, diverse and successful club across many disciplines. Through continuity of strong leadership, I want to enable continued success as a progressive and inclusive club. I want to continue to build a culture of positivity and respect for all. I want to enhance our communications, providing transparent governance and accountability.

I also want to empower our members, avoiding the Committee being a single point of reference for decision making, creating sub-groups where appropriate to organise social events, the Grand Prix and other key areas. We've already executed against this, with the GP sub-committee now in place.

You'll hear from me later about my proposals which I consider necessary to safeguard our future.

I'll leave you with a quote by John Maxwell, the famous leadership author. We can compare his quote to leading a run. To lead effectively, we have to know the way - where we are going, and how we are going to get there - we'd not take people to an unknown destination. Then in going the way, a good run leader is prepared to run the hill like he will ask others to do. Then in showing the way, if you have the only torch, you don't run far ahead and expect people to keep up - to the contrary, you keep people close, show them each twist and turn, and don't run too far ahead. This then summarises my approach to what I call visionary leadership.

In closing, I've been proud to represent you as Chair, thank you. Now let me hand over to Anita, our outgoing Treasurer.



Thanks for attending!