

Liss Runners AGM Wednesday 17th Nov 2021

Present:

John Collis (chair), Andrew Turner, Tom Frost, Stuart Lavalette, David Reid, Catherine Seager, Robin Greenfield, Alison Strudwick, Tamara Lake, Gemma Sills, Kate Parker, Sandra Sellis, Steve Hardy, Rob Fleming, Neil Gwatkin, Steve Clay, Cliff Pay, David Brown, Laura Harding, Jayne Jefferies, Jacqui Waddell, Bill Allcock, Julie Allcock, Alan Hall, Peter Anderson, Annett Heitsch.

Apologies for Absence:

Louise Beaven, Alex Wilkinson, Rose Lewis, Natalie Traffon, Chris Wilson, Helen Purchase.

Approval of minutes from last AGM:

Agreed and approved.

Chairman's Report: John Collis

John welcomed the floor to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. He pointed out that he had been chairman for 2 1/2 years but this was his first AGM in the position, due to the pandemic.

A challenging time of 7 months of no training and then various restrictions until recently.

No cross country and the road race league was cut short. The South Downs Relay was postponed but did take place last year. Unfortunately due to the date being changed a few times we were unable to raise a team. Fortunately we are able to defer our entry to 2022.

The Harting Trail Race was unable to take place in both years but will hopefully take place in 2022. It is a major source of income for the club.

The cross country season of 2019/20 finished with us being runners up, a fantastic result.

Hopefully things will get better in 2022 for us.

2019 saw myself taking the position of club chairman after Sandra Humphrey had resigned. Catherine Seager stood down from her position of Ladies Captain and came off the committee in 2021. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her fantastic work and unseen things that she did in helping me and the club. We also saw the retirement from training from Bill Allcock. Again I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his many years service. We will be marking his retirement at a later date in the near future.

Treasurers Report: Andy Turner

The accounts were accepted and approved by the floor.

Adjusted cash-based accounts between 20/21 and 20/19 so that membership subs received early accounted for in financial they relate. 20/21 and 20/19 therefore on comparable basis, as presented.

(This year we delayed collecting subs until the start of the new financial year.

Net subscriptions down by 15% / £227.

No Harting Trail race or associated income due to Covid - compared to £1891 profit in 2019/20.

£120 saving on Newman Collard costs - reduce fees paid during non use period (Covid).
£300 affiliation fee refund from HAAA and no fee paid for HXCL (£100) and HRRL (£50) - no races (Covid).
Last years cash surplus on kit reversed - timing of income and expenditure.
No event subsidies duets Covid.
Miscellaneous expenditure - no trophy, gift costs due to lack of club races and events.
Small surplus on the year as membership held up (despite minimal club activity) and costs kept low.
Club funds healthy, at approx £7,000, with no major expenditure in the foreseeable future.

Membership Secretary Report: John Collis (for Rose Lewis)

Membership has gone down from 146 at last AGM, to 131 in March 2021, to its present position of 106. Tom Frost quoted that he feels it has a lot to do with the pandemic and hope that this next year we can attract new members and get the numbers back up.

Captain's Report: Stuart Lavalette:

Last year's cross country season did not happen but it's back this year. We have had the first race at a new venue, Folly Farm near Basingstoke. The next one is Sunday 28th November at the Bourne. A reminder that you need a liss Runners top for these races and this is available from Stui.

Kit Secretary: Stui Lavalette:

All kit is available from Stui. He needs two week's notice to order it but Catherine Seager rightly said people can borrow tops for the races if there is not enough time to get hold of it. Stui email address is on the website.

Handicap Report: Catherine Seager:

Catherine said she was thankful that it took place and that we managed to complete it. Trevor's Challenge took a different look for this year (Covid) so was run as time trial with runners being sent off in one minute intervals.
This year's winners were David Reid and Gemma Sills.
She thanked her band of helpers and a big thank you to Tom Frost for setting up all the courses every month. Also thanked David Reid for doing the spreadsheets for the results. This year's winner was Heather Baker.

Race League Report: Tom Frost:

The Southern XC league is run on Sunday mornings and are very sociable events, meeting our local clubs in a friendly environment. They all start at 11:00. As said previously we have had the first one. The next is the Bourne. Then Lord Wandsworth college in December, Chawton House, and Alice Holt in January and February.
HRRL has started with Gosport coming up, Victory 5 in December, Stubbington in January. We have teams for these.
Ryde comes next. Ferry subsidies could be looked at by the club to help get a team. This will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Great south Run had a good turnout and there were some exceptional results from our runners. London Marathon place went to Ben Potts who was the only one to go for it. Unfortunately, he was injured so has been able to defer it until 2022.

Harting Trail Race: Andy Turner:

Andy is happy to do it again and was offered help from Tamara. Tom will help once again with the signage of the course. Andy says he regards the race as not a money making exercise for the club but an opportunity to stage a race for local people and promote our club. He would also like to see us helping a charity with perhaps the proceeds being split 50/50 with a charity and our club. This will be discussed at committee level.

Vote on Change of Constitution with regards to Quorum: John Collis:

At present this consists of 30 members or 50% of the members.

We would like to reduce that to 20 members. David Reid says if we do this the number of members on the committee should be reduced to 9 from its present 12.

A vote was taken and was passed to reduce to 20. David's point will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

Election of Officers: John Collis:

Club Secretary is vacant at present. We had two nominations for the position. Alex Wilkinson was nominated by John Collis, seconded by Stui Lavalette. Neil Gwatkin was nominated by Cliff Pay and seconded by Catherine Seager.

A vote was taken (Neil stepping out of the room). Results were Neil 14, Alex 10.

Thank you both for coming forward and congratulations to Neil.

Club Chairman: John Collis

Treasurer: Andy Turner

Web Manager: David Reid

Membership Secretary: Rose Lewis

Ladies Captain: Tamara Lake

Men's Captain: Stui Lavalette

All other committee members stay the same.

Chris Wilson - social secretary

Robin Greenfield

Helen Purchase

Tom Frost

Natalie Traffon.

AOB:

Alan Hall asked whether we had considered hiring artificial training facilities for one off sessions.

Locations discussed were Haslemere, Basingstoke, Oakmoor School (Bordon), Herne Junior (Petersfield).

Sandra Sellis also suggested to ask Jessica (a previous member) who works at a public school who may have access to facilities.

Tom Frost volunteered to investigate.

Tom asked if a Boxing Day run/ walk was wanted. He will look at Weavers Down in liss forest and the Temple for after. The floor approved so he will investigate.

Rob Fleming also said about the latest parkrun challenge that Alex Baker has started; by running park runs spelling out "Liss Runners". The L has been done and I is on this Saturday at Itchen Valley. This is following in the footsteps of Robs parkrun tours we have done over the past few years.

Pub runs back on the agenda for 2022. This is a popular feature on Monday evenings from May until August. New routes welcome.

Hopefully social events will start again and looking at sorting something out in January. Catherine said Helen hopefully will sort a curry night out soon.

Neil Gwatkin noted that attendance of Sunday runs had dwindled and perhaps the prospect of 10 miles was too far for some. Could we look at reducing routes to say 6?

It was said that most routes did have short cuts in them and perhaps this could be formalised and updated for members showing that this can be an option.

Andy Turner also suggested doing a Facebook poll for Sunday's in the style of a doodle poll to say whether you are going or not. This will be looked at.

Meeting closed at 8:10pm.