

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Blackpool Cricket Club

1 Apologies for Absence and Attendance

Stan Taylor welcomed everyone to the AGM and noted that as the Meeting was not quorate as per the Constitution the meeting would have to be rescheduled unless everyone agreed that it was in order to proceed. The Meeting unanimously agreed that it was in order to proceed.

Claire Irons, Andrew Neal, Jennifer Burtonwood, Jayne Ogier, Margaret Crompton, Chris Bluck and Ian Close sent their apologies.

Members Present: Stan Taylor, Nick Hume, Fiona Little, Howard Henshaw, Malcolm Beech, Amanda Fuller, Laura Lawler, Bob Massey, Anthony Blight, Bill Smith, John Dunn, Simon Scarr and Fran Connolly

- 2 The Minutes of the AGM held 25th April 2022 were proposed by Bob Massey and seconded by Laura Lawler.

3 Secretary's Report

Welcome

The AGM is an opportunity to update you, make important decisions, elect Committee Members and input into the Club's future direction.

Ideally the benefits of tonight's AGM are:

- i) Share and reiterate the Club's values and purpose
- ii) Showcase success, reflect on the past year and plan for the future
- iii) Promote transparency and accountability by allowing club members to feed into the decision making process;
- iv) Allow club members to ask questions, gain clarity and hold the key decision making body to account.

England Athletics state: "AGMs are not just a time for formal, legal and financial issues. They are a good time to inspire members and motivate them to continue and should be a good experience. They should be engaging, inspiring, encouraging more members to become involved with the Committee and support the vision of the Club. It should promote the role of the Committee raising the work that they do on the Club's behalf. It is often the case that the unseen volunteers of the club make things happen."

During the last 12 months we have had many successes across the various age groups including the Mid Lancs Cross Country League with promotion for the Men's Open Team and the M40 Team. At the Inter Club Road Series the Men's Team regained the Open Trophy after a 16 year wait. Nia Rutter has won medals at World Masters Championships and been an inspiration to our younger athletes and also finds time to act as Upper YDL Team Manager. Laura Lawler and Mark Warner have successfully completed some tough long distance challenges whilst on the track Oliver Nunn, Joel Elpick and others shone.

Most athletes just enjoy competing for the Club and striving to do their best in whatever event they are participating in. If they achieve a PB that is just the icing on the cake!

We provide opportunities for those ages 7 to 75+ to train and compete and thank all the coaches for giving their time so freely for the benefit of others.

The Committee, and many thanks to them, continue to ensure that the Club functions successfully and within the parameters that EA wish us to sign-up to – the 7 Club Standards. This places an increasing burden upon us all and especially those involved in getting them ready and maintaining them. Can all of you please take time to complete the various Codes of Conduct which is now part of becoming a member of an EA Affiliated Club. Special thanks must go to Stan Taylor, Dave Needham & Amanda Fuller for all they do on behalf of the Club.

Our Team Managers strive very hard to turn out full teams where possible but this can be a frustrating task at times but very rewarding when everything comes together, so again thank you for giving your time. Our qualified Officials turn out to ensure that Meetings can take place and without them events would be cancelled so they deserve our grateful thanks and support.

Running, training, throwing, jumping and competing make athletes feel good and surely that is also a success we can claim in today's ever changing and confusing world.

We also thank all the other volunteers who came forward to assist when the call went out and you know who you are.

Whilst we have been successful there are a number of challenges ahead of us in the coming months and years:

Once the new track is complete can we promote more meetings, specialised if necessary?

More coaches, officials and volunteers are required if we are to grow the club and not disappoint the younger athlete

Where are we on succession planning? Like most this is something we are not good at and a crisis possibly awaits us in a short time.

Can we encourage more athletes to turn out and compete? Engagement with parents can be key here and motivating them to become involved.

Having time to put in place all the recommendations EA would like a good club to have. And to follow good practice guidelines. Please take time to read about this on the EA website

All in all I think we must be doing something right given the number of new members who have joined in the last year, but it can be easier for Seniors Road Runners than Juniors or Field Athletes. Most looking in can see our success and read about it in the weekly Gazette Reports. But how many really understand what goes on behind the scenes and the dedication of the few to the many?

Just like the large family we are there will not always be harmony, people will fallout and hopefully make up, but at the end of the day we are all working towards the same goal of ensuring that BWF AC is a successful, well run and above all a happy and welcoming place for everyone to enjoy the sport of athletics

4 Treasurer's Report 1/4/22 – 31/3/23

Fiona presented the Annual Accounts, which had been checked by Peter Gibson, and issued to all those who had indicated their attendance. She also thanked Nick for standing in for her at the Committee Meetings and presenting the current updates.

With regard to the Accounts there were some differences from last year which Fiona highlighted – less donations and sponsorship received; East fundraising had brought in £350.00; the Presentation Night which was the first post-Covid was subsidised again by the Club; Membership Income remains constant. Kit in-hand was different which might be because of a change in responsibilities and how stock was counted. Race Entries up as major races returned to the calendar.

Stan thanked Fiona for all her work in maintaining the Accounts and Peter for his checks.

It was noted that Income had been lost from our T&F Meeting being cancelled due to the track relaying.

5 Election of Officers

Nick brought to the Meeting's attention the responsibilities that were placed on the elected Committee by being an Affiliated EA Club and being legally seen as an Unincorporated Association, so that all were aware before accepting a post.

The following members the Committee were elected:

Confirmation of President	Howard Henshaw
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Officers:

Chairman	Stan Taylor
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Treasurer	Fiona Little
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General Secretary	Nick Hume
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Membership & Subscription Secretary	Nick Hume
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Welfare Officer	Susan Ball & Pastor Steve Dunn
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Director of Coaching	Vacancy
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Officials Lead	Vacancy
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DBS Verifiers	Nick Hume & Dave Needham
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General Committee Posts to Cover:

Volunteer Co-ordinator	Amanda Fuller
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Equipment Officer	Dave Needham
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Kit Officer	Amanda Fuller
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Schools Liaison Officer	Derek Newton
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Track & Field Secretary	Stan Taylor
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Press Officer	Nick Hume
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Confirmation of Club Auditor	Peter Gibson
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BLACKPOOL, WYRE & FYLDE AC
AGM 24th April 2023

General Committee

Anthony Blight, Malcolm Beech, Paula Howard, Bill Smith, Bob Massey, Laura Lawler, John Dunn.

6 Special Motions/Items

No Special Motions raised

7 Any Other Business

Bob raised the question of Track Etiquette, especially with regards to Lanes 1 & 2 and trying to ensure these were kept free during Training Nights. However, who would police this and although a good idea the practicalities were difficult to enforce both from a Club and Sports Centre point of view.

John mentioned the idea of Club colours/advertising around the Track to enhance the Club profile and encourage people to think of joining.

Meeting Closed 20.46

Nick Hume

BWF AC Secretary