

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Blackpool Cricket Club

1 Apologies for Absence and Attendance

Nick Hume, in the absence of Chair Stan Taylor, opened the AGM by welcoming everyone and stating that as the Meeting was not quorate would the Meeting agree that the AGM could continue rather than return on May Bank Holiday as per the Constitution. All were in favour. However, two more attendees arrived thus making the Meeting quorate.

Members Present: Nick Hume, John Dunn, Howard Henshaw, Amanda Fuller, Laura Lawler, Bob Massey, Anthony Blight, Chris Bluck, Leanne Bluck, George James, Suzanne Leonard, Fran Connolly, Malcolm Beech, Simon Reason and Paula Wright.

Claire Irons, Hayley Melling, Bill Smith, Alan Smart, Andrew Neal, Stan Taylor, Dave Needham, Michelle Tomlinson, Simon Scarr and Peter Singleton sent their apologies.

- 2 The Minutes of the AGM held 29th April 2024 were proposed by Anthony Blight and seconded by Chris Bluck.

3 Secretary's Report

Welcome

I had a dream or was it a nightmare? I went down to Stanley Park and the track was in ruins with cyclists whizzing around and footballs flying through the air. A few hardy runners were attempting cross country as that was all that was left of a once pristine track. Where were the Junior athletes I wondered, but they were footballing, netballing, dancing, triathling, hockeying or trying some wondrous new sport that was the social media sensation of the moment.

As I sat on the bench the memories flooded back of vibrant coaching sessions and athletes young and old training in various groups and carefully avoiding each other.

Progression through the groups was carefully planned as athletes developed and matured or found the discipline that best suited them. Parents were involved in assisting the coaches and some had begun their journey to become the coaches of the future or the officials of tomorrow. Some were becoming the club leaders under the guidance of the old timers.

This is the crossroads we find ourselves at today and decisions made tonight and in the coming year will impact our future as BWF AC.

Once again the turnout for the AGM is poor so is there hope for the future. Senior road, cross country, fell and trail will continue as that requires relatively little organisation but what of the future for our Juniors?

The lack of qualified coaches is already a real concern and will become more so in the next two years. Without these dedicated people we will be turning even more youngsters away than we are today.

Will we be able to field teams in YDL and Mid Lancs? Will we have sufficient qualified officials to meet our quotas? I would like to say yes but once again very few are taking the steps along that pathway.

These issues are not unique to BWF AC as other clubs and Associations are struggling with similar issues and an ageing group of people who have given so much over many years. Commitment today is not always the same as it was and many prefer a short term involvement rather than a long term one.

BLACKPOOL, WYRE & FYLDE AC
AGM 28th April 2025

Some of the challenges will start to be addressed but it is vital that there is buy-in from club members and parents to ensure that the future holds promise, enjoyment and challenge for the athletes of today and tomorrow and a new future is written.

However there have been some highs over the last 12 months with some outstanding individual performances both on and off the track. New volunteers have come forward and the PB Scheme introduced this year is appearing to be a great success thanks to Hayley Melling and her idea of recognition via the Facebook Group. It is also pleasing to welcome Fran Connolly and Emma Walsh who are looking after Club Kit and Charlotte Holmes taking on the difficult task as YDL Lower Team Manager.

The Committee under the leadership of Stan Taylor continue to do their best for the Club but recognise that they cannot please all the members all of the time. Personal abuse will not be tolerated so if you aren't happy with something please raise via the Secretary rather than Social Media. You have all signed Codes of Conduct so please remember that.

Whilst there are no Special Motions to discuss this evening time will be given after the AGM concludes for members to raise any issues, concerns or even approvals for things done well. If necessary the Committee can take forward in the coming months.

Remember volunteers can get involved without necessarily being on the Committee as they might have skills that could be of benefit to all.

So hopefully we can move forward together in 2025 both as a club and as individuals.

4 Treasurer's Report 1/4/24 – 31/3/25

John Dunn presented the Annual Accounts, which had been checked by Basia Pawelczak, and issued to all those who had indicated their attendance.

John highlighted that the money in the Bank had increased by almost £5k since this time last year and gave an overview of the main Income and Expenditure noting that once again no Stock Take had been undertaken (however one was underway).

£5k had been transferred from the Current Account to the interest paying Deposit Account during the year. Membership was one of the two main income streams for BWF AC and that had not risen now for a number of years (in response to a query Nick stated that it was England Athletics who increased their Affiliation Fee).

Officials and Coaches are assisted with funding by BWF AC so long as commitment to the Club is there.

Nick thanked John for his work during a difficult year when he did not have access to the Bank Account for almost 6 months and to Basia for her examination of the Annual Accounts.

The Meeting approved acceptance of the Accounts.

5 Election of Officers

The Secretary stated that Bill Smith was stepping down but would continue to support the Club in a volunteer capacity and thanked him for his time on the Committee. Bob Massey had also retired from the Committee during the year and had been thanked for his service to the Club.

The following Officers were unanimously elected to form the BWF AC Committee for 2025 – 2026 by the Meeting:

BLACKPOOL, WYRE & FYLDE AC
AGM 28th April 2025

Confirmation of President	Howard Henshaw
Officers:	
Chairman	Stan Taylor
Treasurer	John Dunn
General Secretary	Nick Hume
Membership & Subscription Secretary	Nick Hume
Lead Welfare Officer	Susan Ball
Director of Coaching	Vacancy
Officials Lead	Vacancy
DBS Verifiers	Nick Hume & Dave Needham
General Committee Posts to Cover:	
Volunteer Co-ordinator	Vacancy
Equipment Officer	Dave Needham
Kit Officer	Fran Connolly & Emma Walsh
Schools Liaison Officer	Derek Newton
Track & Field Secretary	Stan Taylor
Press Officer	Nick Hume
Confirmation of Club Auditor	Basia Pawelczak
General Committee	Anthony Blight, Malcolm Beech, Amanda Fuller, Laura Lawler, Chris Bluck, Simon Reason, Suzanne Leonard

6 Special Motions/Items

None Received.

7 Any Other Business

No other formal business raised though discussions did arise amongst members regarding the Club and some of the queries that had been raised by a Member for discussion at the next Committee Meeting. Also mentioned were posting on the Open Facebook Page, e.g. EA PB Awards, Club successes.

Meeting Closed 21.20

Nick Hume

BWF AC Secretary