

Minutes - Bracknell Forest Runners AGM Wednesday 19th April 2017 7:30pm Start

Easthampstead Park Conference Centre, Peacock Lane, Bracknell, RG40 3DF

72 Members attended – this exceeds the quorum of current membership required for the AGM to take place

1: Apologies for Absence received from Joanne Hart, Nicky Weeks, Chris Weeks, Siobhan James, Martin Reilly and Andy Clegg

2: There were no comments on the minutes of last year's AGM and therefore the minutes were adopted by everyone present

3: There were no matters arising from matters arising from those Minutes

4: Chairman's report

Mike thanked the current committee – especially to Naomi Aitken, Rebecca Duffet and Adrian Tansley who are standing down. Also made mention to the amount of work put in by Jon Errington and Deena Robinson for track Nights. Mike thanked Niki Felton for her support in his first year as chairman

Mike reminded those present that the committee are volunteers so please be patient in waiting for results to be posted and requests to be actioned. He also reminded everyone that all questions and queries for the committee should go on email NOT Facebook. Mike also reminded the club that the sharing of copyrighted material and unofficial exchange of numbers is not allowed on our Facebook group.

BFR Finished the year with nearly 400 members who competed in 168 races, including 106 runners at Wokingham half – Chris Vaal confirmed that there are 115 BFR Entries to the Bracknell Half Marathon in May – we are also still looking for volunteers. Race distances ranged from 5k to 100 miles and international representation in Germany, Spain, Canada, USA, Scotland and even Wales!

Parkrun has been huge for BFR in the past 12 months just last Saturday BFR attended 12 different events across the country and we have members who are in both the 50 and 100 clubs. Parkrun is hugely important to the club and has had a massive impact in the growth of our numbers.

Forest five hit a record Entry of 450 runners and in TVXC we had a mighty 100 members take part in the Datchet race at the beginning of the season. We went on to dominate in attendance and setting the example of how to support your teammates from the front to the back. We finished the season tied 3rd overall.

Mike then gave testimonials from several club members, Pat, Karen, Nicky, Sophie, Gary and Gaynor who all talked about the inclusiveness, support and the personal achievements they have made since joining the club.

Mike then thanked all the members of the club for making it what it is and thanked them also for feedback and comments that have allowed the team to make improvements over the past 12 months

5: Treasurers report

Rebecca Duffett gave a report (please email and request a full summary of the accounts if required to treasurer@bracknell-forest-runner.org.uk) Accounts were audited by Angela Thorpe.

£2,600 surplus driven by excellent forest five in June 2016 represented by £700 extra cash at the end of the year – 131 new members in the year

The membership fees were explained – of the £20 renewal £13 goes to England athletics and the remaining £7 goes to BFR – Rebecca quoted a post from Facebook from Alan Faubel about value for money: **I've just seen the email!!! 52 weeks of running 3+ organised runs per week, free coaching, reduced race entry, free cross country series, social events, the Carlsberg of event support teams, the opportunity to wear green and not feel bad. All that and more for £20..... do you think I am made of money?!**

Forest Five profit came from increased finishers (432 versus 277 the previous year) plus increased crown estate fees accounted for in increased race entry fee.

Donations were received from Bracknell Half Marathon, London Marathon and Ride London – these were all as result of our members giving up their time to volunteer so Rebecca thanks everyone who has done that over the past 12 months.

Other costs were broken down into AGM, Awards, Website, garage rent and 'other costs'

Plans to invest in the next 12 months include Coaching course (Emma Inman booked for May 2017, First Aid course for as many members as possible, the website and also subsidising the Awards night

In line with the increase in EA fees there is a recommendation to increase club membership fees by £1

6: Angela Thorpe offered to audit the accounts again next year

7: In line with the EA increase of £1 our membership fees will increase to £34 for new members and £21 for renewals

8:

- Chair – Mike Sankey was unopposed and elected Chair
- Secretary – Niki Felton was unopposed and elected Secretary
- Vice Chair – Robin Briscoe was unopposed and elected Vice Chair
- Treasurer – Helen Coulthard was elected treasurer by present member vote
- Membership Secretary – Jonathon Errington was unopposed and elected membership secretary

- Ex Officio Members Alex Tabb, Helen Johnson, Nigel Jackson, Deena Robinson , Emma Inman Nicky Weeks and Hannah Bint stood for ex officio roles – Alex, Helen, Nigel, Deena and Emma were elected by present member vote

9: Alan Street suggested that the constitution should be amended so that members can only stand for committee roles if they are present at the AGM – this was discussed and then voted by a show of hands. The motion was rejected

10. Danny Johns spoke regarding making new members welcome at track and other clubs runs – that he felt it was everyone's responsibility and that people should be put forward to mentor new runners – there was much discussion from the floor about talking to people, approaching people, nominating mentors and committee members speaking to new people when they come along. The consensus was agreement that everyone should take responsibility either by talking to new members or pointing them in the direction of a committee member. Niki stated that the committee makes a lot of effort to welcome and integrate new members and Mike asked that members be proactive in this in future

Mike thanked everyone for attending and the meeting ended at 8:36pm