**Minutes of FODAC Committee Meeting, 17th October 2017**

**Present:** Andrew K, Richard, Cherry, Wendy, Alan, Dan, Jo, Vicky, Stef

**Apologies:** Andrew B, Melissa, Pete

**Not Present:** Jools

Andrew opened the meeting and explained that Helen Baker has resigned from the committee.

1. **Minutes of last meeting and matters arising**

Andrew checked with the committee if he could authorise to get coaching kit for Melissa and one other coach. The committee agreed and Andrew will let Andrew Compton know. **Action: Andrew**

Stef has now received product codes and prices for any kit that can be ordered from 3T designs, such as hoodies, track suits and training t-shirts. She will compile a list and put it on the website, so that all members order the same items and look smarter at competitions.

We now have 2 stop watches and whistles for the adult training sessions.

Richard is still waiting for an update from Walter on the flood lights and we are still awaiting more details on the feasibility study, which was apparently done a few years ago. This needs to be discussed, when Pete will be able to attend a meeting. **Action: Pete**

The Junior presentation evening is being organised by the junior coaches and will take place on the 25th of November.

1. **Treasurer’s report**

The Income since the last meeting came to £ 1997.00, which was made up of Entries for Yorkley Gallop and Christmas Tree race, kit sale, training fees, 0-5k donations, membership and EA fees and the monthly donation to the parkrun fund.

Expenditure was £ 2813.97. This was for some of the costs for Yorkley Gallop and the Christmas Tree race, affiliation fees for Gwent and Gloucestershire Cross Country leagues, prepayments for the cross country races entry fees, coaching courses for Eleanor Flack and Alan Robertson, the ipad for race results, relay entries at County Championships and the online fees.

After a slow start the Yorkley Gallop still made a profit of £ 714.69, which means that we will be able to donate £ 350.00 to the Great Oaks Hospice.

The Autumn mile made an overall profit of £ 167.44.

Wendy still has to pay invoices for the sports hall hire in October (£150.00), EA affiliation fees £ 56.00, medals for 0-5k groups £ 44.70 and the hire of Lydney sports hall for the sportshall competition in November £ 120.00.

The bank balance on the 13th of October was £ 22,338.38.

Wendy asked for another committee member to become an authorised signatory for the bank account and it was agreed that Cherry should be added.

1. **Membership Report**

At the moment we have 458 members (276 seniors, 182 are juniors and young adults U7 to U20).

Cherry has noticed, that there are a number of junior athletes who have come to training for a few months now and have still not joined the club. She has contacted the parents to ask them to join the club, but to no avail.

Cherry will list the children who are still not members and it will have to be pointed out that they will have to pay £ 2.00 per training session until they have joined the club.

It is very difficult to police this, but hopefully the parents who are helping at Junior registration will be able to encourage the children to become members when they have access to the list.

If this is not working then we will have to explain that they cannot take part until they have joined the club as they are not insured.

We still only had one order for crop tops, so we will have to encourage members who would like them for the next track and field season to place the order soon.

Cherry suggested that we should order a set of vests for juniors to borrow for events. This will only be a very limited number and they will be clearly marked as property of FODAC. They will have to be signed out by the junior/parent and will be signed back in when returned. This is to encourage the prompt return of the vests.

We will also order a set of adult vests for sizing purposes. These will be kept safe and offer members the opportunity to try the sizes before placing an order.

1. **Coach’s Report**

There was no report available as Pete was not able to attend the meeting.

Andrew K has been to a meeting of the Junior coaches and he is hoping that the communication between the coaches and the committee will be improving. It has been suggested that a committee member will attend each coaches meeting (they take place about once every three months).

Jo has volunteered to attend the next meeting. **Action: Jo**

Kelly Worgan and Nick Wellsted have both resigned as Junior coaches, although Kelly is still happy to help occasionally.

Andrew C and Dave have both taken more responsibility to supervise the coaches and to ensure that a qualified coach is available in each sports hall during the training sessions. Andrew C has taken more control and is supervising the other coaches closely. He is doing a fantastic job and it is much appreciated by all coaches. Stef stated that it felt much more organised during the Saturday training sessions, as the coaches had more guidance and it was very enjoyable to coach with the help of Andrew.

We need to promote the junior activities more in the local press. It would be great if we could find an adult to do a weekly write-up again to send to Patrick by Monday morning. Stef will check if Charlotte would be interested to take this role on again. **Action: Stef**

1. **Yorkley Gallop Review**

Although the pre-entries for the Yorkley Gallop were very low we still got some on the day entries and made a profit of £ 700.00.

It is a popular race and people enjoy the course as a tough trail race.

We will continue the race, but will have to make sure that it will not clash with other big races such as Cardiff Half marathon, Forest Half or Swansea 10k.

We will not organise the 3 mile race anymore, but will still accommodate

Cani cross runners and have a junior race, which will be on a slightly different course, so that it can finish on the sports field like the main race.

1. **Trial Trail Relay**

Dan and Alan have looked into organising a trail relay race. They have found a course in the enclosure opposite the track with a start and finish at the parkrun start. Each leg will be about 2.5 miles and it will be run in teams of three. We will be trialling this relay on Saturday 18th of November after parkrun. The trial will be free to enter and Dan will try and time it, using the relay facility on the ipad timing programme.

We will invite teams from Chepstow Harriers and Spirit of Monmouth and will survey runners afterwards. **Action: Dan, Alan**

1. **Presentation evening**

Unfortunately, Andrew B was not available this evening, but he sent a message stating that he has provisionally booked Forest Hills Golf Club for Friday, 26th of January. It will be the same format as last year, buffet and disco. Andrew will get final details and prices before confirming.

Some members have asked if there would be a Christmas Do too, but we have decided that, as last year, there will only be a presentation evening in January. However, we could organise a Christmas Lights run on a Thursday evening around Coleford and go for a drink afterwards. This will be an informal evening and everyone is welcome.

1. **Club Championship 2018**

We need to ask Steven Harris if he would like to coordinate the Club Championship again for next year. **Action: Stef**

If Steven does not want to continue to administer the Club Championship we will have to find a new coordinator, or find a different way of administering the Club Championship. One suggestion was to ask each committee member to find one race and be responsible for the collation of the results of their race.

1. **VLM Ballot**

We will have to ask all members to submit their entry to the draw as soon as possible. We will not get confirmation of the number of places until mid-November, but we are pretty sure that we will receive two places. As members would like to book their spring marathons and accommodation etc, we will try and draw the two places as soon as possible. Stef will advertise the terms and conditions for entering the ballot via Facebook and email. **Action: Stef**

1. **Any Other Business**

Cherry was wondering if there would be interest for the club to connect to the Forestry Commission to sponsor a network of running trails, similar to the Adidas trail. There could be different distances and difficulty ratings. This would fit in with the work of the club as a charity extending to the wider community. Cherry and Jacqui Wynds will approach the Forestry Commission and perhaps also Coleford Town Council (Nick Penny).

**Action: Cherry**

Andrew explained that we had a visit from a member of the Coleford twinning organisation at the track, who was asking if he could bring a visitor from the French twin town to the club next week. The gentleman is from their athletic club and he would like to see what we do at our club.

Richard was wondering if there would be demand for led evening runs in Coleford on a Tuesday evening for those people who do not want to take part in the track session during the winter months. Ness would be happy to lead these runs. It was mentioned that some coaches were a bit disheartened when people turned up for a training session, but when they were told what the session entailed, they would then leave the track to go for a social run.

We decided, that we would have to speak to the coaches. If the coaches would explain their sessions via Facebook before the evening, as Walter has done recently, then people can decide if they would prefer to run on the road or take part in the track session. **Action: Richard, Ness**

Alan wanted to know if it would be possible to purchase a smaller, lighter gazebo, as the big gazebo we have is too heavy and too big to take to the cross-country races and the track and field events. He will investigate the cost of something suitable. **Action: Alan**

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed