**Minutes of Forest of Dean Athletic Club AGM**

**Friday, 10th of May**

**Rising Sun, Moseley Green**

**Present:** Alan Robertson, Wendy Lawrence, Stef Francis, Andrew Compton, Brian Francis, Jacqui Wynds, Sue Shergold, Lynne Park, Jackie Green, Rob Keeble, Michael Marks, Peter Woodward, Mary Watkins, Tracey Brooks, Emma Bevan, Andrew Brooks, Mike Flannery, Nick Lord, Lisa Adams, Julian Boon, Dan Sandford, Vanessa Pegler, Richard Pegler, Anna Freeman, Rob Freeman

**Apologies:** Chris Hawkins, Vicky Hewlett, Dave Lucas, Claire Morgan, Anne Kirk, Suzanne Peters

1. **Chairman’s Report**

As Chris was delayed returning from a trip abroad Alan hosted the meeting and provided the chair’s report.

Firstly, Alan stated that most of our races have once again been very successful and he thanked the Race Organisers and Volunteers who make these races happen. We have seen a drop off in numbers for some of the races such as the Forest Miles and Yorkley Gallop and we have decided not to hold the Autumn Mile race this year.

The performances of our members are very impressive. The club was once again gripped by ‘marathon fever’ and we had runners taking part in a number of marathons such as VLM, Brighton, Newport and Manchester. Alan did not single out any one individual as there were many great performances and everyone who competes in a marathon deserves credit.

Our cross-country season has once again been very successful and Alan thanked the cross-country captains Lynn Park, Catherine Roberts and Julian Boon for leading the teams. There were quite a few medal winners in the Gloucestershire Cross Country League and championships. Unfortunately, we didn’t quite achieve promotion in the Gwent League. Alan wished that we could channel some of the marathon efforts into cross country and pointed out that it is great winter training.

We also had some excellent performances in the Gloucester Road Race championship and it would be great to see more members participating in those races.

The track and field season is now under way and it would be great to see more members competing in the Midland and Avon Leagues. All levels of ability are welcome and for the meetings that are further away we will provide transport.

Training

Alan took the opportunity to thank all coaches, both Junior and Senior.

For the senior section we are currently trying to improve the Tuesday coaching, partly because of the large numbers involved but also to provide the right kind of training for everyone. We have more coaches/run leaders now and anyone interested in doing a coaching course will be encouraged and supported.

The Junior training has been difficult this season as the throwing team are currently training at Gloucester because we had to close our throwing facility due to health and safety reasons.

We have seen a drop in numbers in Juniors taking part in cross country, however some Juniors have been representing their schools in county and national competitions. It would be great if we could encourage more Juniors to take part in cross country again next season.

The Social runs have started successfully again this summer with members enjoying the run and the social get together regularly. Everyone is always welcome to social runs.

The next Club Championship Race will be the Hereford Half Marathon and remember that your best Severn Bridge parkrun will count this month.

Finally, Alan thanked all the committee members, Race organisers and captains for their hard work throughout the year and for their support during Chris’ and his time as Chair and Vice Chair of the club.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Wendy briefly summarised the accounts for the past year, which have been audited by an independent auditor.

Our income over the past 12 month was £ 24,000.00 and the expenditure came to 23,000.00.

We currently have £ 19,000.00 in the bank.

The expenditure was mainly made up of coaching courses, league affiliations, cross country entries, CWR, Wyedean Relay and the committee are always happy to fund, support and encourage members taking part in competitions and training.

We pay annually £ 2,500.00 for the track hire and for the Gym hire £ 45.00/£40.00 per session. We also pay for the use of toilets at £ 10.00 per session.

Other expenditure is for the provision of first aid kits and courses, expenditure on races (licence fees, prizes etc) and donations, such as to Great Oaks from the Yorkley Gallop.

Our races are the cheapest races around .

Wendy has been able to claim gift aid for the membership fees ( £ 836.00) and for the donations from the 0-5k groups through the small donation scheme (£ 1,100.00)

At our mile races we have raised money for charity through the cake sale. Last year we donated to Cross Roads and Teens in Crisis. This time we raised £ 77.00 for the James Hopkins Trust.

We also donated £ 350.00 towards the setting up of the new Mallards Pike parkrun, which will be starting sometime this summer.

If anything knows of anything the club should provide, please let the committee know.

We are currently looking into providing the coaches with some new uniforms.

A copy of the full accounts will go on the website.

1. **Election of Officers**

The following committee members were nominated and voted for by the members present:

Chair Chris Hawkins

Vice Chair Alan Robertson

Treasurer Wendy Lawrence

Secretary Stef Francis

Membership Secretary Cherry Fowler (this is a non-committee post)

Head Coach Andrew Compton ( Andrew is happy to continue in this role, but

due to personal circumstances will not be able to offer as much time

as before)

Race Coordinator Dan Sandford

Junior/Parent

Representative Lisa Adams

Junior Representative Maisy Harvey

General Committee

Member Nick Lord

General Committee

Member Emma Bevan

There is still a vacancy for a Health and Safety Officer, so any member interested in this position, please contact a committee member.

Track and Field Captain Mary Watkins

Pete Woodward

Cross Country Captain

Gwent League Lisa Adams

Julian Boon

Cross Country Captain

Gloucestershire League Catherine Roberts

Julian Boon (as Jools is not able to commit to all Gloucestershire

League Races, he would be happy if someone else would like to take

this role. If you are interested, please let Jools or the committee

know.)

1. **Coaches’ Report**

Andrew reported that he is very pleased with the successful Junior section of the club. Our throwing team have had fantastic results in recent months and all our Junior athletes are great role models.

We have three Endurance Team coaches who coach on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and Dave who coaches sprints and jumps on a Tuesday. Andrew coaches the throwing team, who currently have to train at Gloucester.

Andrew stated that due to work commitments he is unable to fully commit to all training sessions, but he would like to carry on with the Strength and Conditioning Circuits again next winter, as this worked well and athletes taking part appreciated the sessions.

Alan explained that we are in the process of looking at the senior training sessions to give athletes a chance to develop to their potential.

1. **Any Other Business**

Stef mentioned that the committee will be looking at compiling a questionnaire for all members to find out what members expect from the club. What training, races and social events are in demand. How can we improve what we are doing for the members?

The future of the site is still not clear, as Homes England have now been told that they cannot sell the site for the nominal fee of £ 1.00.

The playing fields have been handed over to Berry Hill Rugby Club and Broadwell Football Club.

The meeting closed at 7.55pm