

West Cheshire Athletic Club AGM

Minutes – Tuesday 26th November 2024

1.	<p>Attendees – Committee: Brian Wright (Chair), Sarah Hibbert (Treasurer), Dennis Wall (Secretary), Victor Oyesola (Track & Field Officer), Eddie Gore (Facilities Officer), Ian Ackroyd (Coaching Co-ordinator), Jane Pughe (Membership Officer), Dave Alexander (Cross-country Officer), Mike Lamb (President) and Alan Morris (Vice Chairman). Minute-taker – Jenny Palmer. Via Teams – Leanne Wheeler (Welfare Officer)</p> <p>Members – Ellie Robinson, Jill Gore, Jane Palmer, Dave Mackay, Julian Tegg, Darren Shillington and Ellen Molloy. Via Teams – Elizabeth Clair-Oat, Glenys Potter and Andy Gamble.</p> <p>Apologies – Jenny Manning, Adrian Gledhill (Health & Safety Officer), Emma Nutt (Road Race Officer) and Richard Batterham.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the 2023 AGM held on 28th November 2023 - The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted and signed off - with a spelling error identified in paragraph 4 of the Chairman’s Annual Report.</p>	
3.	<p>Management Reports</p> <p>Chairman’s Report – Brian presented the Chairman’s report and a summary is provided here.</p> <p>The club continues to host Schools Cross-country series at EPSV and compete in the North Wales, Manchester and North Staffordshire Cross Country leagues. Members competed in the Cheshire and the Northern Cross Country Championships and the London XC Challenge.</p> <p>We hosted two successful Open track and field events at EPSV, and continued to deliver great team performances in the Cheshire, Northern and both YDL Upper and Lower Leagues. There were outstanding individual performances at the Northern, Welsh and English Indoor Championships, the Northern, North Wales and English Schools T&F Championships, the British Milers Club, the England Schools International and the World Athletics U20 Championship where we contributed to the bronze medal winning relay team. There were several England vests, a GB vest and selections for the England Athletics Youth Talent Programme.</p> <p>We held three successful road races again and all were well-attended and provided quality competition. On the Roads our Senior and Veteran men’s and women’s teams achieved promotion to Division 1 of the Borders League and delivered strong performances in the North West & Cheshire Road Relay Championships. Members competed in a huge number of races including the London Marathon, Coed-y-Brenin Salomon Trail Marathon, Snowdonia Marathon, Four Villages Half Marathon and the Chester Ultra 50 miler. A member was chosen to represent England in the Anglo Celtic Plate 100k race and another chosen by England Athletics to run with Team Mind at the Manchester marathon.</p> <p>Our relationship with Chester West and Chester council continues and we have recently concluded the long-term negotiations securing our future access to the trackside room at EPSV. We have also gained reaccreditation of the track for a further three years.</p> <p>The club is fortunate to have a number of coaches, officials and volunteers who contribute to athletics in many ways not just locally but nationally and internationally.</p>	

	The Chair thanked his fellow committee members for their efforts and support throughout the year and also acknowledge the support and encouragement from all club members.																					
4.	Membership Report – Jane reported that membership numbers in all categories are now higher than they were before the pandemic, with the exception of U15 girls. U23 numbers always lower as members move away to university and for work.																					
5.	<p>Financial Report - Sarah reported that the Club’s finances remained healthy with a closing balance of £71,712.55, up by £2,964.39. £41.3k is held in reserve and £32.2k in the current account. The Road Races account holds £3,119, separately to the above accounts. Both expenditure and income for the year were higher than budgeted – income by just over 4% and expenditure by 10.6%.</p> <p>Total income for the year was £70.3k, an increase of £4.2k from 22/23, including £8k transferred from Road Race account, £6.9k Chester Half Marathon support and £5.8k event host income.</p> <p>Equipment hire income is included within Social & Sundry. Training fees figures are before Nifty fees have been deducted.</p> <p>We had budgeted for investment in a higher interest account but this proved to be too challenging with applications being rejected by several financial institutions.</p> <p>The Committee had approved the purchase of several pieces of equipment to help members and with running events, waterproof outfits for officials, and maintenance to long jump covers not covered by insurance. Social costs appear higher than previously as some costs from Oct 24 Awards Evening being paid this financial year and costs for the volunteers Christmas meal being lower in Dec 22 due to covid.</p> <p>Total expenditure was £67.3k, an increase of £11.5k from 22/23, including £7k on equipment, £5.6k on kit, £3k on maintenance, £1.7k social costs, £700 first aid cover and £450 insurance.</p> <p>Membership Fees – comprise Club Membership, Northern Athletics Membership and England Athletics Membership.</p> <p>Club Membership will increase to £35 – first increase since 2020 England Athletics – fee increasing by £1 to £20 in 2024 – to be passed on to members Northern Athletics – fees TBC at £2/athlete for 24/25</p> <p>Training fees are to increase to £2/session – first increase since 2020 – required to cover higher costs inc. track hire, first aid cover, officials and coaches training, insurance, etc.</p>																					
	<p>Road Race Summary – as this was the first year the Road Race accounts have been examined by our auditor, Alan Morris presented a financial summary on behalf of Richard Batterham who was unable to attend.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Race</th> <th>Total Income (£)</th> <th>Total Expenses (£)</th> <th>Total Profit (£)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Round the Walls</td> <td>9,146.58</td> <td>5,544.64</td> <td>3,601.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Spring 5k</td> <td>6,431.62</td> <td>3,121.42</td> <td>3,310.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guilden Sutton 10k</td> <td>3,091.68</td> <td>2,228.74</td> <td>862.94</td> </tr> <tr> <td>All three races</td> <td>18,669.88</td> <td>10,894.80</td> <td>7,775.08</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Race	Total Income (£)	Total Expenses (£)	Total Profit (£)	Round the Walls	9,146.58	5,544.64	3,601.94	Spring 5k	6,431.62	3,121.42	3,310.20	Guilden Sutton 10k	3,091.68	2,228.74	862.94	All three races	18,669.88	10,894.80	7,775.08	
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6.	Election of Management Committee and Club Officers – as required by the Constitution, all members of the Management Committee and Club Officers had stood																					

down prior to the AGM. All were happy to stand again and Brian proposed the names below, Alan seconded and there were no objections. The post of Sponsorship and Liaison Officer remains vacant.

Position	Appointee	Position	Appointee
President	Mike Lamb	Road Race Officer	Emma Nutt
Chairman	Brian Wright	Track & Field Off.	Victor Oyesola
Vice Chairman	Alan Morris	Facilities Officer	Eddie Gore
Treasurer	Sarah Hibbert	Welfare Officers	Anna Woolgar (lead) Leanne Wheeler
Secretary	Dennis Wall	Health & Safety Off	Adrian Gledhill
Membership Off.	Jane Pughe	Coaching Co-ordinator	Ian Ackroyd
Cross-country Off.	Dave Alexander	Minute Secretary	Jenny Palmer
Sponsorship and Liaison Officer	vacant		

7. **Election of Vice Presidents** – John Driscoll passed away this year and Brian and Alan paid tribute to him as he was a founder member of WCAC and had contributed to athletics at all levels.

The following Vice Presidents were elected, proposed by Brian and seconded by Jane Palmer.

Ellen Molloy
Justin Madders MP
Aphra Brandreth MP
Alan Morris
Jason Gill

7a. John Ashton had not replied to Dennis' email inviting him to be Vice President, so Dennis will email him again.

8. **Election of Honorary Auditors** – Sarah proposed Graham Jenkins and Brian seconded.

9. **Amendments to the Constitution** – Brian proposed that “General Secretary” in the Constitution be amended to “Secretary”. Jenny Palmer seconded.

10. **AOB** – Brian proposed that the next AGM takes place on Tuesday 25th November 2025 after training at 8.15pm. Alan seconded. The meeting closed at 8.40pm.