

Minutes of the Standing Committee of Airedale Athletics at Idle Cricket Club, on Monday 6 April 2009

Present from the Standing Committee: Gordon Agar, Dave Armstrong, Brian Elsey, Simon Forde, Chris Hainsworth, Barney Lerner, Tony Myers, Robert Sutton, Jack Verity, Peter Wade, Paul Watts.

Other members in attendance: Mick Brearley, Rory Cunliffe, Will Kerr, Jen Willingham, Stephen Wolstenholme, Gareth Wood, Colm Garvin, Geoff Guy.

The meeting started at 7:56pm.

1. **Apologies** for absence: Graham Hird, Mike Moss.
2. **Signing of Agreement for Skyrac to join the Partnership.** This was duly performed in quadruplicate (by CH for BAAC, RS for ERR, BL for StB and PeterW for Skyrac) so that all four clubs had an archival copy. The signing was applauded on completion.
3. The previously circulated **minutes of the meeting** on 1 December 2008 and 2 February 2009 were approved.
MB volunteered to take the minutes at this meeting. It was agreed that this would be a duty that maybe should be undertaken by different individuals each meeting.
4. There were no other **matters arising**.
5. **Financial Report, to 31 March 2009; and Budget Forecast 2009-10.**
PW explained the financial reports previously circulated. The following matters were raised:
 - (i) PaulW asked if MB/JV could investigate who had vests and who had paid for them so we could avoid losing stock. GA asked why so many vests had been ordered, but it was explained that a minimum of 18 per order was needed.
 - (ii) It was explained that the postage costs would hopefully be reduced if the network bid were approved. The figure at the moment was quite high as SF was posting from the Netherlands.
 - (iii) There was discussion over the £2.00 per head donated from clubs. SF suggested that no further call should be made on clubs till 2010. GA pointed out that the majority of the Skyrac membership were juniors, and agreed to provide a capitation figure for seniors to PaulW.
 - (iv) BL alerted the meeting to the need for adequate cash-flow. The response was that although AA didn't have much cash on hand, they had vests in stock.
 - (v) WK stated that he was monitoring an on-going project that could net AA £1200 per year. He will report back at next meeting.

The report to March 2009 was approved, with thanks recorded to PaulW.

For the current financial year it was agreed that SF would undertake no further spending on postage; Skyrac would pay an initial £100 "signing-up" contribution to the partnership plus a £2 per head fee

for 2009; otherwise, no call on clubs would be made till a review of income and expenditure had taken place at the October meeting.

6. **Neighbouring clubs.**

- (i) SF explained that **Pudsey Pacers** had not pursued the initial discussions in the autumn about joining the partnership, and no response had been received from Queensbury RC, Idle AC or Bradford GS AC since the cancelled open meeting on 2 February (about the partnership and athletics network) to which they had been invited.
- (ii) **Baildon Runners** discussed joining either the network or partnership at their recent AGM and appeared to have overwhelming support to do so. SF had been invited to address the club, but no suitable date could be found. It was proposed that Mike Moss be asked to visit them one Thursday at Jenny Lane after training.
- (iii) SF reminded the meeting of an initial meeting in 2007 with **Bingley Harriers** to encourage co-operation. It was agreed that Mike Moss contact Bob Dover to set up a follow-up meeting and a more formal structure to ensure both parties remain good neighbours.
- (iv) SF mentioned that while AA probably now had sufficient athletics clubs in its partnership, we should monitor future collaborative possibilities with triathlon, cycling and orienteering clubs. These would be welcome to join the partnership.

7. **Athletics Network Bid.**

- (i) Members of the bidding group would be meeting England Athletics representatives at Greens on Thursday, 9th April. SF thinks the bid has a high chance of being accepted. The bid was for almost £50,000 for each of 3 years, but it is not clear how much will be granted.
- (ii) While there has been important contributions from other parties (particularly John Dennis from K&CAC), AA has driven the project forward (as proposed at the December committee meeting) and the partnership's experiences were at the core of the bid; so the project's success is something we should be proud of.
- (iii) One half of this bid fund will be managed by AA and the responsibility will be high. SF explained the budget document circulated. He also noted that we should understand that the bid money should be spent on athletes and the sport in general within our area, and not just us. SF suggests we have another meeting to understand the purpose of the bid money and how to allocate it.

The meeting commended all the work that had been undertaken and the benefits the bid would have to all clubs and the sport in the area.

The consensus was to have a further meeting soon to study the bid in terms of "commitments to delivery" and this should take place preferably on a Monday.

8. **EA Bradford 10k.**

DA reported on the success of the EA Bradford 10k and thanked all the marshals for an excellent job and particularly Terry Maddocks for his work marshalling the marshals.

There were 1140 entries this year, more than double the first year, 2008. Members believed the numbers could become very much higher in the future.

DA assured the meeting that provision had been made for the clubs to contact a list of allocated runners, about 60-100 per club, sorted by postcode. JW would be the contact for St Bede's, TM for Eccleshill, CG for Bradford-Airedale and GA for Skyrac.

9. Internal Communications.

SF proposed to set up a joint committee to work on communication. This was approved.

10. (Cross-) Promotion of Club Races.

There was a brief discussion about the benefits of jointly publicising the Guiseley Gallop, John Carr series, Esholt Bash, and Eccleshill Tuff 10. Next year we need to send out information earlier.

11. Reports from Clubs or Joint Committees not covered above.

None.

12. AOB.

- (i) WK suggested that we hold a trial at the Meanwood Valley Trail to help in selecting the pairings for the Bradford Millennium Way Relay. The MVT is on 16th May, and the BMWR is on 14th June. SF suggested that the Club Captains should be gauging interest and then passing lists to JV who is responsible for the "composite teams". WK hoped that this year we may be able to raise two AA men's teams and one women's team. This did not prevent "single-club" teams also (e.g. from solely Eccleshill or St Bede's members).
- (ii) PeterW suggested that the partner clubs train together every so often. The floor agreed and noted that this had been done before at Eccleshill. PeterW will invite the partner clubs to train at Skyrac, with the aim that other clubs should reciprocate.

Next meetings:

Extraordinary Meeting (to discuss the network bid in detail): tba

Standing Committee: Monday, 1 June 2009, at Idle CC

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.00pm, followed by meetings of several joint committees.

Mick Brearley, 9 April 2009.