

Dark Peak Annual General Meeting 7 May 2014 The Maynard Arms Grindleford 8.00pm

Apologies – Andy Harmer, Rob Cole, Dick Pasley, Dave Holmes

1. The minutes of last years meeting were approved.
2. Tom Westgate referred the meeting to his report which had been handed out previously. Questions were raised concerning the relationship between the club and the FRA. Tom expressed the view that the club does not get sufficient feedback unless someone from the club actually contacts the FRA. Ian Winterburn is now a FRA member rep. Mike Robinson is still the club rep although Tom was not sure whether he still wants to represent the club. A question was raised as to whether Mike should remain club rep because he lives in the Lake District.
3. Tim Hawley reported that he had not yet got a published set of accounts but these would follow.
4. Ann Watmore reported that the club has 420 members with 20 new members since 1 January 2014. There are 100 members whose subs are outstanding. Roy Gibson has resigned although he has rejoined as a social member. Lloyd Taggart has resigned. The club acknowledged the contributions of both Roy and Lloyd to the club.
5. All club officials who had to be re-elected were re-elected. Rob Moore explained that the Directors of the limited company didn't need to seek re-election at the AGM. Rob confirmed that the Directors are Tom Westgate, Dave Holmes, John Dalton, Richard Hakes, Tim Hawley, Ian Fitz and Bob Berzins. Company and club secretary is Rob Moore.
6. There was a lengthy discussion and debate about FRA safety rules. Concern was raised about the way the club organizes and runs its own races and training runs. It was noted that there is not consensus amongst the club race organisers as to how the races should be run. Whilst everyone who turns up to a club race or run needs to understand that ultimately they are personally responsible for their own safety we still need a consistent system applicable to all races and runs which should ensure the club could not be sued for gross negligence. Tom explained that the FRA has recently issued guidelines for race organisers following the death of Brian Belfield which have been perceived by many people as over prescriptive and onerous on race organisers. The club is currently giving feedback to the FRA along with others with regard to on going amendments to the guidelines. It was proposed that guidance be sought from within the club as to how the club conducts itself with regard to its own races and runs. It was agreed that a sub committee made up of Willy, Gavin and Moz would meet and try and come up with some guidelines which could be followed at all times by the club.
7. Ian Fitz was thanked for organizing the Edale Skyline which took place in September 2013 as a Championship race. Tom also thanked John Dalton and Dave Taylor and said that neither the September race nor the subsequent March 2014 race which he organized could have taken place without John of Dave's assistance. Tom said that he had no regrets for allowing the March 2014 race to go ahead despite the uncertainty over the application of the FRA rules. Tom stated that he may not be in a position to organise the Skyline next year as it is a time when he frequently takes a holiday.
8. Will Spain has agreed to be a distant race organizer with regard to the Burbage skyline but the club needs a new local race organizer for this race. No one volunteered at the meeting.

9. Ian Fitz agreed to organize this years Club Championships. The dinner will be held at the Maynard Arms. The race will not be the triple crossing because of all the work on Kinder.

10. Kirsty will not be organizing this years Thornbridge weekend so Andy Barnett will be organizing it instead.

11. In any other business a request was made for the club to subsidise runners who were attending Championship events. Tom expressed a view that he was not against club funds being used to pay for transport costs for runners to compete in Championship races in Scotland or Ireland but asked for proposals which could be considered by the club committee.

The meeting ended at 10.20pm