

DPFR Committee meeting 14th September 2021

Minutes of the meeting

DRAFT

Apologies:

Rob Moore
Tom Saville
Tim Tett
Tim Rutter
Helen Elmore
Will Boothman

Attendees:

Lewis Ashton - LA - minutes
David Holmes - DH
Megan Wilson - MW
Richard Hakes - RH
Gavin Williams - GW
Simon Rippon - SR
David Arundale - DA

In Tim's absence, it was agreed that Lewis should chair the meeting.

Agenda

Agenda was agreed, based on email submissions and associated information:

Diversity
Accounts
Flag payment
Women's captancy
AGM agenda
AOB

Diversity

It was noted that Rob Moore has had a submission for the agenda of the AGM to question what the club wishes to do about diversity:

"As a club of over [300] members does DPFR do enough to increase the diversity of its membership? What more could it do? Appoint a member with responsibility for inclusion/diversity/widening participation or make this an additional responsibility of an existing committee member?"

It was felt that the committee is broadly supportive of such an initiative, but a cautionary note was sounded that the club does not wish to be seen to be political. A measured debate at the AGM was supported, recognising that it would need to be sensitively and carefully chaired. The Committee was broadly supportive of the creation of a Diversity post on the committee. Not least because diversity in age is an ever present issue for the Committee and this might be an opportunity to chip away at that.

It was felt that we should take into consideration the EA position on the subject: <https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/about-us/equality-diversity-and-inclusion/>

Accounts

DA noted that 2020 accounts have been available for some time and that should the AGM ratify them, they are in a fit state to submit to companies house immediately.

In relation to the current accounts:
Income from membership £5,768.00
Net income from kit sales £114.90
Expenditure on England Athletic fees £1,215.00
Expenditure on competition entry fees £1,620.00
Net increase in cash during 2021 so far £3,007.90
Current account balance at 13/09/2021 £22,136.41

DA pointed out that we have a significant surplus and have done so for some time. Much as it pained him, the treasurer advocated that we consider ways to spend the money that would benefit the club.

It was noted that in previous committee meetings this year we have set an ambition to run a first aid course and a mountain skills course annually, but that we have largely been scuppered by the vagaries of ever changing Covid rules. Nonetheless the committee was still supportive of these initiatives. MW noted that the younger members of the club were very keen for a possible mountain skills course.

Other options to spend money included:

- A bus to the relays at Tebay - an organiser should be sought. MW will discuss with Tom Saville at the earliest opportunity.
- Buses for championship races in 2022 - particularly Northern Ireland.
- Buses for Junior Championship races in 2022

[post meeting note] - 2020 AGM also agreed the principle of supporting (fees) for 2 entry level run leader qualifications (LiRF) and one next step qualification (CiRF).

DA raised the question of EA membership, the complexities of the requirements and virtues, alongside membership of FRA. EA being significant as individual membership costs £15. Some DPFR members pay this levy and expect EA affiliation, some do not pay but have that affiliation. Some neither pay, nor expect.

DA pointed out the club cannot cover annual EA costs for all members out of standard annual subscriptions.

SR took an action to report to the committee on the purpose, values and objectives of EA membership, and levies.

Flag

The agreement between LA and Kris Groom to buy a club flag was discussed - that this was done in haste in an attempt to get the flag before the Bradwell Juniors Race. The committee agreed to reimburse Kris the £77.29 for the flag.

LA to forward details to DA.

AGM

The agenda for the AGM was discussed,

Accounts - to be presented

Young persons development - MW is keen to see a committee position dedicated to the development of younger membership.

Women's captain - MW is to step down from the captancy. Lisa Watson has put her name forward for the roll.

Dale Skyline - GW noted that he will not be the organiser in 2022. No race has been committed to in the FRA calendar

Burbage skyline - Paul Faucett

Longshaw Sheep dog trials. Kris Groom is not organising the 2022 trials. It was noted this is not an "official" DPFR race, but we have a long history of supporting it & one of our members has always organised it.

Diversity - as was noted a member has requested a debate on this matter

AOB

Club hut.

DH reported that the club hut is currently unusable due to football equipment covering every surface and obstructing access to all areas. He felt that Gill (landlord) felt this to be an uncomfortable situation and would like to see it rectified.

It was proposed that Tim Tett use his connections with the football team to request that they address the situation as we wish to use the hut now that the nights are drawing in and the weather deteriorating. That this approach is taken should also be communicated to Gill.

Trophy reuse

DH also noted that he has deposited a box full of budgie breeding trophies in the club hut and would like to see them used as trinkets for club races or some such. These are perched in the corner. It was suggested he tweet this information to ensure the whole club knew about it.

Close

No further business.

It was requested that it be minuted that the meeting took 37 minutes to complete & that Dave could get to the pub for folk night.