



Dark Peak Fell Runners

The club for Sheffield and North Derbyshire

Dark Peak Fell Runner 2024 Annual General Meeting

Location: Norfolk Arms

Time: 20.00

Meeting Started: 20.12

Apologies

Apologies were received from Cynog Williams, David Arundale, Dominic Watts, Rob Greenwood, Jess Lishman and Lisa Watson.

Last Years Minutes

Last years minutes were prepared by James Lowe and were listed on the Club Website. Request was made for any corrections or clarifications, none were put forward. Jack Foxall proposed to adopt the minutes and this was seconded by Dalton Barham.

Chairmans Report

Tim Tett provided a report noting the clubs success over the previous year

Treasurers Report

Tim Tett provided a summary of the Treasurers Report outlining the financial position to 31st December 2023. James Lowe provided context that while the club had continue to run down it's deficit, following discussion at the 2022 AGM this was now reaching a point where a more stable balanced budget should be adopted.

Membership Report

Despina Berdeni provided a report on the membership following the adoption of SI Entries. James Lowe provided further context to the changeover between membership systems and some of the issues faced with ensuring all members transferred to the new system. It was noted that SI Entries had proved helpful and this system had helped to reduce the administrative load on the membership secretary.

Appointment of Officers and Committee Members

- Chairman – Tim Tett – reelected. – James Lowe proposed and Roy Small seconded
- Treasurer – David Arundale – reelected – Tom Westgate proposed and Roy Small seconded
- Secretary – James Lowe stood down from the position and proposed Guy Ward to take on the role. No other candidate was put forward. This was seconded by Alex Welbourne.
- Membership Secretary – Following the 2023 AGM Despina Berdeni and Rob Greenwood had adopted this post with approval by the Committee. They proposed to continue in the role on a joint basis.
- Mens Captain – Tom Saville – remained in post.
- Womens Captain – Lisa Watson – remained in post.
- Junior Coordinator – Mark Whitworth – remained in post. Mark gave an overview of the support required in the role and that he had requested extra support to assist the junior officer. This was mainly around the administration needed to support the group which typically was split into two. Pete Hart had



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proposed to support this role. No new committee position was created but this proposed was accepted by the AGM.

- Diversity – **position vacant** (Jess Lishman standing down). The role remained vacant with an action to advertise wider.
- Webmaster – Cynog Williams – remained in post.
- Calendar – Will Boothman – remained in post.
- Kit Officer – Richard Hakes – remained in post.
- Welfare Officer – Helen Elmore – remained in post.
- Training Officer – **position vacant** (Matthew Pickering standing down). James Lowe noted potential interest from Ben Hunter who was not present at the AGM. **Post Meeting Note: Ben Hunter later adopted the role with agreement from the committee.**
- Young Persons Development – **position vacant**. The role remained vacant with an action to advertise wider.

Club Directors

One Director (Megan Wilson) stood down from the role. David Hakes was put forward for the role and accepted by the AGM.

Club President

The role remained with Graham Berry with agreement that he undertake the role for one further year.

Race Organiser Reports

- Edale Skyline – Mark Jones shared a report on the event.
- Burbage Skyline – Outline given of race being adopted again for 2024 with support from the National Trust around the new course following changes from 2022 where Cattle on the course caused issues.
- Longshaw Sheepdog Trials – David Hakes highlighted the 200 person runner limit from National Trust with 180 runners attended. He noted a number of runners varied off route. In order to make the race run again he noted the need for 25 volunteers to support.
- Edale Country Show – A request was made for volunteers to support the running of the event.

Upcoming Club Events

- The annual BG Weekend was proposed from the 21st – 23rd June with three prospective candidates.
- Bamford Weekend, this was again proposed to be held on the weekend of 16th - 18th August.
- Club Dinner + Champs - 25th November. An offer was made by David Sykes to act as race organiser.

Modifications to the Club Hut

An overview was given on the plans to redevelop the club hut which were put on pause in Q4 2023 following the death of long term Sportsman Landlady Jill. It was noted there was no formal agreement between the club and the pub and hence a financial outlay in improvement of the hut needed careful consideration to avoid lost costs. It was noted that new tenants were in place but longevity would be reliant on the success of the pub, with a 6 month break clause in place.



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Club Disciplinary Policy

James Lowe gave an overview of the development of the Club's Disciplinary Policy to help ensure a process was in place to protect the club in cases where the club's reputation would be brought into disrepute. It was noted the policy did not attempt to deal with matters of the law. It was proposed this policy would be linked to the disclaimer signed when joining the club. David Holmes queries why the policy was required and James Lowe noted that the policy was there to provide a framework for Directors to manage an issue to avoid a dispute.

Training and Coaching

It was noted that the revival of David Taylors' Tuesday Night Coaching sessions had been a success and were proposed to be revived on a "block" basis during seasons where demand was expected to be highest.

Young Persons Development

James Lowe introduced the topic and briefing paper summarising committee discussions throughout 2023 and 2024. The key question raised was about integration of older juniors and whether some element of the Wednesday night club run should be adapted to accommodate them. A wide ranging debate was held offering a number of viewpoints notably;

- The need to socialise juniors with the wider ethos of the club
- The risk of excluding juniors
- The need to manage juniors workload to avoid overtraining
- The role of parental responsibility.
- Avoiding a reliance on members having to look after juniors
- Legal Safeguarding rules.
- The club's sign in process
- The desire from junior runners to be involved.

It was noted that many clubs were wrangling with similar issues following adoption of new safeguarding rules and Mark Whitworth noted that there needed to be an overall policy for developing juniors runners and retaining them in senior Fell Running.

A vote was held on whether the committee should further consider integration of Junior Runners into Wednesday night runs which was approved by the AGM. Lewis Ashton requested any policy created be shared for consultation with members.

The meeting closed at 21.29.