COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: TIME / VENUE: CHAIR:

2nd September 2024 7pm, Bridget's House Gemma Wardle (GW)

IN ATTENDANCE

Gemma Wardle (GW)Chair Chris Lees (CL)Head Coach Lynn Inglis (LI) Secretary (Minute Taker) Bridget Wilson (BW2) Committee Member Michelle Slade (MS) Committee Member Sara Sherwood (SS) Committee Member

APOLOGIES

Graham Finlay (GF) Treasurer Alice Inglis (AI) Membership Secretary Nigel Haresign (NH) Committee Member Ruth Hancock (RH) Committee Member Becky Williams (BW1) Committee Member

Item	Discussion	Action / Timescale
	GW welcomed members and opened the meeting.	
	Apologies noted.	
1	Review of actions from previous meeting:	
	Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) status.	
	GW, in the absence of GF, updated the committee that our CASC application was formally approved with effect from 5 th June 2024. There are two immediate advantages to this status, firstly, we can	Action
	now claim gift aid on any donations to the club; second, our reporting requirements at the year-end are much more simplified, and we no longer need to worry about corporation tax due on	completed
	operating finances.	
	Bedale Car Boot Sale.	
	The club's 2024 application was discussed by those present and it	Action
	was agreed that as we now hold CASC status GW should request a meeting with the car boot sale working party. Responses will be	GW/AI/ RH
	prepared to the questions asked of the two members who attended	ASAP

the original town council meeting with regards to the club's eligibility to be part of the draw. In addition, GW will explain the community focused ethos of the club and why we are very much a part of the Bedale community. GW will also review the numbers of club members that live in Bedale.

Al and RH will be invited to accompany GW to the meeting.

• Benefactor's financial support for junior members.

There has been one expression of interest which CL will follow up.

Northallerton bases for pre and post run sessions.

CL advised that he has received no contact from the community hub, The Living Rooms in Northallerton, therefore the club will continue to meet at the Leisure Centre.

CL also advised that grants may be available for a custom-built building by leasing the land from the council and with the potential to share with other clubs.

 England Athletics safeguarding requirement, of how we select and appoint coaches.

CL discussed that we have a responsibility to ensure the due diligence process is followed for both coaches with existing licenses and those wishing to be appointed in the future. This could include for example obtaining references.

CL will draft a guidance document.

• Draft of the new policy, - Managing complaints, comments or issues relating to the club.

The number of members attending the meeting was too small to constitute a quorum to agree the acceptance of the policy. Therefore, it was agreed that the draft will be posted in the committee WhatsApp group for members to review and vote.

2nd September 2024.

Post committee meeting WhatsApp poll.

Should we accept the new policy, - managing complaints, comments or issues relating to the club.

Committee votes result: Votes 8 from 11 in favour of the accepting the new policy.

 Spending retained club funds for the benefit of juniors / the purchase of athletics equipment. To update at next meeting on 2nd December 2024

Action CL

To update at next meeting on 2nd December 2024.

Action CL

To update at next meeting on 2nd December 2024.

Action CL

To update at next meeting on 2nd December 2024

Action GW Completed

Action completed.

Action completed.

CL will liaise with GF regarding a list of equipment to purchase.

 A central system for maintaining a list of kit stock items and items sold.

CL advised that this facility is on the system and just requires some modification.

Action completed.

Coats for coaches.

Coats have now been purchased from a new supplier for the three new coaches.

Action completed.

First Aid Training.

GW reported that at the recent coaching team meeting there was a lot of interest expressed for further training.
GW will source a list of trainers and prices and put together a proposal and liaise with GF.

Action GW
To update at
next meeting on
2nd December
2024.

• Competitive Team Manager.

This role is currently held by CL, although one coach has expressed an interest. However, it was agreed that it would be discussed again prior to the 2025 AGM and role changes. It was agreed that the role does not need to stand with a committee member.

Action completed.

LI to add to 2025 pre-AGM meeting agenda. Completed.

2 Committee Members' Reports.

• Chair's Report - GW

There were no questions relating to the Chair's report, which is available to view on the HARC website.

• Head Coach's Report - CL

There have been eight recordable incidents this year, therefore there will be a change in how sessions are now led. Every session will now have two coaches, even if the numbers are less than 12. However, the lead coach does have the discretion to decline the second coach, if for example it is for a short run and not off road.

Coaches will now carry a standardised first aid kit and a more comprehensive one for longer routes. CL advised that there will be a first aid kit held at Northallerton Leisure Centre, but he will check if one is held at the Dales Centre that could be used if required.

Check availability of first aid kit at

Dales Centre

Action CL

CL advised that England Athletics are now requesting a higher level of first aid training for coaches.

Two new coaches will be joining the team, Sam Scarlett and John Leeson. John will predominately lead sessions from Northallerton. However, he has suggested that there will be the potential for members to join community sessions he already holds on Fridays at Hutton Rudby.

It was highlighted that some meet site locations on the website still state Bedale Park and requires updating to the Dales Centre.

• Treasurer's Report 2023/2024 – summarised by GW in the absence of GF.

The report highlighted the successful application for CASC status and outlined the benefits to the club.

Since 1st April 2024, the club's financial position has improved by a further £1200, again primarily from an influx of further membership fees – nearly 50 members have joined / rejoined since then. In addition, from the purchase of kit.

Increased membership and more events mean a greater volume of transactions highlighting that the current financial software system no longer has the functionality to process this effectively – it was originally selected because of its interface with PayPal, but this feature no longer exists, so that each transaction requires multiple entries. Therefore, GF proposes to look at alternatives to bring to the Committee in due course.

The number of members attending the meeting was too small to constitute a quorum to approve the year end accounts prior to submission to HMRC. Therefore, it was agreed that the accounts would be posted in the committee WhatsApp group for members to approve and vote.

2nd September 2024. Post committee meeting, WhatsApp group Poll:

The committee formally accept and approve the 2023/24-year end accounts for submission to HMRC.

Committee votes result: Votes 10 from 11 in favour of approving the year end accounts.

• Membership – LI in the absence of AI

HARC memberships continue to steadily grow, and we now have 102 members.

Action CL

Ensure correct meet locations appear

Action GF
Investigate new accounting software

Action GW Completed

Action Completed CL requested AI to check the number of over 18-year-old members as this may be relevant for our London Marathon applications.

Action Al

By 1st October 2024

Grants and Income – LI

The Grants and Income team continue to discuss new ideas to raise funds for the club.

The team wish to apply to Groundwork UK (Tesco) however if we are to be successful, we need an eye catching subject to capture the attention of shoppers. CL suggested piloting a dementia friendly running group and we could encourage other clubs to become involved, especially as this will eventually become a national activity. CL agreed to put together a proposal and send to the G&I Team. If members have any further suggestions to contact AI, LI or BW1.

Heck Community Fund is another possible source of funding, but again we need a defined aim or project before approaching the company with what support or funding we are asking for. It was felt that they may be open to sponsoring an event. GW suggested the HARC Angel event and funding of the medals. LI will liaise with AI and BW1 with regards to a potential proposal.

Easyfundraising continues to be a good source of income for the club, but we still only have 28 members signed up. However, with now over 100 members our earning potential could be much higher.

Those present at the meeting suggested the following ideas to encourage members and their families to sign up;

- > SS to continue to include reminders on the HARC FB page.
- Include details in the welcome pack for new members.
- > Pin on the HARC website.
- Monthly email from AI to all members when new lists become available of special offers.
- Members to contact AI for the set-up process membership@harck.uk
- Welfare Report MS

MS advised that she has contacted 27 members and reached out to five due to injury / bereavement.

'Pocket hug' key rings have been handed out to some members and have been well received.

There have been no conduct or early intervention issues.

Inspirational messages have been posted on the members WhatsApp group.

The welfare team - MS, AI and CL are available to support members.

Action CL/ all committee

By 1st October 2024.

Action G&I Team.

ASAP

<Actions

3 Social and Fundraising Team Update:

Awards night, Saturday 28th September

Currently 38 tickets have been sold. Coaches will be asked to encourage members to attend. Nominations for the club awards will soon be shared with members so this may encourage more to attend the event.

The closing date for the purchase of tickets is 14th September and will open to partners one week ahead of closing.

Juniors under 16 years must be accompanied by one parent / carer, but this will also be opened to 2 parents / carers.

It was suggested that one way of raising extra funds for our annual charity, The Dales Centre, was by holding a raffle at the awards night. GW and BW2 agreed to liaise with local companies for donations and would ensure their donation was acknowledged. It was agreed that the raffle tickets should be sold in advance, therefore open to members not attending the event.

- Quiz Night: Date and more details to be confirmed.
- Christmas Party: Saturday 7th December. Details to be confirmed.

Action GW/BW2
Organize raffle

4 HARC Kit

Junior hoodies

At the last committee meeting it was suggested that for easier recognition / safeguarding, junior hoodies should not be blue. SS passed around to the committee examples of different colours of hoodies that are available. She has also asked some junior girls for their preference, which was orange. However, GW felt that a variation of blue was preferable to match in with HARC colours. Therefore, SS to source a Hawaiian blue sample and discuss further with the kit subcommittee.

• Junior girls kit.

SS discussed the difficulty in sourcing reasonably priced junior girls kit as Scimitar is expensive and only available to order in quantities of 100. It was suggested asking other clubs for their junior kit source and if appropriate for purchase, to then have our own logo added.

Caps.

Again, Scimitar only supply in large quantities and would be royal blue. It was suggested that white was a preferable colour and easier to source allowing our own logo to be added by Design and Stitch, where the minimal order is for 1 item. SS to request a sample.

Action SS/ kit sub-committee to discuss all items and advise club as appropriate.

Update at next meeting on 2nd December 2024.

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	A return kit box for juniors.	
	As juniors grow out of kit it could be donated / swapped. It was suggested that a small monetary donation for kit was offered towards the club charity. The kit sub-committee to discuss further.	
	Running jackets.	
	SS to source and order.	
	Other kit items.	
	It was discussed that other kit items could be made available and include, water bottles, car stickers (carefully designed), car shades, running backpacks.	
	HARC logo mugs.	
	GW will research this item on behalf of the sub-committee.	
5	Awards Night	
	The awards sub-committee met on 12 th August and agreed that they would compare the presentations, allowing CL and GW the opportunity to socialise throughout the evening. However, they were asked to each present one award of their choosing.	
	The remaining awards will be presented by guest Shelli Gordon from Let's Run. There will be awards to keep for both winner and the runner up.	
	The sub-committee also offered their thoughts on junior awards for 2025 which will include:	
	 Kid GOTY (Male / Female) determined from club data. The Pebble, determined from club data. The Flourishing Acorn, voted by coaches. 	
	CL also discussed encouraging juniors to attend parkruns, however it was accepted that this could put pressure on parents / carers.	
6	London Marathon Ballot in preparation for Awards Night.	
	CL advised that there are currently nine members in the ballot, however he will be rechecking their eligibility. GW will be devising the timing of the ballot as part of the awards night planning.	Action CL & GW ASAP
7	AOB.	
	No items to discuss.	

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 2^{nd} December, 7pm. HARC HQ.