



Annual General Meeting Minutes

2nd March, 7pm

Dales Centre

Attendees:

Gemma Wardle (chair)
Erin Marley (minutes)
Alice Inglis
Amy McDougall
Bridget Wilson
Chris Lees
Garry Smithies
Graham Finlay
Nick Wilson
Rebecca Cobby
Richard Slade
Joanne Sinnott
Kate Stead

Rose Kirk
Ruth Hancock
Sara Sherwood
Sarah France
Ste Moon
Tracey Wise
Lindsey Mildren
Marc Blair
Michelle Slade

1. Welcome and introduction

Gemma welcomed the attendees and noted thanks for those who had given their apologies.

2. Chair's annual report

Gemma summarised her written annual report. She noted that a club of what was 6 people less than 6 years ago has grown to be the club it is today with over 130 members. Gemma thanked the members, the coaching team, volunteers and the committee for creating a club that fosters a culture of togetherness and support. Gemma will be stepping down from being Chair after 4 years and expressed how important it is that the committee has new members. If anyone is interested in being on the committee or taking on a volunteer role, please speak with one of the committee members. Gemma also thanked those committee members who were stepping down this year for their contributions so far.

The club has raised just over £1053 for Hambleton Community Action, which was our chosen charity for 2025/6.

The full written Chair's report is available on the [HARC website](#).

3. Treasurer's annual report

Graham summarised his written annual report. We currently have reserves of circa £2000 in our bank account. Graham echoed Gemma's sentiments regarding new committee members and offered shadowing to anyone who may want to take on the Treasurer role in future.



Erin asked if the £2000 was the amount of money left after we have paid out everything that needs to be paid, such as the charity donation. Graham confirmed that yes, £2000 is after all money has been paid/sent.

Ruth asked what the plan for the money is for this year. Graham mentioned that £20 of each membership fee goes to England Athletics, as some people have already renewed their membership, some of this will need to be paid. We also subsidise events such as awards night and Christmas dinner. We may pay for some training courses for the coaching team this year. Other costs are equipment, track fees, and the cost of hire for the Dales Centre.

The full written Treasurer's report is available on the [HARC website](#).

4. Membership Secretary's written annual report

Gemma provided an overview of Alice's written annual report.

We currently have 137 members. This number may drop off slightly towards the end of June as England Athletics allow a membership grace period. Membership usually rises again after this throughout the year.

England Athletics has a code of conduct that all members should read and agree to. Please log into your England Athletics account, where you can read and agree via a pop up.

Gary asked if we know how many members are active. Chris said we track the unactive members as they get welfare support. We also track member appearances in a year. However, we don't have a description of "active" that would allow us to track this.

Ste asked if you pay the same membership fee whenever you join in the year? Chris confirmed that you do. Ruth added that a large portion of the membership fee goes to EA, and their fee is not pro-rata'd. The membership year ends on 31 March, however EA allows a grace period ending on 30 June. You must have renewed your membership by this date to remain a club member.

The only exception to this is that under 12s joining after September get a discount for their first year, as the athletics season has already ended.

Tracey asked if we get a reminder for membership. Alice does send these and will send a reminder soon.

The full Membership Secretary's written annual report is available on the [HARC website](#).

5. Head Coach's written annual report

We have welcomed Garry, Richard and Ste to our coaching team this year. Mike has completed his Coach in Running Fitness qualification, and Michelle has completed her Coaching Assistant and is on-track to complete her Athletics Coach (Jumps) qualification soon. Our own expanded licensed coach team (CiRFs and Athletics Coaches) taking on more 1-1 coaching will provide further opportunities, and in 2025-26 the coaching team will be running a series of classrooms sessions



Erin asked who the coaches were. Our full coaching team is shown below:

Coach	LIRF	Coaching Assistant	CIRF	Athletics Coach	Event Group / Performance Coach
Chris Lees	✓	✓	✓	✓ (Throws)	✓ (Endurance)
Michelle Slade	✓	✓	✓	(in progress)	
Nige Haresign	✓		✓		
Mike Hollinshead	✓		✓		
Gemma Wardle	✓				
Jaanne Sinnott	✓				
Nick Wilson ²	✓				
Ruth Hancock	✓				
Marc Blair	✓				
Sam Scarlett	✓				
Garry Smithies	✓				
Richard Slade ²	✓				
Ste Moon	✓				
Long-term sabbatical:					
Alice Inglis	✓	✓			

¹ Excluding programmes like couch to 5k.
² Not coaching due to injury at time of writing

The full written Head Coach’s report is available on the [HARC website](#).

6. Grants & Income report

Gemma provided a report on grants and income. We were unfortunately not successful in the draw for the Bedale car boot sales for 2026. However, future fundraising is planned with tesco “blue tokens” which will be based in Northallerton Tesco.

Easy fundraising has raised £304.60 since the last AGM (March 2025). About 1/3 of members are signed up for this. It is really easy and costs club members nothing, so please speak to Alice for more information. Since we have started using it in 2023 it has raised £941.51 in total.

The full grants and income annual report is available on the [HARC website](#).

7. Nominations and election of committee

Elected committee members

Twelve people nominated themselves to be on the committee and were elected for 2026/2027. They are:

- Chair - Chris Lees
- Treasurer - Graham Finlay
- Membership Secretary - Alice Inglis
- Head Coach - Chris Lees
- Secretary - Erin Marley
- General Committee - Michelle Slade
- General Committee - Rebecca Cobby
- General Committee - Sara Sherwood
- General Committee - Sarah France
- General Committee - Lynette Sowerby
- General Committee - Rose Kirk



Gemma welcomed Sarah France, Lynette Sowerby and Rose Kirk to the committee. She also thanked Rebecca Cobby and Michelle Slade for volunteering as Mental Health Champions, Chris Lees for volunteering as Running Events Coordinator, Sara Sherwood for volunteering as Kit coordinator & fundraising, Ruth Hancock for volunteering as Parkrun Liaison, Gemma Wardle and Bridget Wilson for volunteering for social & fundraising. Teams and roles will be discussed and allocated at the next committee meeting.

A full list of committee members and volunteers can be found on the [HARC website](#).

8. Shortlisted charity nominations for voting

Our short list was:

- a. <https://www.northdale.org.uk>- Receiving 2 votes from members present.
- b. <https://rdabedalegroup.org.uk> – Receiving 1 vote from members present.
- c. <https://communityworks.uk> – Receiving 2 votes from members present.
- d. <https://www.herrioth.org.uk> – receiving 17 votes from members present.

As it received the most votes, Herriot Hospice has been selected as our charity to support for 2026/7.



HAMBLETON
ATHLETICS & RUNNING CLUB

