

## **Minutes of Macclesfield Harriers & AC AGM**

**1<sup>st</sup> April at 7pm – Macclesfield Rugby Club**

**1. Apologies** – Barbara Murray, Mark Wheelton, Michael Thorley.

**2. Opening address – Bob Lynch (President)**

Thank you for attending this evening. With your help and any necessary input, I hope we can hold a short successful AGM.

Just as a reminder, it is now 3 years since we were last able to hold a face to face AGM. Obviously, we have continued to operate through the officers of the club. Last year we returned to a modified form of training and enjoyed a shortened competition season. Hence the ability tonight to present some but not all of our annual awards.

We aim to adapt and evolve so that our diverse club can thrive again. The events of the last two plus years has meant we have had to change some of the ways we operate. We continue to rely very heavily on an army of volunteers (80+) and the need for new people to assist never goes away. We need to recruit key people in specific roles as some volunteers understandably now wish to step back. Personally, I will be unable to continue to support the club to the same extent from now on.

The new website has now been operating for 9 months and my personal thanks to Neil Gunn, Gillian Lindsay, and Ewan Edmundson for getting it completed. It would not have happened without them.

It remains to be seen what events we can put on in 2022, but there appears to be no shortage of races and competitions this year.

Although the club made a small financial loss last year due to higher costs associated with hosting T&F competitions, virtual education courses, and the new website, we are planning to break even or better this year.

We have reviewed a number of policies and job descriptions as required by EA.

In conclusion, I would urge you to continue to support the club and to pull together, so that we are able to prosper as confidence continues to return.

**3. Financial position/comments – Mark Godden (Treasurer)**

### Summary

The Club made a small operating loss in 2021, as there was a deliberate policy to adopt a 'break even' budget, in order to keep membership subscriptions as low as possible during

the pandemic. However, our financial position remains strong; the club has net assets of £88k.

- Turnover remains 30% below pre-pandemic levels
- No club events (races, AGM etc), took place
- Completion of the club website upgrade

### Membership

As at 31 December 2021 the club membership was (2020 figures in brackets):

Senior members affiliated to EA:	319 (279)
Senior/social members not affiliated to EA:	145 (143)
Senior Life members:	40 (40)
Junior members (all affiliated to EA):	183 (195)
Total membership:	687 (660)

### Points of detail

- Total club gross assets of £88.3k, including £81.8k cash and £6.5k physical assets
- Coaching costs (£1.6k), increased slightly in 2021, but were well below normal annual levels, due to the pandemic.
- Track & Field events took place during the summer; however numbers of entries remained below pre-pandemic levels.
- Macc Runfest, 'Not Langley Not 7', Forest 5 and 'Terry's High 5', did not take place in 2021. These events may take place in 2022.
- No trophies or prizes were awarded and no AGM was held in 2021.

#### **4. Macclesfield Athletics Development Fund (MADF) – Simon Frith on behalf of Barbara Murray ( Track & Field Manager)**

The Macclesfield Athletics Development Fund (MADF) is a registered charity, separate from the Harriers, which supports the development of athletics for all the people of Macclesfield and the surrounding area regardless of age, ability, experience, club affiliation or not.

At the last (pre-pandemic) AGM in 2019, we gave an update that in August of 2019, we were expecting work to start on construction of an Indoor Athletics Facility adjacent to the track as the Council had confirmed a budget of £600K for this work. Alongside this funding, MADF would contribute £100K to add to the specification of the facility. However, for a variety of reasons, the Council budget was overspent on other aspects of the upgrade of the leisure centre, such that we understand they only have around £120K remaining of the £600K allocated. The MADF fund of £100K remains intact. It has to be said that after many, many years of trying, it looks increasingly unlikely that our aims of a full indoor athletics facility, will be realised in the near future without a significant change in the Council and ESARs approach. This leaves us with the task of considering what would be the best use of the £100K raised by MHAC and the Community. We must bear in mind that the Charitable fund must benefit athletics for all in the community, therefore the ideal would be to support

development of the facility - whether that be through renewing the equipment, such as the hurdles which are now well over 20 years old and due for replacement, looking at establishing photo finish equipment and other equipment which would be used by all groups using the track.

Kevin Ranshaw recently stepped down as MADF Treasurer when he moved away from the area, therefore we are looking to recruit a new treasurer - this is quite a straightforward role, requiring just a few hours per year. In addition, we would like to recruit a new trustee with time and enthusiasm will help to move things forward. If you are interested in either of these roles, please speak with Bob, Simon or Barbara.

We would also like to hear your ideas of how to progress with the Development Fund - eg keep it active and keep pushing for an Indoor Facility or look at best use of the fund if there is no possibility of building an indoor facility. We offer our heartfelt thanks to all Macclesfield Harriers and members of the public who have raised funds for MADF over the years, and assure them the funds will be used for the development of athletics in the Macclesfield Area.

#### **5. Election of Officers and vacant positions.**

Thanks were given to Lynne Graves (Secretary) and Rob Hasler ( Men's Cross Country Manager ) , as both stepped down from their positions.

All existing officers were re-elected and Kim Eastham was elected Secretary.

Positions vacant:

- Chairperson
- Welfare Officer
- Publicity Officer
- Men's Cross Country Manager
- Track & Field Manager (Barbara Murray standing down at the end of 2022)

There are summary role profiles available for each of the above vacancies. Please contact Kim Eastham ([Secretary@macclesfield-harriers.co.uk](mailto:Secretary@macclesfield-harriers.co.uk)) if you would like to discuss any position or receive any further information.

#### **6. AOB**

a) The club awards & achievements were announced by each of the section heads. A full list of the recipients can be found on the club website.

b) Since our last AGM was held (2019), four very dear club members have passed away. Barry Blyth, Fred Lawton, Jenny Brammer and Sarah Stockman. We remember all of them as friends and with great fondness.

c) Track & Field Open Meeting will be held at the track on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. Cake donations are required please. All proceeds go to club funds. Please contact Becky Alvarez if you can help/donate cake!

d) Given the news that Bob Lynch will be scaling back his work for the club with immediate effect (but continuing as Club President), Becky Alvarez led a very warm thank you to him for his massive contribution to the club. Attendees responded with a standing ovation.