

Final Minutes of Macclesfield Harriers Committee Meeting

Thursday April 24th at 7pm

Macclesfield Leisure Centre

Attendees – Keith Mulholland [KM], Bob Lynch [BL], Ian Humphreys [IH], Mark Godden [MG], Mark Wheelton [MW], Kelly Buckley [KB], Dan Hunsley [DH], Craig Birch [CB], Kim Eastham [KE]

1. **Apologies** – Rachel Gilliland [RG], Emma Lord [EL], Ruth Groarke [RG], Tom Whittington [TW].

2. Previous minutes were accepted.

3. **Welfare & First Aid reporting**

- a. Case 4 is ongoing. EA have progressed to a formal disciplinary hearing.
- b. There have been no incidents or accidents reported since the last meeting.
- c. Some of the club closed facebook groups have received requests from junior members to join. Following discussions, the committee agreed primarily on safeguarding and welfare grounds:
 - i. The facebook groups should only accept requests from 18's and over only. **Action – All Section leads to cascade to administrators.**
 - ii. Formal club group runs [for all Road groups, Trail and Fell] will be for 18's and over only. – **All Section leads to cascade to all run leaders.**

4. **Correspondence [KE/KM]**

- a. Chris Jones and Sarah Friday [England Athletics] will be visiting the club on 15th May, time tbc. **Action KM**

5. **Finance and Membership [MG]**

- a. Club accounts show a balance of £15,441 from £7,714 at the beginning of January. This is due to membership renewal.

- b. Senior membership renewals are currently 293 against a figure of 476 for last year.
Junior membership renewals are currently 126 against a figure of 207 for last year.
Track passes stand at 67 against a figure of 91 for 2024.
Renewal reminders will be sent – **Action MG**
- c. The cost of the AGM [including trophies, medals & vouchers] was £3100. The cost of trophies and medals was £1407 and this was a significant increase upon last year. The committee agreed that this cost would need to be reviewed for the next AGM. **Action – All led by KM**
- d. MG confirmed that all EA affiliations & league payments have been completed. There was a brief discussion regarding fees / payments for the newly established Cheshire Grand Prix – **Action DH**

6. Section Updates

Road Running [OM]

Good attendance at club calendar races continues.

OM recently held a positive, leaders meeting. The leader position for all groups has improved, however this continues to be a work in progress.

D group attendance at the Friday session continues to be low. As an alternative, leaders [when available] will look to attend the Teggs Monday sessions & post as a D group session. Fridays will continue to be advertised if leaders are available. This will be reviewed at the end of summer.

First Aid kits are available for all leaders from the clubhouse.

A brief checklist & next steps for all newly qualified leaders to be drafted – **Action OM**

Trail Running [KB]

Trail sessions have been amended to a session every 3 or 4 weeks [on a Saturday]. These have been well received & attended.

There is a challenge of leader availability. Options will be considered. **Action KB**

Cross Country [EL]

Nothing of note to report at this point in the calendar.

Fell Running [TW]

No update submitted.

Track and Field [DH]

- Entries for the 1st round of the Cheshire Grand Prix are 35 [over 75 events]. This is an improvement in numbers from last year.
- 24th May – Cheshire Grand Prix is held at Macclesfield. Mobile Wi-Fi is required for the new software results package – **Action DH**

- CB has been appointed the Coach Development Co-ordinator. CB delivered a presentation to the committee on the draft coach development plan for the T & F coaches. The plan looks to provide justification and key principles for developing an approach to T & F coaching.

The draft presentation is attached & looks to answer the 'what & why', the change[s] are necessary.

Comments and thoughts are welcomed from the committee. Please send to DH via trackandfield@macclesfield-harriers.co.uk & copy KM via the chair@macclesfield-harriers.co.uk – **Action All**

The plan will be developed over the coming months & CB will attend the August meeting to provide an update and further detail – **Action CB/DH**

There will be a set of meetings, starting in May with the T & F coaches to appraise them and gain feedback to inform the plan – **Action DH**

- BL provided a short update on MADF. A meeting was recently held between all interested parties, namely Everybody Sport and MADF trustees. The current [reduced] proposal is that drainage of the track in-field will be carried out to enable a full-size football pitch to be established. The MADF trustees reiterated the need for a whole track refurbishment if the facility is to continue to meet the Trackmark review in 2026 [and futureproof competition].

There will be another meeting later this summer – **Action BL**

7. Club Colours [RG – written submission]

All vests have successfully been moved online to DP Sports and members are now purchasing directly. Members can also purchase hoodies [personalised], online. There is also a zipped hoodie option available soon.

Men's short sleeved t-shirts are on order and will be added to the online shop soon.

Long sleeved tops & bobble hats are available to purchase from Ruth at the clubhouse.

8. Website Health Check [KM]

A health check report was conducted by Neil Gunn and submitted to the committee for information and review.

The committee discussed the data. It is clear that the Section leaders role has widened and undertaking all parts of the role is a challenge. Ensuring social media information is current and relevant is not always a priority during busy periods. Leaders should look to try and share the load of some tasks with volunteers within their sections. Action – **All Section leads**

9. AGM feedback and organisation [KM]

The AGM was very well attended this year and it is felt that a new larger venue should be sought for 2026, with a potential date of Friday 27th March. There was some discussion

regarding having separate awards evenings for the Juniors and Seniors. The general feedback at this point was to continue to plan for one club awards evening.

Subject to costs, the Tytherington Club is a potential venue for the space the club requires. **Action KE**

After a number of years playing a key part in the organising of the AGM, Charlie Bird has stepped down for this role. We thank Charlie for all of her hard work. A volunteer is now required to pick up this role. **Action KM**

10. MND Fundraising [KE]

KE will be the link for the fundraising group into the committee and will provide updates.

For information the fundraising group members are; Alison Gunn, Mel Power, Fran Swallow & Rachel Gilliland.

The committee was saddened to hear about the MND diagnosis of club member Brian West. The committee agreed with the proposal for joint fundraising in both the names of Rob Hasler and Brian West. The funds raised from the club raffle [In March], will however be ringfenced as this was all carried out in Robs name.

The fundraising group are in discussion with Run NorthWest to hold a 'Track Mile' event in the next few months. The group are provisionally looking to hold this on a Tuesday or Thursday. **Action KE to update DH/all on date when available**

The committee agreed that the donation for supplying marshals for the Wilmslow HM will be donated to the fundraising pot, as will any donation received in relation to supplying marshals for the Macclesfield HM/Macclesfield Runfest, later this year.

11. A.O.B

Club social media 'public facing' posts [OM].

We have volunteers who do some great work on our social channels. However, there are no clear guidelines regarding adverts and promotions on our club socials [Website, Facebook and Instagram].

The agreed proposal - Any external event or organisation which is promoted via our social channels should be accompanied by a message stating, 'this is not affiliated with Macclesfield Harriers & AC'. Posts advertising businesses without any 'event' attached, should be discouraged. **Action OM to discuss with the relevant volunteers**

Club supported races

It was agreed that when there is a club supported event/ race [for example Rainow 5], that group runs should be cancelled and runners encouraged to enter, marshal and/or support. **Action All Section leaders**

Club Constitution

An amendment was passed at the AGM to the Club constitution, regarding a co-chair option for the club chair position. **Action RG to update.**

12. Date for next committee meetings

Agreed as – Wednesday 25/6 at 7pm

Wednesday 27/8 at 7pm

Thursday 30/10 at 7pm