

## **South Molton Strugglers**

### **Minutes of the AGM held at the Assembly Rooms on 20 November 2019.**

#### **Present**

Eve Plummer, Andrew Jones, Ted Townsend (Chair), Sam Parkhouse, Nik Whalley, Victor Gough, Helen Gough, Phil Rycroft, Nancy Tapia, Mike Clark, Lisa Adamson, Jo Bindloss Gibb, Caroline Shapland, Sue Carter, Tony Collyer, Mary Ellen Whalley, Jon Hibberd, Neil Brown, Neil Partridge, Richard Connett, Amanda Britten, Paul Cooke, Abi Hanafin.

#### **Apologies**

John Carter, James Henderson, Fiona Corrick, Jo Bradley, Julie Colman, Jack Batchelor, Emma Bills, Lucy Smith, Penny Chbat, Chris Simpson, Paula Duffy.

#### **Chairmans Report**

"It's been a great year and obviously some individuals have been key contributors, but the real success is that everyone in the Club has made it great, so I'm going to try not to highlight individuals and will instead concentrate on key Club activities.

And now I will immediately break my own rule and mention some individuals. We started the year without a formal Committee – something I wasn't too keen on as it put me firmly in the firing line to be blamed for everything – but 5 Club stalwarts came forward to guide me through the year. They were Nik Whalley (Men's Captain & Chief Coach), Sam Parkhouse (Ladies' Captain), Richard Connett (Webmaster & System Controller), Andrew Jones (Treasurer) and James Simmons (Deputy Chair) – and my personal thanks go to them.

#### **Membership:**

At the end of last year we had 97 paid-up members and that has now increased to 109, a good increase helped by the successful Beginners Sessions that started in early Spring.

It's worth noting that although we have 109 paid-up members, we have 138 names in our Grand Prix table, so apparently we have a few so-called members who are not!

#### **Regular Events / Series:**

The Three Bridges (Summertime) Series became No Bridges this year, with a better and safer course; and Streetlights continued successfully during the dark nights.

As usual we were well represented at the North Devon Relays and had some notable performances, although we failed to win any age categories this year.

And of course the Grand Prix was great as an overall record of performances.

#### **Club Teams:**

We competed in:

Gliddon & Squire Cross Country – well represented, had a team at 5 of the 6 events

Wessex Ridgeway Relay – we were winners again (3rd successive year)

Tavy 7 – winning team (and Ross Shield, but subject to a steward's enquiry!)

Club Organised Races:

Castle Hill Corker: It was another hugely successful sell out event, thanks to the Race Director and everyone who pitched in to help make it such a success.

New races: We gave initial thought to the creation of a new race or races, but it's a big job – so still a long way to go!

Social:

We had all the usual highly successful events:

- Xmas Streetlights last December
- Xmas Party last December
- Sandyway 10K

Also a 'social canter' along the Coast Path (North Devon AONB Relay) – in awful conditions

And a great day at the Stowford Deer Dash (highly recommended for next year)

Club Finances:

In excellent shape (see separate Report). Overall Net Worth (funds held less liabilities) is now a little over £9,000 – at a similar level to last year.

In Conclusion:

Thanks to all you volunteers who organised events and other activities. You made 2018/19 a highly successful year.”

### **Treasurers Report**

Report up to the end of September. We have sold lots of club kit this year but now pay £500 for the Assembly Rooms. We have £1000 in reserve for future expenditure and £9000 in the Race Account and will gift some of this to charity in 2020. Cath Gould is standing down as the Race treasurer and Andrew will take over.

### **Constitution**

Ted produced a Constitution for the Club and described the key aspects.

***Proposed by Andrew Jones, seconded by Nik Whalley it was unanimously adopted.***

## **Subscriptions**

Subs will stay at £12 for next year plus £16 for those wishing to affiliate to England Athletics.

## **Election of Officers**

Chair – Ted to stand down, Tony Collyer appointed

Secretary – Eve to stand down, Samantha Parkhouse appointed

Treasurer – Andrew Jones

Head Coach – Nik Whalley to stand down, Chris Simpson appointed

Ladies Captain – Lisa Adamson

Mens Captain – Paul Cooke

Webmaster – Richard Connett

Safeguarding – Sue Carter and Tony Collyer to assist

## ***Agreed by all***

Non Committee:

Ladies Vice – Jo Bradley

Mens Vice – Neil Brown

Social – James Hendersen

Corker – Richard Connett

Corker Deputy – Phil Rycroft

## ***Proposed by Ted, Seconded by Paul Cooke***

Publicity Officer to be elected by new committee

## **London Marathon Place**

Five people applied, Bridget Smith won, reserve was Andrew Besby

**Ted thanked Nik, Eve, James Simmons, Paula Duffy, Heather, Andrew, Jack, Chris and Cath Gould for their contributions and flowers were presented to Eve for her services as Secretary.**

The meeting closed at 8.55

## **Christmas Tree**

Paula Duffy volunteered to decorate our Christmas Tree for the Tree festival