

EVAC AGM 14:45hrs Saturday 20 Feb 2016

Tesco Community Room, Tesco Superstore, Barford Road, St Neots, PE19 2HD

Present

Brenda Russell, Cath Duhig, Courtney Gunn, George Tarrant, Maurice Hemingway, Peter Duhig & Sue Taylor

1. Apologies for Absence

Brian Graves, David Barnett, Gaye Clarke, Helen Reed, Jeff Reed, Monica Brown, Rob Lands & Tony Wells

2. Adoption of the Previous Minutes

Noted and adopted

3. Matters arising

Nil

4. Treasurer's Report

Report for 2015 accounting period had been circulated and at the AGM, evidence was provided that these had been examined and reported upon by Mapus-Smith & Lemmon LLP (Chartered Accountants) in accordance with the technical guidance issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales.

5. Membership

The membership figures were provided for the AGM and this prompted a question about the mathematics. The membership secretary responded that the figures are indicative as they are only correct on a single day in the year and it is unfortunate that the membership year is not concurrent with the financial reporting year. There are now more members than were reported as more have joined in these dying days of the membership year (1 April - 31 March).

6. Election of Officers

There were no nominations received from members when prompted by the issuing of the "Notice of AGM" for officers or committee and given that, the existing officers felt compelled to remain in post and there was no requirement for an election. That being the case Officers for 2016 are : Chair Peter Duhig; Secretary Maurice Hemingway; Treasurer Brenda Russell; Mem Sec Courtney Gunn; Comms Editor Cath Duhig.

David Barnett had indicated that he was willing to serve on the committee again. George Tarrant had previously indicated that he was willing to be a member of the committee and at the meeting Sue Taylor accepted the request of the AGM to be a member of the committee.

7. Validating Constitution

The proposed modifications to the constitution already described to the membership in eNews and the supporting papers published for the AGM were discussed and supported. Sadly because only seven members were present at the AGM, technically the AGM could not fully endorse and adopt the changes and so in the interests of common sense and pragmatism, in order to keep the club functioning, it was agreed to adopt the changes in practice and seek to formally adopt the revisions at a subsequent AGM or EGM whenever this is practicable. Again out of interest for the club and pragmatism, it was recognised that this decision could be formally challenged by a member(s), but there would need to be a minimum of ten such minded members who were also willing to continue the future management of the Athletic Club.

8. Potential Name Change to Eastern Masters Athletic Club - EMAC

The committee had undertaken a poll of the membership in the New Year to test the feeling for name change as this had been discussed a number of times in the past but failed to gain a suitable majority in favour. The poll undertaken in 2016 however revealed a very different response with a large (by the Athletic Club's standards) turnout. 123 members expressed a view with 86 (70%) supporting the change in name to Eastern Masters AC whereas 29 (24%) expressed a view to retain the name of Eastern Veterans. (Eight said that they didn't care either way). The AGM accepted that technically it could not change the constitution of the club to reflect the will of the members because of a failure to achieve a quorum (ten) but was in the dilemma that we as a club supported the name change and timing was favourable given the urgent need to order new vests and medals.

It was therefore decided that similarly to that described above, it was common-sense and pragmatic to make the modification so that the club will soon be known as Eastern Masters Athletic Club; it can order new vests, medals etc without causing waste, and will regularise the constitution at the earliest opportunity as described above.

Meeting Closed

After the meeting the Membership Sec gave a short presentation about the current state of play in respect of OpenTrack and he also gave a brief update about the various T&F events.

The Chairman spoke about the difficulty to achieve a balance in the four T&F leagues for 2016 but nevertheless was pleased with what had been achieved and planned.

The Secretary (acting Road Race Sec) announced the winners of the 2015 Road Race Championship :

- 1st Pete Johnson M60 (Ryston Runners);
 - 2nd Stephen Thompson M45 (Kettering Town Harriers);
 - 3rd Phil Martin M35 (Bushfield Joggers).
- Altogether 69 members took part.

The Secretary (acting Road Race Sec) announced the winners of the Postal Marathon 2015 :

- 1st Simon Hart M50 Havering AC (London 2:42:59) 84.85%;
 - 2nd Jo Coates F40 St Edmunds Pacers (Valencia 2:47:27) 83.44%;
 - 3rd Charles Wartenby M45 Cambs & Coleridge (London 2:40:05) 82.34%
- Altogether 12 members took part.