Avon Valley Runners Committee Meeting

Held at Trowbridge Rugby Club on Tuesday 5th April 2022



Minutes

Documents available prior to the meeting:

• Agenda

Committee members present		
Carole Alston	Carole Alston CA Safeguarding Lead	
Martin Bull	MB	Minutes Secretary
Emma Day	ED	Membership Secretary (Admin)
Sally Frawley	SF	Assistant Secretary
Joby Hobbs	JH	Committee Member
Dave Hyde	DH	Vice Chair
Gemma Knudsen	GK	Road Race Secretary
Tim Lowrie	TL	Committee Member
Richard Newman	RN	Chair
Jackie Rockliffe	JR	Committee Member
Laura Waterhouse	LW	Honorary Secretary

The Chair opened the meeting at 20.32 pm

Item	Minute			
ı	Welcome and apologies for absence. Declaration of quorum.			
	The Chair led the meeting and welcomed all.			
	Apologies for absence were received from Debbie Ellis (AVR Youth Secretary), Michael Guy (Asst Off Road Secretary), Vicky Ody (CDP Lead), Kat Taylor-Laird (Avon Valley Triathletes Secretary) and Sheona Yellowlees (Honorary Treasurer).			
	The meeting was declared quorate.			
2	Review and Approval of the minutes of the previous AVR Committee meeting			
	The minutes of the AVR Committee meeting held on 1st March 2022 were approved as a fair and accurate record of the meeting.			
	Updates on action points not covered as part of the agenda below			
	 Item 2 - First Aid Training – Delayed and ONGOING Item 4a - AVR Closed & Open Races 2022 - AVR Relay – ACTIONED – Holly Newman and Debbie Ellis have agreed be Race Directors. Item 4c - AVR Half Marathon 2021 proceeds – ACTIONED - Cheque for £2,000 will be presented to Wiltshire Air Ambulance tomorrow. Item 4d - Digital Welcome Pack - MB has made a start on it - ONGOING Item 4e - Committee emails/GDPR - Concern that we are not being GDPR compliant. – RN has spoken with Andrew Hoddinott – Chair and Secretary need to meet / improve - ONGOING 	MB Chair / Secretary		

- Item 4h London Marathon 2022 ACTIONED Information on the lack of club place for 2022 has been disseminated.
- Item 4j Updating Bank Mandate ACTIONED
- Item 5 AOB Trowbridge Rugby Club, re Caretaker / Unlocking / Cleanliness.
 ACTIONED RN has spoken to Chris Lamb at TRC who will deal with.
 Service seems better since. Members will continue to monitor.

3 Reports

Reports to provide brief update to committee, with option to circulate detailed written report via Secretary for committee to discuss as required.

a. Treasurer's report

An Income & Expenditure spreadsheet to 31.03.2022 was made available very shortly before the meeting.

Chair suggested that committee members should study after the meeting and raise any questions with Sheona Yellowlees (Honorary Treasurer) and himself.

b. Kit report

No report.

c. Membership Secretary report

ED gave a verbal report. As 1st April is the start of the new membership year it has naturally been very busy. 108 memberships were taken out in March, some of which were new. Currently have 225 paid up members, plus 25 life members.

d. Club captain reports

- Road

GK led. Quite a lot of AVR members ran the Clock Change Challenge 10k (Clane), which was the Ist race in the Wiltshire Road Race League (WRRL) for 2022. AVR results were added to the Facebook page. Waiting for Wiltshire Athletics Association to confirm the current overall standings.

- Off Road

No report / no representatives present.

- Avon Valley Triathletes (AVT)

No report / no representatives present. We are talking to rugby club about possible AVT use of track on Saturdays.

e. AVR Youth

The newsletter covers recent information and updates. Going well with Rich Ayling doing coaching. Would like to promote the club to increase the number of teenage girls in particular. May not be the best time though due to exams season; September may be a better time.

Chair reported that he has received a complaint re the name change / alleged lack of consultation. This is disputed as there was consultation with members and the change was agreed by the committee.

f. Working group reports

No report / no representatives present.

4 Committee updates and discussion

a. AVR Equipment, including Finish Funnel & Feather Flags

Need to look at the whole picture of what is needed.

Treasurer needs it to be budgeted / spent correctly.

The plan was to use the profits from the AVR Half Marathon 2021 for equipment.

Finish Funnel is not cheap but is a good investment. Current one is circa 10 years old and getting shabby. RN will redistribute the costings he received a few months ago.

Committee were generally happy to move forward with purchasing **Finish Funnel**, **Feather Flags and a Car Sticker**. Noted that Sarah Emery has given the cost of car stickers in emails to the committee.

b. Ukraine Support

RN led.

Email from Fiona Price. Fiona and Sean have discussed how Ukrainian refugees could be supported at Park run level. Remember that Parkrun is free. Refugees expected to be mainly women and children.

Possible idea to offer first year's membership free.

Idea – AVR member sponsorship scheme, where existing AVR members contribute to sponsor the membership of a Ukrainian refugee.

c. Leadership in Running Fitness (LiRF) & Coach in Running Fitness (CiRF)

DH led.

Doesn't look like we have a budget for coaching this year.

Debbie Ellis and Jackie Rockcliffe want to take their CiRF training. The cost is £360 each. Hayley Anderson wants to undertake her LiRF training. The cost is £140. All have already given considerable time and energy to coaching sessions.

Proposal – Should AVR fund those places in full, rather than ask for a contribution that is repayable after they have led a certain amount of sessions?

All present AGREED that AVR will fund those places in full.

Noted that other people may be interested in taking courses in the future. Each case will be dealt with on its merit, especially when they have a proven track record of volunteering.

d. CiRF Tops

DH led.

We have a selection of CiRF Tops in stock for people who have now passed their qualification but don't necessarily have the 'perfect' sizes. To order more is quite expensive and the order would need to be 10 of each size.

Chris R hasn't got a top yet. Will ask Chris to try a large size and see how it fits.

Noted that Debbie Ellis has asked for a LiRF top. Hopefully can wait a short time as she will be eligible for a CiRF top soon.

e. Anthony Hickson Complaint

RN led.

On 21st March RN, Carole Alston, Alan Button, Jo Farion, Bob Washbourne and Anthony sat down to talk about the issues / complaint.

A record of the meeting, as taken by Alan Button, is available. Chair will distribute to committee.

f. Off Road Secretary vacancy

RN led.

Anthony Hickson has resigned as Off Road Secretary. What's the protocol for a replacement before the next AGM?

The AVR constitution, at section 4 (a), explains that, "The management of the club is

Chair

RN

vested in a committee consisting of a Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and such other additional officers and committee members as may be deemed desirable for the optimum operation of the club... The committee may at its discretion fill any vacancy which arises."

AGREED to advertise the vacancy to all members and attach the duties and responsibilities. Will use Members Only Facebook group and email to members. Closing date for application circa a week / 10 days before the next committee meeting.

Chair

For the interim it was **AGREED** to update the AVR website and to take off reference to 10 other races being part of the AVR Off Road League. JH will score the races previously agreed and the new secretary can start afresh and organise for 2022/23 season.

Committee discussed the issue of an AVR representative on the Wiltshire Athletics Association (WAA) off road committee. Anthony Hickson has been the rep.

Secretary will check the minutes of the meeting detailed above (Item 4e). If it was clear that AH wants to stay as AVR rep, AVR (LW) will contact the WAA, inform them that AH has resigned for the committee and ask if our rep will have to be / should be a full committee member.

Secretary

g. Parkrun 'takeovers'

RN & MB led.

Melksham Parkrun – RN reported the possibility of a 'takeover', where a local running club takes over the marshalling (not the Race Direction though) for a parkrun event. Noted that circa 20 volunteers will be needed. Noted that volunteering at a Parkrun earns a point in the AVR Goal Getters Challenge. RN will liaise with Melksham Parkrun organisers and lead.

RN

Chippenham Parkrun – MB reported that the first Chippenham parkrun of the month is designated as a pacing day, where volunteers will attempt to run an even pace towards a specific finishing time (usually at minute intervals between 20 and 40 minutes). Every other month the pacing responsibility can be a 'takeover' by a local running club. Corsham RC is doing May, so AVR could potentially do July. Noted that up to 20 volunteer pacers will be needed. Noted that pacing at a Parkrun earns a point in the AVR Goal Getters Challenge. MB will liaise with Chippenham Parkrun organisers and lead.

MB

h. Use of grass area at TRFC for speed session

IH led.

There is a potential to bring the two Tuesday night speed sessions together. The only way to do it would be to use the grass (obviously not the main rugby pitch). Is that possible?

Noted that AVR used to use an area of grass over by the children's play area, and that would be effectively summer use only.

RN has briefly spoken to Steve at Trowbridge Rugby Club (TRC).

Chair

Chair will speak to the TRFC groundsman

i. Clarification on potential change of mission statement - linked to Club Development Plan (CDP)

JH led.

JH was asked by a member if the AVR mission statement was about to change, relating to multi sports. Noted that such a change would have to be taken at an Annual General Meeting (AGM) or an Emergency General Meeting (EGM).

Confirmed that whilst the CDP is looking at all aspects of AVR as an organisation, the committee has never suggested that the mission statement would most probably be changed, and certainly would not be outside of an AGM or EGM.

	j. Member query - Do we have contract / terms of employment for paid persons.	
	JH led.	
	JH has had a query from a member, who asked if we have a contract / terms of employment for paid persons?	
	Noted that the only person paid by AVR for services is Rich Ayling, as a coach, via invoices raised by RA (i.e. he is not an employee of AVR).	
	Noted that when the role was agreed, it was not advertised. At the time of agreement it was quite a unique situation and was genuinely urgent.	
	Chair will email Sarah Robert and ask if RA has any agreement / job specification / contract.	Chair
	N	
	oted that the role will need to be reviewed by Dec 2022 at the latest.	
	k. Club Development Plan (CDP) update	
	RN reported that he recently had a brief talk with Vicky Ody. One delivery group has been set up so far.	
	I. Submission of Race Results 2022 - Parkrun results	
	JH led.	
	The AVR committee agreed at their meeting on 13th January 2022 that we would not be able to include parkrun results on the new AVR Race Results service. JH received feedback from one member who disagreed with that decision. JH explained why the decision had been made.	
	Noted that the parkrun system does have a consolidated results option where a link can be created to take interested parties to all AVR Parkrun results. In theory that works well, but if someone registered as an AVR member, for example, six years ago and has since left but not amended their club membership, their results will still show as AVR.	
	All present AGREED that parkrun results will not be included in the AVR results service. The Parkrun results system is amazing and to save valuable time for our hard worked volunteers, we will have to encourage AVR members to use their system rather than duplicate it.	
	m. AVR Constitution	
	As time was running out the committee agreed to look at this at the following committee meeting.	
5	AOB	
	- Chip timing – Chair will email out again and committee will decide. Noted that considerable work has already been undertaken on it, which was gratefully received.	Chair
	 Minutes / agendas on AVR website. LW had a question from a member, who said that some of the links / info do not work. MB reported that it is an ongoing issue. Vicky Bodman did show MB how to update, and MB has some experience of such work, but the links do not work at times. MB will continue to try to improve. JH reported that he has been to the Culver Close (Bradford on Avon) pavilion redevelopment meetings. JH will continue to be involved. 	МВ
6	Remaining Committee Meeting Dates for 2022	
	- All due to be held at Trowbridge Rugby Club at 8.30pm on the first Tuesday of the month.	
	□ Tuesday 3 rd May 2022	

🕱 Tuesday 7 th June	
Tuesday 5 th July	
Tuesday 2 nd August	
Tuesday 6 th Sept	
Tuesday 4 th Oct	
Tuesday Ist Nov	
Tuesday 6 th Dec	

The Chair closed the meeting at 22.06pm

Signed:	 Date:	

Summary of action points from AVR committee meeting (05.04.2022)

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2	Updates on action points not covered as part of the agenda below	
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4a	AVR Equipment, including Finish Funnel & Feather Flags - RN will redistribute the costings he received a few months ago.	RN
4e	Anthony Hickson Complaint - A record of the meeting, as taken by Alan Button, is available. Chair will distribute to committee.	
4f	Off Road Secretary vacancy	
	AGREED to advertise the vacancy to all members and attach the duties and responsibilities. Will use Members Only Facebook group and email to members. Closing date for application circa a week / 10 days before the next committee meeting.	Chair
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	Chippenham Parkrun – MB reported that the first Chippenham parkrun of the month is designated as a pacing day, where volunteers will attempt to run an even pace towards a specific finishing time MB will liaise with Chippenham Parkrun organisers and lead.	МВ
4h	Use of grass area at TRFC for speed session - Chair will speak to the TRFC groundsman,	Chair
4j	Member query - Do we have contract / terms of employment for paid persons? - Chair will email Sarah Robert and ask if RA has any agreement / job specification / contract.	
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will continue to try to improve.	

Items to be Actioned later in the year and added to agenda for the appropriate meeting.

ITEM	COMMITTE E MEETING DATE	MINU TE NO.	WHICH MEETING TO RETURN TO?	OWNER
Awards Meeting Queries – " Can someone with AVR as their second claim club be eligible for an award?"	01.03.2022	4. k	April 2022	JH
Noted that the AVR Constitution does not mention it. Needs to be looked at. Can then be changed in Jan 2023. JH will look at.				