**Dereham Runners AC Annual General Meeting**

**Meeting held on:** Wednesday 25th January 2023

**Location:** 62A Norwich Street, Dereham, Norfolk NR19 1AD

**Present:** Jonathan Burton (Chair), Emma Potter-Campbell (Secretary), Jacquie Wood (Non-Executive Committee Member), Neil Anderton (Acting as Returning Officer until the new committee elected), Paul Richardson, Stuart Bizley (Non-Executive Committee Member), Philip Websdale (Vice Chair), Robert Last (Non-Executive Committee Member), Adrian Hollis, Michael Protheroe (Junior Lead Executive Committee Member / Track & Field Official), Katie Apps, Neil Rivers, Mandie Thorpe, Neville Knights (Non-Executive Committee Member), Hazel Cason, Matthew Freezer (previous Treasurer), Michael Barrett, Mary Barrett, Peter Swales, Michael Eglington, Di Renshaw, John Richardson, Rory Campbell, Wayne Ramsbottom, Natisha Ramsbottom and Kareana Symonds

**Also mentined in the attached minutes as initials:**

GS (Garry Slattery) Junior coach, DP (Dawn Protheroe)Track & Field Official, CP (Carole Preston), MP (Mark Preston), DK (the late Dave Kellaway), PS (Peter Swales), HC (Hazel Cason), KM (Keith Moore), GW (Gill Woodhouse), DR (Di Renshaw), TR (Terri Read), HG (Henrietta Green)

**Agenda:**

1. Welcome & Apologies
2. Election of Committee for 2023
3. Statement from Chair
4. Club Constitution
5. Treasurer’s Report
6. Membership Fees
7. Juniors
8. Parkrun
9. Any Other Business / Questions

Meeting Time: 7 pm

**Meeting commenced at:** 7.01 pm

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| **ITEM NO** | **AGENDA ITEM** | **ACTION** |
| 1.  1.  Cont’d | JB thanked all those present for attending the A.G.M. JB announced to everyone present that he had asked NA to take the start of the meeting acting as a returning officer until the new Chair for 2023 had been elected.   * JB also notified those present that two people, NA & KA had forwarded their interest via email to EP-C to be appointed the vacant post of treasurer for DRAC. (The DRAC club constitution states that a ballot should take place if two or more people have shown interest in the same post on the Executive Committee.) This will open via email from Thursday 26th January until Saturday 28th January to 9 pm. Members to email EP-C their votes.   **JB stepped back for NA to take over as a returning officer.**  NA - Welcomed everyone to the A.G.M.   * NA explained to those present that he was acting as a Returning Officer until the new Chair for 2023 had been elected. * Members to have emailed EP-C 14 days prior to the election if they wished to stand for any committee positions.   EP-C received interest via email regarding the following Executive positions:   * JB for Chair * PW for Vice Chair   JB received interest via email regarding the Executive position of Secretary from EP-C.  EP-C received interest via email for the Executive position of Treasurer from:   * NA & KA   EP-C received interest for Non-Executive positions via email from:  NK, RL, SB, MP and JW. (EP-C also received interest from PS, although this was after the cut-off-date of 11.1.23, on 15.11.23.   * No abstentions allowed. Those present could only vote for, Or, against.   **Apologies:** JB read aloud the list of those who gave their apologies in advance of the election of the new officers for 2023:  Rob Dye, Steph Walsingham, Liz Hollis, Nina Websdale and Holly Websdale. | JB  New treasurer to be elected via email  JB  NA  JB |
| 2.  2.  Cont’d | **Election of Committee for 2023:**  Executive Committee positions: **Votes:**  **Chair:** JB 25  **Once JB had been elected as the club Chair for 2023, NA stepped back and JB took the remainder of the A.G.M.**  **Votes:**  **Vice Chair:**  PW 25  **Secretary:** EP-C 25  **Treasurer:** (Ballot to open via email Thursday 26th January & close at 9 pm Saturday 28th January. (JB to send an email to all members Thursday 26th January.) The new treasurer will need to be able to use Membermojo the club website & liaise with EP-C with regards to updating EA (England Athletics) with new members & those who choose to be competitive.  **Votes**  **Junior Team Executive Member:** MP 25  **Non-executive Committee position:** RL 25  **Non-executive Committee position:** SB 25  **Non-executive Committee position:** JW 25  **Non-executive Committee position:** NK 25  **Committee Positions:**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Position** | **2022** | **2023** | |  |  |  | | **Chair** | **JB** | **JB** | | **Vice Chair** | **PW** | **PW** | | **Secretary** | **EP-C** | **EP-C** | | **Treasurer** | **MF / NK** | **Vacant** | | **Junior Lead member** | **MP** | **MP** | |  |  |  | | **Committee member** | **NK** | **NK** | | **Committee member** | **JW** | **JW** | | **Committee member** | **RL** | **RL** | | **Committee member** | **SB** | **SB** |   The treasurer’s position is currently vacant with MF resigning from the post in November 2022. NK has since agreed to temporarily fill this post until a new treasurer has been successfully elected following the vote via email to [secretary@derehamrunners.co.uk](mailto:secretary@derehamrunners.co.uk) from Thursday 26th January until Saturday 28th January, up until 9 pm. | NA  JB |
| 3.  3.  Cont’d  3.  Cont’d  3.  Cont’d | **Statement from Chair:** JB  **Previous A.G.M meeting minutes from 12.1.22 proposed & taken as read by SB & seconded by MT.**  So, 2022 was the first full year of running since the pandemic, and really the first full year that we as a committee have been able to discuss a whole year.  So many positives to come from the year, to see everyone competing again, from weekly parkruns, (JR to give a small talk on the parkrun status a little later), through all distances up to the centurions and one who went beyond…156 miles in Greece…  As a club on the Norfolk stage, it was good to hold the 10 mile and 5 km events in 2022. The 10 mile was recognised as being a County Championship event, and, with both being included within the Sportlink GP Series (with the inclusion of both events again within this year’s Sportlink GP series.) Of course, it would be remiss of me not to say thank you to everyone within the club who assisted both prior to, and on the days of those events. As you will understand, these events provide a sound financial income for the club, so a huge thank you, and of course we will be looking for similar support for our first event, the Dereham 10 mile which is on Sunday May 14th.  **Club Grand Prix Series:** (Organised by NKwho collates all the members’ points throughout the year, with a trophy awarded to each of the top 3 males / females at the presentation evening held in December.) A memento will also be awarded to any members who run all 12 events. Our club Grand Prix series was due to start last Sunday, but due to the inclement weather, Reedham was postponed. All races that are included within this year’s GP have been circulated to members.  **The Club Grand Prix series for 2023 includes the following events:**   * Reedham 10: Rescheduled to 5.2.23 * Valentine 10 k: 12th February * DRAC club Parkrun at Sandringham: 11th March * Trowse 10 k: 9th April * Great Yarmouth 5 m Series: 17th May – (Race 3) * Rushmeadow 5 k DRAC Club Run: June (date tbc) * Harling 10 k: 2nd July **(Since moved to 3rd September)** * Rushmeadow DRAC 10 k club run: 22nd August * Wissey Half Marathon: 3rd September * Ryston X Country 5 k: October (date tbc) * DRAC 10 mile club run: November (date tbc) * DRAC club Parkrun December: (Date and location tbc)   **The Club 50 / Club 100**:  The Club 50 was introduced in 2022 by PW to run alongside the club 100 which is organised by NA. Each of these were well supported by members and congratulations to everyone who achieved the relevant point total.JB thanked both NA and PW for organising them.   * Those present at the A.G.M were reminded that when running events out of area to please email their result to either PW or NA depending on which point system club 50 / 100 they were registered to for the year in hand.   **London Marathon 2022 /23:** WR ran the marathon in 2022, with PW having his name drawn out of the hat for the club place on Sunday 23rd April 2023 (St. George’s Day).  **Club Kit:**  JB said that we have a fresh new look with new kit following the work that both Stuart and Philip have put into the redesign. JB said a big thank you to both SB and PW for all their hard work that went into this. JB also thanked additional people who helped on the two evenings when the new club vests & t-shirts were handed to members.   * JB asked members not to wear the social tops (training tops) at events. * JB asked members to wear the new club kit at events when representing DRAC, with the only exception being cross country events like the Reepham 10k where old club tops can be worn.   **Social Evenings:**  It was good to finish the year with our presentation evenings for both the juniors and seniors. Whilst held on separate evenings in 2022, it is considered for them to be held together on the same evening in December 2023.   * The social evening held at Strikes for the juniors in December to still take place as in previous years.   **Coaching:** Since our last AGM, it was highlighted about our relatively low number of club coaches. Over this past year, 5 Senior members completed the LIRF (Leadership in Running Fitness) coaching course, therefore, cover for training can be provided.  CIRF (Coach in Running Fitness) course in February 2023: PW to complete  JB thanked the committee for their work over the past year.  As said at last year’s A.G.M, JB said that he was hopeful that we are working towards a more collective, inclusive rather than exclusive, way forward for the club for the future and if you do have any concerns or suggestions to then please let us know that. We as a committee are here to listen to you.  Emma had asked for any questions that anyone had, to be forwarded to me by 18th January, and not having received any, I assume that you are at this moment relatively happy with the club’s situation, we will though, have a short question session under A.O.B later. | JB  JB  NK  NK  PW & NA  PW  JB  JB |
| 4. | **Club Constitution:**   * It was suggested that an inclusion be added to Clause 6, of Committee, ‘Should an executive committee member wish to stand down, then two months’ notice should be given, unless mitigating circumstances prevail this.’   No opposition from anyone present. | Committee |
| 5.  5.  Cont’d  5.  Cont’d  5.  Cont’d | **Treasurer’s Report:**  Copies of the end of year accounts were available for everyone present to view at the A.G.M during NK’s overview of 2022.  NK explained to those present that he had taken over the reins in November after MF had stepped down. He hoped that he could give an accurate account of the year and at the end answer any questions which anyone present may have.   * We started 2022 with just over £36,304.59, and ended it with just under £30,961.22, a loss of £5343.37 despite a profit from both our club races of £6,930.36, based on an income of £13,848.96. NK explained that we would come to this shortly. * NK said that we are hopefully over the turmoil of 2020-2021 with regards to Covid and explained that it is best to compare the accounts of 2022 with those of 2019 by looking at page 2 of the annual accounts. * Quite a bit of activity in membership figures since 2019, with a net loss of 5 juniors and six seniors from 133 to 122 members, hence the reduction in the subscription income despite the £1.00 increase by EA, (although this £1.00 is passed onto England Athletics.) * From April 2021, senior members were given the option of electing whether they wanted to be social members and not incur the England Athletics fee. * For transparency, there are currently seven members who have qualified for free membership (honorary membership within the club having completed 20 years or more continuous membership with DRAC): JR, HC, GW, KM, DR, GS & NK * Another figure to highlight are the donations to the club. DK sadly passed away in 2021 but he generously bequeathed us £2,000 which has been partially spent by supplying everyone in the club with a bandana free of charge, with total costs of £610.80.   There is also the trophy in DK’s name awarded last year to TR.   * We also received an anonymous donation of £500 that JB has / will talk about under ‘Any Other Business’. * £379 was raised in cake sales and rounded up to £400 and passed onto two charities. A further charitable donation for the sum of £181.00 was made later in the year. * This year, and NK amended it for last year, NK extended the categories for gifts and presentations. There has been a big increase on gifts and presentations to £728.50, mainly for the introduction of the club 50 and for the numbers achieving the club 100. Other awards are consistent, although have probably gone up in price. * In the last three years, the club has reinforced its family ethos, by way of flowers to celebrate happy occasions or commiserate sad occasions. This year’s figure of £219.54 is close to last year’s figure.   We also made a thank you gift of £50.00.   * The fee of £585.00 for training costs reflect three attendees, but one of them is for this year. * The junior Christmas function (£163.00) has also been separated from the senior one (£350.00). * Costs incurred for our monthly committee meetings (£185.00) which had previously been held at members’ houses. * AGM hall hire for £170.07, covers both 2022 & 2023. * Bank charges of £64.44 are new for 2022. * Equipment charges pop up now and then and the figure of £44.87 reflects signs and fencing for the races, lights for the RNR and storage containers for the shirts. * Website fees for £342.84 reflect annual charges for Membermojo and Squarespace and a one off email set up fee. * There has been a substantial increase in the RNR costs as the van price doubled and we were charged for extra drivers. We did however, receive a refund on the minibus hire in 2021 after it broke down. There was obviously increased fuel costs. Whilst PS kindly donated his vehicle, we obviously had the fuel costs of running a second vehicle. The total expense of £1388.94 includes £360.00 for the Alex Moore Relay. **Both of these relays are paid for by the club.** * NK asked those present to turn the page to view the combined income and expenses for our two races.   2018 & 2019 were peak years for our races and like  many races, numbers were down for 2022 and also  with increased first aid costs they were capped to  lesser numbers.  . The costs for First Aid and Road Closures have nearly  doubled in costs and look to further increase in 2023.   * There have been increases in the prices of medals and trophies. * The cost for bananas, snacks or bottled water depends on whether we secure a donation or not, which we didn’t in 2022. * The Committee has a more detailed breakdown of these costs per race. * Finally, back to the Accounts and the expenditure of £12,791.82 for kit, £732.00 of which is related to the bandanas and the junior running vests, leaving £12,059.82 for the new club kit. From this figure we have sold £1230.00 and given away £3750.00 (cost) to existing members to replace old club tops, leaving goods in the value of £6982.80 in stock, having sold £95.82 worth of kit thus far in 2023.   As an aside, we also sold old stock in the year totalling £273.00, mainly hats, as kit sales were being done directly with the supplier on-line.   * The Cambridge and Counties Account didn’t get updated during the course of the year and hence received their easy access rate of 0.50%. It will shortly move to 4.15%. * As with 2021, the Accounts will be checked by an independent professionally qualified accountant, who has no connection with the club.   NK was questioned about Corporation Tax. NK to liaise with the auditors about this.  NA: Queried if the membership were consulted prior to the £12,000 expenditure on the new club kit? He stated that the club has to have the members consent for any expenditure over £500. It’s a lot of stock to have to sell and the club could be left with a lot of unsold stock in the future.  In response to NA’s query, SB confirmed that an email was circulated to the membership with details for costs at that point, although a further email confirming the final amount was not sent. SB confirmed that no one in the membership had raised any objections following receipt of the email and the committee had then proceeded ahead with the overall purchase of the new club kit. | NK  NK  NK  NK |
| 6.  6.  Cont’d | **Membership fees:**  Taking into consideration the current cost of living issues, it has been considered to freeze the club membership fees for the coming year April 1st 2023 to 31st March 2024 as they were in 2022. EA (England Athletics) however, have set a £1 increase in their fee.  **Seniors:**   * £18 for club membership with £17 for EA which will be full membership at £35 (£1 increase on 2022 due to EA increasing their Fee by £1).   **Social membership:**   * £20 (non-competitive therefore no EA fee would be applicable).   **Juniors:**   * If turning 11 between 1.4.23 & 31.3.24, the membership fee will be the same as for seniors – (£35). * All those juniors under 11 years of age will continue to pay £18. * A ‘non-competitive’ membership for those turning 11 between 31.3.23-31.3.24 will not be offered. * All juniors are expected to be competitive.   **2nd Claim:** £18  **Honorary membership:**   * For those members who achieve 20 years consecutive years of full senior subscription/membership.   **A Goodwill Donation of £500 has been received anonymously from a club member.**   * To be discussed under A.O.B | JB  JB |
| 7.  7.  Cont’d | **Juniors:** MP – 2022   * I believe that we currently have 24 juniors signed up. * We have 20 who attend training, but not all on the same night. * Monday now seems to be the busy night. * MP and GS are continually trying to motivate the juniors. * Numbers are a little down on previous years, however, there is only GS & myself. * In previous years there were three or four people helping with the juniors. * Last year we saw a little improvement in numbers at some of the track and cross country events   **EYAL (Eastern Young Athletes League):**   * Last time we saw numbers rise from 5-7. * The EYAL is for age groups U13, U15 and U17. DRAC teamed up with West Norfolk, Thetford and Ryston in 2022. * This year we won’t have any EYAL. The team has pulled out of the league. The combined team struggled to field a full team and struggled more with the help required for officiating. The manager stepped down and unfortunately no one was willing to take it over.   **EAL (East Anglian League) for 2023:**   * We still have the EAL. Which we have again been asked to join with West Norfolk, and this year with North Norfolk Harriers. * In this league we wear our red club tops and it is for all age groups from U11 up to veterans. * All events are free to enter as the club has already paid an entrance fee. * There are only three EAL meetings during the year and maybe a final in Bury St. Edmunds if anyone gets through in their respective age groups. In 2022, MB one of the male juniors and CP for senior women, and the first senior woman ever in DRAC. Well done to you both! * DP and I have again had to commit to this league as the team’s only qualified field officials and I am also a joint team manager. * It’s very important to us to see a better turnout of juniors. It doesn’t matter what your ability is. It’s seeing yourself improve.   **Officiating:**   * Thanks to CP & MP for helping last year with the officiating. * Hopefully, this year with a few more joining in.   **Ryston X Country:**   * This year so far, numbers have risen from eleven to fourteen. However, still disappointing especially when we have 24 in total.   **QuadKids:**   * There should be events taking place again this year for the younger juniors. Even brothers and sisters can have a go. * This takes place during the summer at various venues. * It is a great fun introduction into athletics for children aged 12 years and under and organised by Athletics Norfolk. * MP likes to promote Parkrun to juniors. The juniors to attend as extra training. It’s also a safe opportunity for the juniors to run with or without their parents and hopefully more in 2023.   **Parkrun:**   * I am always trying to promote parkrun to the juniors and their parents. * We have a core of usual names seen appearing in JR’s results posts. * This is for the younger members of our club and has always been seen as extra training and a great way to get out safely for them. * Hopefully more juniors will be getting involved this year, if not at the Saturday 5k Parkrun, instead the Sunday junior 2k parkrun.   **MP will again record times & distances at track events in 2023 which will go towards the Amateur Athletics Association and English schools standards awards which was introduced in 2022.**  JB thanked both MP and GS for Mondays and Thursdays and MP and DP for weekends. | MP  MP |
| 8.  8.  Cont’d | **Parkrun: JR**   * We’ve had a good year * The weekly runs have become the club’s bread and butter. There were a few DRAC meets throughout the year at classic venues of Colney Lane, Sandringham and Holkham. This is the one occasion when the whole club, juniors and seniors come together to run in the same race. A parkrun meet is also a great social occasion. As well as the usual post run coffee, cake is often enjoyed especially on special occasions such as members’ birthdays or when they reach milestones. At one PR over a ¼ of attendees were all DRAC runners. JR was very moved when some juniors recently met him at the Obelisk at Holkham to escort him down to the finish.   **We now have 20 Parkruns in the county of Norfolk:**   * Norfolk has become a real hotbed for park running, with two new events added in 2022 at North Walsham in February and Downham Market Academy in March. * A challenging target to run at all 20 venues – all within one hour’s drive from Dereham. * JR is not aware of any plans for any new ones at present and expects that we will stay at 20 for some time. * In the past JR has been asked about one in Dereham, the 4th largest town in Norfolk, however, there is nowhere realistically available. Neatherd Moor can be too wet, and is not suitable for mass runners. * There’s going to be a big development around JR’s housing area along the River Tud.   **Thornham Walks near Eye in Suffolk (just inside the border):**   * Definite plans to open a new parkrun. * This will be within easy reach of Dereham   **Volunteering:**   * Is a very important aspect to park running. * Many of our members volunteer on a regular basis. It’s a very rewarding experience, to be part of a team who have put on the event. * Without volunteers, there would be no parkrun. * DRAC have previously taken over at Blickling PR on two occasions which were both very successful and our thanks must go to MT for organising. * On 29.4.23 we will again be taking on all the volunteering roles, however, on this occasion at Holkham parkrun. * Another great opportunity to showcase our club. * Please give MT your support.   **Weekly PR report by JR:**   * The weekly parkrun report is produced to bring all the Dereham Runners results together under one heading. * Due to personal circumstances, JR thanked both MT and HG for taking on the role alternatively in his recent absence. * JR is happy for someone else to take this on, trying to provide percentages etc. Some of it can take a little time, or if anyone has any suggestions to writing the report, please liaise with him. * He finds it fascinating reading where everyone is running. * JR apologised for missing anyone’s names off any results, he tries to get the results out as soon as he can and tries to take his time to avoid any mistakes.   JR wished everyone present a good year in park running. | JR  JR |
| 9.  9.  Cont’d  9.  Cont’d | **Any Other Business / Questions:**  JB explained to those present that he didn’t receive any questions from any members via email, following EP-C’s A.G.M announcement email.  **DR: Please can we have some information with regards to past experience about the two club members who have come forward for the treasurer’s role?**   * JB asked both NA & KA who were present if they were happy to provide information on past experience which he could then provide to members with regards to the vote for the new DRAC treasurer.   **NR: Do we have any plans to try and get any more juniors in the club for example, have we approached the schools et cetera?**   * JB thanked MT for promoting the club on Social media et cetera. * MP said that there are only himself and GS to 24 juniors. * Thursdays are currently the quieter nights. * EP-C said that more parents are required to volunteer.   **PR: Both our races are Sportlink. Are they always part of it?**   * JB said that it puts the club out there. * PR said that he had heard some runners saying that our medals aren’t as good as other clubs. * Our race (10 mile) was carried over. * NK said that some clubs are offering a medal or a donation for a tree. * SB said that some clubs have gone the other way offering a tacky wooden medal. * AH said that you can see what you’re going to win if you run some races. * DR said that our races are very reasonably priced compared to other races. People are currently looking at costs. * JB said that the club 10 m is up against the Mammoth Marathon and half marathon this year. * JB asked those present to push the 10 mile on social media. * PS asked the cost of a medal. He said that he ran a race and received a mug and uses it every day, with it being his favourite one. * NK read out the costs made for medals at our events. * MP said that all county medals are the same every year. * RL said that the medals at Gt. Yarmouth are really nice, and that’s why he goes back each year.   **JB explained that we are currently looking into the cost elements for putting on the 5k.**   * Sportlink selects us to be in it.   NA asked why are DRAC paying to be in the Sportlink Grand Prix?   * DRAC pays 50p per runner to be part of the series. * CoNAC haven’t previously wanted to be in it as their races sell out, however, this year, Trowse is. * CoNAC has a new Committee.   **NA - It makes our runners less competitive by lessening our runners’ chances.**   * JB: From a runner’s perspective, the committee were approached by a couple of runners who were in a good position in the Sportlink GP, and we will listen to them and if we have sufficient volunteers available, we can have places available. * MT If you wanted to run, a family member / colleague has to volunteer. * JB said that it’s official / unofficial. * SB said that this year we (the committee) will put something in place clarifying it to members.   Sportlink has now increased the races to 14, with 9 races to count.  **A goodwill donation of £500 has been made to the club by a member**:   * It has been proposed by the committee to be used as a welfare payment to any current member who may feel they need assistance to pay any membership fee. * Any member wishing to be considered to use this offer, then please contact the Chair or Vice Chair of the club. * Any request will be made in the strictest of confidence.   **No one present at the A.G.M opposed the above proposal.** | JB  NA & KA  MP  JB  Committee  Chairperson (JB) / Vice Chair (PW) |
|  | **Minutes recorded by:** Emma Potter-Campbell |  |
|  | **Timekeeper:** Emma Potter-Campbell |  |
|  | **Meeting Closed at:** 20.17 |  |