

Northbrook Athletic Club Annual General Meeting

The Rainbow Inn, Allesley Village, Coventry

8.00 pm, 24 January 2008

Note: The meeting was scheduled to take place at the Jaguar Social Club but, due to a double booking of the room, had to be moved to the Rainbow Inn at short notice.

Members present: Bob Adams (chairman), Howard Andersen (minute taker), Bob Awcock, Fraser Barrett, Alix Critchley, Loretto Denley, Richard Hands, John Hosie, Andrea Fodor, Tony French, Roger Ladbury, Tony Mackness, Tony Murphy, Alex Marshall, Adrian Powell, Paul Stead (treasurer)

1. **Apologies:** Mark Baker, Cath Fenn, Angela Hands, Paul McKeeney, Sarah McNaney, Martin Turrall, Jackie Wilson
2. **Minutes of AGM held on 16 January 2007.** Bob Awcock proposed that these minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record. This was seconded by Tony Murphy and AGREED by the meeting.
3. **Chairman's report.** Bob Adams summarised the main events and developments over the past year:

On the team front, the men had won the Warwickshire Road Race League for the fourth consecutive year whilst coming a very respectable second in the Cotswold Hilly Hundred. Also, in the Birmingham & District Cross Country League, Division Two, Northbrook finished a highest ever fifth. At the moment, the club is lying in seventh place in a Division Two that has been expanded to 18 clubs from the 2007/8 season.

Turning to individuals, a special mention must be made about the outstanding running we have seen from Paul Andrew in recent months. He has entered the London Marathon in 2008 and the club record of 2 hours 38 minutes must be under threat. As for the more mature men, Jack Langman shows no signs of slowing down at the age of 70 whilst Tony Mackness, in the 50 plus veteran category, seems to record a personal best every time he races! At the other end of the age spectrum Rob Pool and Dan Foulstone have run exceptionally well throughout the summer handicap series.

The ladies chalked up third position in the Warwickshire Road Race League during 2007 and, with their ever increasing numbers, I am confident that they can be champions in 2008. However, the ladies have struggled to get runners out for the cross country races but praise is due to stalwarts such as Becky Smith and Cath Fenn who have taken part in spite of a full team often being absent. We are hopeful of an improvement in this area during 2008 as well as the prospect of an all ladies team in the Cotswold Hilly Hundred.

Turning to individuals, Becky Smith continues to run well whilst Sarah McNaney has demonstrated to everyone in the Level Three training group the results that come from some structured speed work sessions.

The 10k race continues to be a great credit to the club with a record number of entries in 2007. In 2008 it will be a further honour for the club to include the inter counties championship with our 10k race. On this matter, thanks must be recorded to the members of the organising sub committee especially the three stalwarts: Loretto Denley, Tony French and Con McHugh.

In respect of organising events in 2007, the club organised a more 'traditional' cross country course over Coundon Wedge in February and, later in the year, both hosted men's and ladies' fixtures for the first time at Coundon Park. The success of these events is due to the willingness of the membership to be involved in a variety of roles: runners, marshals, car park attendants, catering assistances and so on.

The club also organised the Allesley Festival Run in July and although numbers for the main race have slipped in recent years, the junior race goes from strength to strength. It is important that we continue to organise the Fun Run as it strengthens our links with the local community, raises money for charity and is a source of new members.

On the social side, the meal at the Blue Orchid proved very popular whilst the Presentation Night held at the Coventry Hill Hotel was one of the best we've experienced. Many thanks to Sylvia for organising this, and booking the live band.

I'd like to thank my fellow committee members for their support. Some members have to stand down this year, unfortunately. On this point I would like to extend a special thanks to Nathan Holmes who has been men's captain for the last four years.

From the point of view of a spectator, a role that I have been compelled to take for most of last year, I believe that in 2008 we should be encouraging greater participation in the main cross country competitions (the Birmingham League and Midland League) and the road relays at Sutton Park as well as making more use of the 'The Rainbow' for the post mortems after races and a few more socials to demonstrate our reputation as a friendly running club.

4. **Treasurer's report.** Paul Stead (Treasurer) distributed copies of the clubs accounts for 2007 which showed a closing balance of £3,736.55. Roger Ladbury requested that in future the cost of stock should be shown on the balance sheet. This was AGREED.
5. **Membership fees for 2008.** Paul Stead proposed a £2 increase, making the annual membership fee £17. This would allow the club to cover the additional £2 for each member now levied by England Athletics. Paul also proposed that the concessionary rate be increased to £10. The meeting AGREED the Treasurer's proposal but, after discussion, also AGREED an addendum stating that existing members paying their subscriptions prior to 31 March 2008 would be eligible for a discounted rate of £15.
6. **Proposals received in writing.**
 - a. **Change of club name.** Proposed by Alex Marshall and seconded by Loretto Denley. This proposed that the name of the club be changed from 'Northbrook Athletic Club' to 'Coventry Northbrook Running Club' with the aim of:

- i. Increasing the profile of the club
- ii. Giving the club more identity
- iii. Linking the club with our main event, the Coventry Northbrook 10km race
- iv. Describing us more accurately as a 'running club' rather than an 'athletic club'

Vote: In favour of the proposal 3, against 13. The proposal was therefore defeated.

- b. **Voted Awards Shortlist.** Proposed by Bob Adams and seconded by Alex Marshall. This proposed that, to increase the number of members participating in the Most Improved Runner and Club Person of the Year award, the club committee will create a shortlist of candidates together with a summary of their achievements that year. An addendum was proposed stating that either award could only be won by the same person for one year

Vote on addendum: In favour 5, against 7. The addendum was therefore defeated

Vote on substantive proposal: In favour 9, against 2. The proposal was therefore accepted.

7. Election of Officers. Details as set out below.

Position	Elected Member	Proposer	Secunder
President	Bob Awcock	Bob Adams	Alex Marshall
Chairman	Bob Adams	Sarah McNaney	Paul McKeeney
Secretary	Mark Baker	Bob Awcock	Tony French
Treasurer	Paul Stead	Nathan Holmes	Mark Baker
Men's Captain	Vacancy		
Ladies' Captain	Alix Critchley	Sarah McNaney	Cath Fenn
Members Secretary	Tony French	Bob Adams	Cath Fenn
Social Secretary	Andrea Fodor	Bob Adams	Sarah McNaney
Club Coach	Vacancy		
Non Committee			
Summer Handicap	Richard French		
Club Newsletter	Dan McHugh		
Webmaster	Con McHugh		
10 km race organisers	Tony French, Mal Boileau, John Ralph, Tony Hoy, Sean Flanagan		
Accounts Auditors	Alex Marshall Christine Austin		

Notes to table:

- a) All positions elected unopposed
- b) The Committee will make informal approaches to individuals in the coming weeks in order to fill the vacant positions

- c) Con McHugh has given notice that he will stand down from this position at the end of 2008. Roger Ladbury indicated that he may take over the web maintenance responsibilities

The meeting recorded a **Vote of Thanks** to Loretto Denley for all her work in respect of developing and organising the 10 km race.

The meeting closed at 9.55