**Minutes of the Saltaire Striders AGM on 01 December 2016 at Caroline Street Social Club.**

Chairman: Mike Moss

***Agenda (rearranged in the order discussion actually took place)***

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of meeting on 03/12/2015.
3. Election of officers
4. Treasurers report
5. Membership update & 2017 fees.
6. Chairman’s statement
7. Social events update.
8. Adoption of club constitution & future membership & financial year end dates
9. Run leaders
10. London marathon club places for 2017 & 2018 races
11. 2017 club organised races & relays the club enters teams into.
12. 2017 club trip
13. 2017 Club Championship
14. AOB

Chairman Mike Moss welcomed everyone to the 34th AGM and thanked Caroline Street Social Club for their hospitality.

1. ***Apologies***

Apologies were received from Helen Brant, Gemma Bell, Sylvia Ross, Gareth Ward & Simon Frazer

1. ***Minutes of the meeting on 03/12/2015:***

The minutes of the meeting held on 03/12/2015 were approved.

1. ***Election of officers***

The following positions were up for election at this year’s AGM:

* Ladies’ captain
* Ladies’ vets captain
* Executive officer without portfolio (new post)
* BMW relay Chair.

An election had taken place for ladies’ captain with the candidates being Helen Brant, Tracy Foy and Louise Nash. The winner of the election was Louise Nash, who was therefore elected as ladies’ captain.

Having been elected as ladies’ captain Louise Nash stood down as ladies’ vets captain. Helen Brant had offered to stand for this role. As nobody else wanted to stand for the role Helen Brant was elected as ladies’ vets captain unopposed.

It was proposed that Barney Lerner be appointed to the newly created committee post of Executive Officer Without Portfolio. As nobody else wanted to stand Barney Lerner was elected to this role unopposed.

Jen Willingham had announced that she would stand for re-election as BMW relay chair. As nobody else wanted to stand Jen Willingham was re-elected to this role unopposed.

1. ***Treasurer’s Report***

Richard Stone talked the meeting through the club accounts for the year ended 31st October 2016. The main features were:

* The accounts had been prepared on a cash basis rather than an accruals basis.
* Total income increased from £20,287 to £24,144. The main income comes from subscriptions & John Carr/BMW relay entry fees.
* Costs had increased from £19,726 to £22,090. The main costs were donations, John Carr/BMW relay race costs and England Athletics subscriptions.
* This left a surplus of £2,054 this year compared to £560 last year.
* The club had £11,364 cash in the bank at the year-end but still owed some of this year’s charity donation costs.

It was proposed that the accounts be accepted and this was approved by all members present.

Richard had also announced that the financial year end was moving to 31/03 so the next accounts would be for a shortened five month period from 01/11/2016 to 31/03/2017.

A £400 cheque was presented to Alun Griffiths on behalf of the Lord Mayor’s Appeal for the Young minds charity. Four other donations had been made earlier in the year leaving just one more donation to make.

1. ***Membership***

Rachel Parker reported on the membership developments in the year. Club membership is now 207 compared to 212 members at this stage last year. 47% of club members are now female.

It was proposed that membership fees for 2017 be increased by £1 to £26 due to the increase in the annual fee levied by England Athletics (now £14). Concessions will pay £20, second claim members £6 and social membership will be free for non-runners. This fee increase was approved by all members present.

1. ***Chairman’s report***

Mike Moss reported as follows:

“I was struggling to decide what to write in this report so asked each member of the committee on Monday night to give me one highlight of the year and so here goes.

* For the first time in a decade and therefore almost certainly the first time as Saltaire Striders we entered a team in the Northern Athletics 12 stage road relays. By finishing in the top 20 qualifying teams we competed at the National road relays for the first time ever.
* We had 16 people running the London Marathon as Saltaire Striders and some amazing performances. The closest I got was watching the interactive tracker whilst sat drinking red wine in France.
* On a similar note 18 people competed in marathons in October
* Tim Forster ran the complete Bradford Millennium Way relay in a very respectable time
* The success of the re-routed John Carr 5k. First time I have known more finishers in the last race than either of the others.
* We fielded a women’s team in the Leeds Country Way
* The women’s team in the Yorkshire Vets series.
* Continued year on year success of the BMW
* 51 people ran the first Peco race last weekend.
* Club Trips to Cork and Amsterdam
* Hannah Oldroyd representing GB in the ultra world championships
* Martin Fillingham qualifying to represent GB
* At least two of our ladies that joined the club as complete beginners struggling to run more than a few hundred yards have completed marathons this year.

So what are my highlights? I think I share many of those listed above but there are some standout events in my mind.

* Hannah being selected for GB has to be one and to come 8th in the world is amazing.
* Will having an amazing year setting PBs
* Richard Stone and his 12 marathons in the year and some amazing perfomances. Not bad for a granddad.
* Ali for his ultra running and amazing running development from couch to amazing
* The track sessions masterminded by Ali and Louise. Great to see so many going and improving
* But really the biggest highlight for me is coming out training and seeing upwards of 40 members turning out in all conditions and enjoying their running. I find it amazing and a privilege to have travelled the journey with quite a few who started off hardly able to run and now are competing regularly for the club. I do need to mention here that we have been asked about whether we are doing another Beginners Group this coming year. I think we would love to offer one but we are rather dependant on having people who will commit to leading and or helping. With Lindsey on crutches and me donating platelets every other Monday it is difficult to get consistency of leadership. If you would be willing to assist whether a leader or not then both Lindsey and I would be prepared to help plan sessions and be present if not fully active. If you would be interested have a word with one of us at the end of the meeting.

There have also been many other things happening. The club championship, the annual Burnsall trip (least said about my absence), competing in the various relays and various competitions.

A big thank you to everyone who has made things happen for the club. A particular thank you to Martin and Louise for invigorating the vets section. To all those that competed well done, to those vets that didn’t why not? They are great fun events.

So what about the future – some thoughts from me

* Continue to be competitive in the PECO league
* Compete in regional and national competitions maybe including the National Cross Country Relays. 2.5K for women and 5K for men. 4 in a team and a great day out. I was chatting to guys waiting to run and they were saying their 5K park run PB was 28 minutes. When the leaders were doing 14 minutes or less it shows the breadth of competition.
* Be competitive in the various relays.
* Most importantly to remain the friendly club where all members matter equally.

Finally, you will be glad to know, a massive thank you to Jen for all she has done for the club.”

1. ***Social events update***

Dairine Nethercott began by presenting Jen Willingham with an award as a thank you for all the work she has done for the club over the last few years a ladies’ captain. A further presentation was also made to Kath Stone who has just become a grandma for the first time.

Dairine outlined some of the social events that were coming up including the club dinner at the Halfway House on 25/02/2017 and the trip to the Liverpool ½ marathon on 02/04/2017.

Once again Dairine made it clear to all members that anyone with an idea can contribute to the organizing of social events within the club.

Mike thanked Dairine for her efforts with the social events.

1. ***Club constitution***

Barney Lerner explained that a new club constitution was needed for many reasons, including us not being able to find the old one!

Barney went though some of the important points in the constitution which has already been distributed to all club members.

There were a few questions about the rules for committee members standing for re-election and these were all clarified (the detail can be found in the constitution itself).

It was proposed that the constitution be accepted and this proposal was carried unanimously.

1. ***Run leaders***

Jeremy Wright explained that there could be scope for a few more club members to train as LIRFs and lead runs at club training sessions. We are looking for members that are prepared to commit to leading at least 2 or 3 runs per month. Anyone interested should speak to any of the committee members.

1. ***2017 & 2018 Club London Marathon places***

Jeremy Wright explained that the draw for 2017 London Marathon places had taken place a few weeks ago in order to give the successful members as much time as possible to prepare. The members that got the places were James Goodall, Rachel Parker and Chris Stott.

For 2018 places the committee proposed the following criteria:

* Members had to have proof of rejection from the public ballot
* Members had to have been members at 01/01/2017
* Any member who had won a club ballot place in any of the previous 4 years would not be eligible
* The first place would be balloted between eligible members that had volunteered for marshall in John Carr and/or BMW relay races.

Martin Love felt regular run leaders should also be in the ballot for the first place and Tracy Foy felt that at least one member of each gender should get a place. Jeremy said that the committee would reconsider their proposed criteria before next year’s ballot.

1. ***2017 club trip***

Will Kerr explained that it was again proposed to have one or two club trips in 2017. No destinations have yet been decided. If anyone had any proposed suggestions they should contact Will who will then send out an email explaining the possibilities. Will emphasized that only people who intended to go on the trip should make suggestions and take part in any vote as he did not want to end up going to Bognor Regis!

1. ***2017 club organized races and relays the club enters teams into***

Will explained the three main relays the club enters teams into – Calderdale Way in May, our own BMW relay in June & Leeds Country Way in September. It is hoped that we can get more members involved next year & enter more teams, including a ladies’ team in all three relays. Will explained how successful the club had been in all three relays this year.

Claire Thaper had participated in two of the relays for the first time this year and explained how much she had enjoyed them and how she felt that they were suitable for members of all different speeds and abilities.

We also plan to enter teams into the Northern Athletics 12 & 6 stage road relay in April 2017 and the 6 & 4 stage road relay in September 2017 where our runners will be competing against top runners from clubs in the North of England.

1. ***2017 Club Championship***

Stuart Dunbar talked through some of the rules for the club championship, including the relegation and promotion rules between the three divisions. There were no proposed charges to the rules for 2017 and the race list will be announced at The Junction pub on 22/12/2016.

1. ***Any other business***

Stephen Hetherington, a new member this year, read out a speech he had prepared thanking everyone for their help & support and acknowledging the influence his deceased brother has on his own running.

Dairine Nethercott thanked Jack Verity for his work on the monthly club newsletter and mentioned that there will be drinks in the Junction on 22/12 after club training (the club pays for the food but club members buy their own drinks).

As there was no further business the meeting was declared to be closed.