**Saltaire Striders**

**Annual General meeting**

held

25th November 2020 at 7.30

remotely on Zoom

1) Apologies for absence

Tim Gore, Fiona Farqhar

2) Minutes of the last AGM 29th November 2019

Were accepted as a true record

3) Election of officers

There was one valid nomination for each post so the following were elected unopposed

nominators

**Chair** Rachel Parker Barney Lerner, Helen Brant

**Secretary** Alun Griffiths Anthea Pickard, Fran Guy

**Social Sec** Ewan Gibb Mike Moss, Alun Griffiths

**Chair of Coaches** Craig Elliot Rachel Parker, Helen Brant

**Female Vets Captain** Cat Bruckner Graham D’Arcy, Will Kerr

4) Treasurers Report

Richard presented his report which had been circulated by email. It was noted that it was for the year to March 2020 which was the last ‘normal’ year.

Approved unanimously

5) Chairmans Report

Mike presented his report which follows

Chairman’s Report 2020

Wow what a different year to mark my final year as chair of this wonderful running club.  
I have been secretary or chairman of St Bede’s followed by Saltaire Striders since 1989 so quite literally the end of an era. And no Rachel I am not expecting you to follow in those footsteps. It was really weird that whilst walking the dog on Sunday I met Alan Boland in Cottingley Woods. For those that didn’t know him Alan was one of the earliest members of St Bedes AC and a really good runner. It was Alan who first approached me to ask if I would consider being secretary in late 1988.

I think this year has to count as the strangest I have experienced both in general life and in running. Who had ever heard of virtual races, social distancing, Covid. But even before the pandemic hit home we had a Peco race held at the Great Yorkshire Showground in very wet and muddy conditions. This was followed by a race in February with gale force winds and torrential rain on already very wet ground. Amazingly some members of the club didn’t wimp out and defied the weather warnings to compete. Hopefully you have all dried out and defrosted since. Then the final race of the series was cancelled due to the water logging of the Roundhay course and the potential damage. A pre-cursor of things to come.

Then came lockdown and the loss of races, organised club runs and parkrun. Running became a lone sport again, the Strider Stones gave an opportunity to meet another person (what ever happened to those?) We had challenges on the John Carr relay route and a few against Baildon where so many people stepped in and did everything they could to compete. Our captains have arranged various different challenges which I think have been appreciated by all who took part. Finally, we got back to having some club runs subject to COVID restrictions until this final lockdown. We had tremendous support from the run leaders who felt able to lead groups. There have been a few races held with staggered starts, running multi laps of an old aerodrome. Hats off to Baildon Runners who managed to deliver the Baildon Boundary Way just before the lockdown kicked in again. A different event but enjoyed by most who took part. Virtual races allowing you to choose your own course.

So what will next year bring. Who knows? Hopefully a vaccine and a return to something nearer our old normality.

I do want to say a big thank you to all members of the committee for the hard work they have put in this year to hold the club together. We do appear to have maintained a healthy membership and am sure when allowed we will be back competing.

One final comment is that I am amazed to see three of our ladies completing the John O’Groats to Lands End challenge in recent days. Well done Rachel, Claire and Donna. That sort of distance takes some dedication.

As Mike was stepping down from the post of chair , he was thanked by Alun on behalf of the club for his many years of service and by the incoming chair Rachel for his service and support

Chat was also full of thanks for him

6) Membership update and 2021/22 fees

Mervyn Silva presented his report

Currently we have 201 members in total, 181 full members. This is down from the last AGM but this is unsurprising as there has been very little racing or club activity due to the Covid 19 situation. The position of social/non competitive members had been clarified with EA, they will be covered by EA insurance for club training led by club run leaders. The PDF containing the full report can be sent out on request to the secretary, Alun Griffiths

**Recommendation from the management committee:**

**That the Membership Fee for the year 2021/22 be unchanged at £30**

proposed Mervyn Silva seconded Mike Moss

Agreed nem con

7) Captains’ Address

Stuart Dunbar, on behalf of the club captains, gave an address in the form of a video presentation

8) London Marathon

Normally we would hold the ballot for club places at the AGM but due to the postponement and partial cancellation this year information about club places for 2021 was not yet available. When it becomes clear a ballot will be held

9) Social events

Due to Covid 19 the only social events we have been able to hold since the last AGM were last years pied and peas night and Christmas meal. There have been a number of Zoom quizzes and thanks go to the Hamiltons for suggesting these and all who quizzed, provided Zoom sessions and took part. We hope to be able to resume face to face social gatherings at some point in 2001

10) Club trip 2021

At the moment there is no clear plan as to what will be possible but it is hoped the Sweden trip will go ahead next year

11) Club Championship

Stuart reported on last years championship by video and advised that he would set up one for next year when the situation for racing became clearer. He appealed for someone to consider taking over the spreadsheet with the results.

12) Northern athletics

Alun apologised for not having prepared more information in advance of the meeting.

Mike Moss presented the history and background to our affiliation. He explained there was a cost to the club of £2 per member ( but this was waived this year)

It entitles us to compete in NA events, but these are mainly track and field. the 6 and 12 stage relays that we do participate in is very good event, and there were a number of positive comments made on ‘chat’

It was proposed by Mike Moss, seconded by Alun Griffiths that as there was currently no cost to the club we don’t make a decision now, but do so when we are next due to pay in the light of the situation then.

Agreed

13) Questions for the committee (via Chat)

As LIRF courses are now online there was a question about the process of becoming a run Leader. Anyone interested should contact, Craig Elliot, who will bring it to the committee so that the course fees can be refunded if approved.

There was a question about the new club clothing supplier. It was reported that this was almost sorted out and information should be going out very soon

It was asked whether the club could consider having a Youth Section - the committee agreed to consider this and report back

Stuart presented final thanks in a further video