



Essex County Athletic Association

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Monday 3rd July 2017 at 19.30 hours in the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford.

Present:

David Staines (Chairman), Gary Chandler (Treasurer), John Weir (President), Diane Wooller (President Elect), Malcolm Bailey (Minute Secretary), Peter Cassidy, Richard Casey (Schools Representative), Ron Dawson, Mick Emms, Allison Gillan, Mathew Gillard, Roy Meadowcroft, Kaye Merrywest, Paul Merrywest, Jean Tierney, Brigid Wallen, June Cork.

1a) Apologies for Absence

Claire Levey, Paul Mingay, Brian Panting, Ray Pearce

David Staines introduced Richard Casey as the schools representative.

2) Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 5th June 2017 were **approved** as a true record of that meeting Proposed by Jean Tierney and seconded by Peter Cassidy.

3a) Matters arising

School Trophies - At the previous meeting it had been agreed to combine the results of the U13 girls with those of the U15's due to the limited number of entries. Kaye Merrywest who was unable to attend this meeting raised some reservations about this decision. After a debate it was agreed that next year the results from the U13, 15 & 17 girls would be combined to calculate the overall winner of the trophy. To ensure that all results counted there would be a space on the entry form for the competitor to write the name of their school.

Proposed: David Staines Seconded: June Cork

Majority of the committee supported with some abstentions.

3b) Treasurer's matters

Gary Chandler confirmed that he had received the £500 grant from England Athletics.

The County clock will be hired by Grange Farm & Dunmow runners at their 10k in July. 2017 Outdoor track & Field championships will generate a healthy net profit of some £6k.

David Staines advised the meeting that he will purchase a generator for the County race clock costing £147.

4a) Correspondence

Nothing to report

4b) Club/Committee Register Changes.

Jean Tierney agreed to pass on the contact details of Harold Wood Runners to David Staines in order that he can contact them about affiliating with County.

5) Networking

Essex Athletics Network Sportshall dates for the 2017/18 season have been announced. They are 15 October, 12th November and 2nd December 2017.

6) Regional Reports

Nothing to report.

7) Track & Field

The County relay championships took place on Friday 30th June at Havering AC. These started at 7pm and were due to finish at approximately 10pm. Unfortunately they overran with the last event finishing just before 11am.

A number of reasons for this were identified which included; two competitors requiring first aid attention, track has 6 lanes (and to accommodate a number of races an eight lane track was needed; so there were additional heats), competitors were warming up in the centre of the track which was causing additional confusion, there were traffic problems on the A12 and M25 which meant some competitors were late arriving and it was felt that holding the championships on a Friday night were not ideal.

There were number of positive comments about the host club. Facilities were good, parking well managed, excellent atmosphere with a good P.A system.

There were 135 teams taking part, which is higher than last year.

Results are on the Essex Athletics website.

A full review of the Championships will take place at the forthcoming Track & Field sub-committee.

David Staines will write to Tony Benton at Havering AC to thank the club for hosting the event.

The 10k track championships are being held at Braintree AC on Wednesday 12th July. Gary Chandler reported that entries have now closed. (27 entries - 3 ladies and 24 men).

At the recent 8 Counties Senior Inter-Counties event held at Kingston Upon Thames the Essex Men finished 1st and the Ladies 4th. Combined team score Essex was 2nd.

Jessica Judd (Chelmsford AC) has gained selection to compete for team GB at the forthcoming World Championships in London in the Women's 1500m. She finished 2nd in the qualifying event. Less than an hour after crossing the line in the 1500m she took part in the 5,000m where she finished 5th. David Staines is to write to Jessica Judd to congratulate her on her achievement.

(Dominic King had previously been selected in the 50k walk – see county minutes April 2017)

8) Cross Country

A summary of fixtures and venues that have been agreed to date–

Date	Fixture	Venue
2017		
Saturday 7 th October	Essex XC Relays	Stubbers, Upminster
Saturday 21 October	SEAA XC Relays	Wormwood Scrubs
Saturday 28 th October	Essex XC League – race 1	Cambridge
Saturday 18 th November	London XC Championships	Parliament Hill
Saturday 25 th November	Essex XC League – race 2	Hockley
Saturday 2 nd December	Essex Vets and U13 and U15 County Championships	Writtle University College
Saturday 9 th December	SEAA Masters and Inter Counties XC Championships	Horspath Track Oxford
Saturday 16 th December	Essex XC League – race 3	Colchester (Hilly Fields)
2018		
Saturday 6 th January	Senior and U17 and U20 XC Championships	Great Notley Country Park
Saturday 13 th January	Essex XC League – Race 4	Orion
Saturday 27 th January	SEAA XC Main Championships	To be confirmed
Saturday 10 th February	Essex XC League – Race 5	Basildon (Gloucester Park)

Brigid Wallen updated the meeting with progress to date of the organisation of the XC relays at Stubbers. She has agreed to obtain the Race Permit with all other administrative matters to be dealt with by the host club, Havering AC.

Cost of hiring Stubbers is £1,250. Ron Dawson commented that this was £250 higher than the fee he was quoted last year.

9) Road Running

The Essex 10k championships took place at Brentwood on 2nd July. Gary Chandler reported that the event went well with the Ladies race won by Laura Brooks (Basildon AC) in 38.41 and the Men's by James Connor (Kent AC) in 31.21. Ladies team event was won by Saffron Striders and the Men's by Colchester Harriers.

On the day it was noted that a runner had given his race number to another competitor. These runners were from different clubs. Had this not been picked up it would have influenced the men's team results, where a club would have been incorrectly awarded the team silver medals. Fortunately, this has been identified prior to the prize giving.

Gary Chandler proposed a motion that in future that if this occurred that any runners found to do this at any Essex Championship race (Road, XC or T&F) will be disqualified from ALL Essex Championships for a period of 12 months. This will apply to both the runner giving the number as well as the runner taking the number.

Proposed by Gary Chandler Seconded by Brigid Wallen

Unanimously agreed by all the committee

The next County road race will be the Pleshey Half marathon on 24th September 2017.

Ron Dawson reported that the planning for the Essex 20 is going well. Clive Hopkins will shortly be measuring the proposed course.

10) Trophies

As reported at the last meeting, Roy Meadowcroft has still not been able to recover the Ladies walking trophy. Contact is now to be made with the membership secretary of her club.

The Senior 4x400 relay trophy has not been returned by CATS. Diane Wooller is to chase.

11) Walking

Nothing to report

12) Officials

Nothing to report

13) Schools Liaison

Richard Casey reported that the England Schools' Athletic Association Championships are taking place at Alexander Stadium, Birmingham over the weekend 7/8 July. The Essex team will be represented by 69 pupils.

Richard Casey was asked to provide details of the date and venue of the School's 2018 XC Championships.

14) Any other business

Following County's decision at the last meeting to provide an 'advance payment' of £7,000 to Woodford Green AC & Essex Ladies to enable them purchase a new PhotoFinish system (monies were to cover at least 21 days hire fees), David Staines has received an email from the club.

They have asked that County reconsider the details of the terms on offer. They are grateful for our offer but have asked that the deal be on the basis of a 50% grant and 50% as an advance on rentals. County would receive a discount on their public rate; which is currently £300 per day.

Concerns were expressed regarding what could be perceived as a specific equipment grant for one club. However, it does meet the criteria for a UKA £500 grant whose purpose is to improve provision at county championships which benefit all clubs and their athletes.

There are very few Photofinish systems in the region. Jean Tierney proposed that a ‘face to face’ meeting be arranged with Woodford Green AC & Essex Ladies. It was agreed that Dave Staines, John Weir and Gary Chandler would represent County. David Staines to contact Woodford Green to arrange.

Meeting concluded at 21:05

Summary of Actions

Item	Action	By Whom
4b)	Contact details of Harold Wood Runners to be provided to David Staines so that he can contact them to highlight the benefits of County affiliation	Jean Tierney
7)	Letter to be sent to Havering AC to thank them for hosting the County Relay Championships	David Staines
7)	Write to Jessica Judd to congratulate her on selection for the World Championships	David Staines
14)	Meeting to be arranged with Woodford Green & Essex Ladies to discuss purchase of PhotoFinish equipment	David Staines

Meeting agenda for Monday 4th September 2017 at 7.30pm to be held at the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic Club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the meeting of 3rd July 2017
3. Matters arising
Treasurers Matters
4. Correspondence
Club & Committee Register changes
5. Networking
6. Regional Reports
7. Track & Field
8. Cross Country
9. Road Running
10. Trophies
11. Walking
12. Officials
13. School Liaison
14. Any other business