



## *Essex County Athletic Association*

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Essex County Athletic Association held in the clubhouse of Chelmsford Athletic club, Melbourne Park, Chelmsford on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 19:30 hours

### **Present:**

Gerry O'Doherty (Billericay Striders), Gary Chandler ,Allison Gillan , Alistair Gillan (Springfield Striders), John Weir, Sylvia Sergeant, Philip Sergeant, Hayley Pegg (Chelmsford AC), Diane Wooller, Chris Akehurst, Paul Mingay, Margaret Williams, Lance Williams, Maddie Adams, (Colchester Harriers AC), Kaye Merrywest (Life Vice President), Paul Merrywest (Life Member), Ron Dawson, Keith Palmer (Southend AC), Peter Cassidy (Loughton AC), Claire Levey (Ilford AC), Linda Bates, Peter Bates (Pitsea RC), Malcolm Bailey (Tiptree Road Runners), Scott Darney (Witham RC), Michael Wilson (East London Runners).

### **1. Apologies for Absence**

Dave Ainsworth (Ilford AC), Brigid Wallen (Witham RC), Andy Catton (Ilford AC), Susan Edwards (East London Runners), Ray Pearce, Mathew Gillard, June Cork (Southend AC), Gerry Heapy (Thurrock Harriers).

### **2. Election of Chair for the evening**

Andy Catton (Chair Essex AA) was unable to attend the meeting and Malcolm Bailey proposed that Gerry O'Doherty be elected to chair this meeting.

Proposed: Malcolm Bailey          Seconded: Hayley Pegg

Unanimously agreed by all those present

### **3. Minutes of the last AGM**

The minutes of the last AGM held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020 were approved as a true record of that meeting.

Proposed: Allison Gillan          Seconded: Hayley Pegg

### **4. Matters Arising**

None

**5. Presentation of the Accounts (Gary Chandler). Financial accounts will be sent out by way of a separate email to all club secretaries.**

**Overall Position**

I'll keep this brief; as the reality is that the continued impact of lockdown restrictions had a significant impact on the county's activity in 2020/21.

All 3 XC championships were cancelled, Indoor Championships were cancelled, it wasn't until the Outdoor T&F Championships in the summer that we saw any return to normality with the 2 main days held at Chelmsford, and latterly the 5000m and 10000m nights also held at the same venue. On the road, continued nervousness around restrictions meant we had to wait until September to see our one and only road championship for the year, the Pleshey Half hosted by Springfield Striders.

The outdoor championships, in a normal year, net the county around £6000. This year the net income was just under £5000. The main reason for the difference was the inability to host the relay championships this summer, which nets c£1500.

**Expenses**

All pretty self explanatory, perhaps I'll mention just a couple:

1. Equipment purchases of £471 were for a new printer and ink for the T&F Championship secretaries.
2. Presentation/Gifts included a £100 to St Luke's hospice in memory of Mick Emms.

**Balance Sheet**

Stock levels of vests and medals have been further reduced this year as the lack of events has meant we had enough to see us through without making any further purchases.

**Summary**

With £5,000 net championship income and hardly any of our normal "trading" expenses this year we have, unusually, seen an increase to our balances. I expect this to revert to a deficit this coming year as the reality of increased costs of hosting events will become the new norm.

Finally, thanks again to Rodney Silk, our honorary auditor, who audits the accounts annually for us.

Proposed by: Peter Cassidy      Seconded by: John Weir

## **6. Presentation of Secretary's report.**

Firstly, thank you to all those that have attended this evening, especially as we still find ourselves in somewhat of strange circumstances, 18 months on since the first lockdown.

### **Cross Country**

Unfortunately as you will all be aware due to the restrictions that were in place at the beginning of 2021 Cross Country fixtures were cancelled, and it is only recently that we have been able to start running Cross Country again.

The first championship race was the cross-county relays held at Weald Park, Brentwood. A thank you to Billericay Striders for hosting this event. It was a challenge due to the very heavy rain but overall, the event went well. The Vets, U13 and U15's were held on Saturday just gone at Writtle and again a thank you to Springfield Striders for hosting.

### **Road Running**

Again, due to restrictions in place races have been limited but since the AGM last year and all that have taken place are the half marathon at Pleshey, the Chelmsford marathon, the Stebbing 10 mile and Chelmsford 10k. Thanks to all the hosting clubs for these events.

### **Track and Field**

Once again due to restrictions we had to cancel the indoor championships, but hopefully these will still be able to go ahead in 2022.

The 5k championships took place at Chelmsford in July and were a great success.

The outdoor championships took place at the end of July/beginning of August due to restrictions being lifted. Thank you to all the helpers and officials that helped over that weekend.

### **Conclusion**

At this point I would also like us to think of those families that have lost loved one this year.

A special thought to the families of Catherine Bauer, Colin Lax, Arthur Tullett and Ted Butcher who have all sadly passed away this year.

Thank you to Gerry for another presidential year, again what has been a little different from the norm, but as he will be continuing on for 2022, let's hope that will be a little more normal.

It is with pleasure that I submit this report to the AGM

Proposed by: Allison Gillan

Seconded by: Chris Akehurst

## **7. Election of Officers and Executive Committee**

### **a) The President:**

Gerry O'Doherty

### **b) President Elect:**

Brigid Wallen

Proposed by: Allison Gillan                      Seconded by: Claire Levey

### **c) Life Vice Presidents & Life membership:**

Nominations had been received, and supported by the Executive committee, to award Life memberships to the following:-

- Allison Gillan
- Marian Stiff
- Colin Stiff

Plaques have been ordered to present to the three recipients and it is anticipated that this will take place at the next Executive Committee meeting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

Proposed by: Hayley Pegg                      Seconded by: Ron Dawson

### **d) Treasurer:**

Gary Chandler

### **e) Secretary:**

Malcolm Bailey

Claire Levey stood down from this role at this AGM and the Chair thanked her for hard work and support of Essex AA during her time as County Secretary

### **f) Chair:**

Andy Catton

### **g) Vice Presidents/Life Members: (elect 6)**

Jean Tierney, Ray Pearce, Kaye Merrywest, John Weir, Paul Merrywest and Ron Dawson.

**h) Members of the Executive Committee** (20 + Immediate Past President +1 Essex Schools representative)

Claire Levey  
Linda Bates  
Peter Bates  
Peter Cassidy  
Allison Gillan  
Alistair Gillan  
Keith Palmer  
Paul Mingay  
Diane Wooller  
Nicola Burston  
June Cork  
Chris Akehurst  
Scott Darney  
Richard Charleston  
Hayley Pegg  
Phil Sergeant  
Sylvia Sergeant  
Susan Edwards  
Lance Williams

Richard Casey (Schools representative)

Election of Officers for the roles from item 7d) to 7h) proposed and seconded by:-

Proposed by: John Weir                      Seconded by: Ron Dawson

**i) Honorary Auditors:** R Silk has expressed his willingness to continue as Honorary Auditor.

Proposed by: Gary Chandler              Seconded by: Hayley Pegg

**j) Honorary Trustees:** K Merrywest, R Pearce, J Weir

Proposed by: Hayley Pegg              Seconded by: Chris Akehurst

**8. Presentation of Trophies**

- Anna Neagle Trophy for Senior & Under 20 Women at Track & Field, Road & Cross Country.

Awaiting race walking results before winner can be announced.

- George Holroyd Trophy for Under 13 Girls at Track & Field & Cross Country.

Winner – Chelmsford AC

- Joe King Trophy for Under 17 Women at Track & Field & Cross Country.

Winner - Chelmsford AC

- John Dowsett Shield for Under 13 Boys at Track & Field & Cross Country.

Winner - Havering AC

- Pat Mills Trophy for Under 15 Girls at Track & Field & Cross Country.

Winner - Basildon AC

- Sidney Taylor Trophy for All Relays, Men, Women, Juniors, Boys & Girls.

Winner - Havering AC

- Mike Seaman Trophy for Under 15 Boys at Track & Field & Cross Country

Winner - Havering AC.

Trophy cannot be traced at present. Ongoing enquires are being made to establish where it is currently located.

- Herbert Pash Cup for U17 Men

Winner - Havering AC

- Arthur Turk Cup for Senior Men/Under 20 Men

Winner – Chelmsford AC

Susan sent in a report with an update on the fundraising for a 5k Ladies Track Championship trophy, which was read out by Gerry:-

The fundraiser is nearly at halfway now thanks firstly to a steady flow of donations from individual athletes and one from Victoria Park Harriers and Tower Hamlets AC and secondly the first fundraising event, a quiz, which raised just over £700.

The quiz was hosted by East London Runners supported by Woodford Green with Essex Ladies. Athletes and friends from the two host clubs, Eton Manor AC, Orion Harriers and Loughton AC came to the event.

It would be very exciting to have the trophy in place next summer which I feel could be achieved if a few more clubs were able to support the fundraiser in some way, either by donating or running another fundraising event.

[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/essextrophyinitiative](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/essextrophyinitiative)

Clubs/athletes are encouraged to support this fantastic initiative.

## **9. Election of Officers for Executive Committee:**

### **a) Track & Field Championship Secretary:**

Kaye Merrywest & Paul Merrywest have decided to step down from this role after the 2022 Indoor Track & Field Championships.

Hayley Pegg will take over this role after the Indoor Championships.

Kaye & Paul were thanked for all their efforts and dedication over the years ensuring that our championships were successful.

### **b) Track & Field Secretary: Hayley Pegg**

#### **c) Track & Field Managers:**

U13 Boys Paul Cheal

U13 Girls Vacant

U15 Boys Daryl Blows

U15 Girls Ian Pike

U17 Boys Daryl Blows

U17 Girls Ian Pike

U20 Men Susan Edwards

U20 Women Ian Pike

Senior Men Vacant (Trevor Robinson stepped down from this role)

Senior Women Heidi Nicholas

Jo Ryan

### **d) Cross Country Secretary: Allison Gillan**

#### **e) Cross Country Team Managers**

Male: Paul Bailey

Female: Phil Oatham

### **f) Road Running Secretary and Team Manager: Gary Chandler**

**g) Race Walking Secretary:** Vacant – Melanie Peddle has stepped down from this role

**h) Race Walking Association Rep.** as 9g)

**i) Eastern Region AA Rep.:** Diane Wooller

**j) England Athletics London Region representative:** Paul Merrywest

**k) England Athletics Eastern Region representative:** Vacant

**l) Officials Secretary:** Diane Wooller

**m) Championships Record Secretary:**

Track & Field - Hayley Pegg  
Endurance: Paul Mingay

**n) Trophy Secretary:** Susan Edwards

**o) Schools Liaison Rep.:** Richard Casey

**p) Welfare Officers**  
Jean Tierney & Malcolm Bailey

The Chair thanked all the 2021 team managers & Secretaries for their support during the year.

Election for the roles from item 7a) to 7p) proposed and seconded by:-

Proposed by: Seconded by

Except 9 c) U13 girls & Senior Men team managers, 9g) , 9h), 9k) which are currently vacant and volunteers are sought to cover these roles.

Proposed by: Ron Dawson                  Seconded by: Chris Akehurst

#### **10. Review of Essex County Athletic Association Constitution Law 15 c)**

Constitution states that (law 15c):-

In all championships Essex County medals shall be awarded subject to the number of entries as follows:-

1. One medal only if four entries or less;
2. Two medals if five entries;
3. Three medals if six entries are more.

Except that, if second and/or third place positions, are better than, or equal to UKA Grade 3 performances, then medals shall be awarded.

Team Championships

1. One set of medals if three teams are less are entered;
2. Two sets of medals if four teams are entered;
3. Three sets of medals if six teams or more are entered.

No track or field championship may be won unless the standard of performance is approved by the Executive Committee.

Over recent years, medals have been awarded, irrespective of the numbers that have entered these championships. The meeting was of the view that this law does not apply to Road Racing or Cross Country.

By a majority verdict it was agreed that in future track and field championships this law will apply.

Meeting ended 20:12