

1. Apologies:- Ray Eagle John Gilliard Ron Harris. Derek un-apologised as he had made it to the race and the meeting.

Present:- M Lucas K Lucas D Adlam F Parry E Meredith Mark Bryant Clive Horsfield Derek Thornley Cledwyn Jones Rhys Williams John Battersby (left during meeting) Jules Carter John Simms (left during meeting) John Sweeting Dave Gilbert

2. The minutes of AGM2004 were made available to the meeting and agreed save that John Sweeting was also there last year .

3. Matters arising would be covered later in the meeting under other items

4. Chairman's report:- It had been a reasonably successful year for the club with record Tuesday night attendances eg 27 at the waterfalls but poorly attended races such as Llanbedr Blaenavon and Cribyn. The lack of a calendar may have played a part but organisers could have considered something more than a two line entry in the FRA calendar. Now that there were 2 or 3 calendars, the same problem should not arise and, indeed, L-B had recently enjoyed a turnout of 40 and PCC today had seen a turnout of 41.

This year also marked the 25th birthday of the Club which had started when it was suggested that there be a run from Llanbedr to Blaenavon by Doc Buffet and Phil Dixon inter alia both of whom were still 'around'.

The Club also now had a good website up and running webmastered by Bill Fear who was keeping it up to date. The newsletter was in decline and that needed to be addressed as only about half the membership were on the internet.

The Club had also enjoyed a very successful social evening at which Dr Stroud had spoken and thanks were given to John Aggleton for securing Dr Stroud for the occasion and Jenny and Douglas for organising venue food etc.

5. Secretary's report:- copies of correspondence with AAW were produced to the meeting covering the matters authorised by the last AGM, the wholly inadequate response from AAW and the most recent exchange following the threat unilaterally to disaffiliate the Club by AAW. The admission by AAW that the 'category D' race rule was only under discussion at the time of the Waun Fach controversy was noted.

6. Treasurer's report:- Accounts were circulated for 2004/05 showing a closing balance of £1,148.99. A reserve of kit stocks was held sale of which would provide more income in future; kit in stock was not reflected in the accounts. The expenditure on marshall's kit packs was recorded as a discrete item but it was felt that this had been a good idea ; likewise the cost to the Club of the Dr Stroud social event with its donation to his charity was approved as a good use of the Club's money

It was further agreed that the food provided by the landlord of the Red Lion for the meeting should be paid for by the Club rather than the Winter League.

7. MDC AAW :- this item had been announced to members in the notice of the meeting

WFRA had now been established with a current membership of c 150 with a calendar, a website and an open championship. It was suggested that the vast majority of races in Wales

were now WFRA insured rather than under the AAW scheme. John and Martin had been to the inaugural meeting and were on the WFRA committee.

The Waun Fach issue had never been satisfactorily resolved; the same people were still involved at decision making level in AAW and they remained apparently blind to their responsibility for what had happened.

The L-B race had been intended to be a race both in the AAW and WFRA championships. AAW had however withdrawn as no AAW permit had been issued and it was therefore not an official AAW race so that it went ahead as WFRA only. It was noted that to the best of the Club's current knowledge, the Moelwyn's race on 23 April was set to go ahead as an AAW championship race and a British Championship but under WFRA rules. This appeared to suggest a discriminatory measure of illogicality and inconsistency within AAW's approach which smacked of double standards.

This long running issue needed to be resolved at least for the time being without wholesale regime change in AAW at the meeting?. If the Club stayed in, all members whether marshals walkers or runners or any combination would have to pay the £15 fee, all races would require risk assessments and permits and be run as Club races but the Club would still have an influence on AAW elections. If the Club left, the Club would be independent and could go its own way, but anybody wishing to be considered for or in fact to represent Wales would have to affiliate elsewhere.

A number of issues arising were then discussed including:-

- the position of those who use the fact of MDC's affiliation to compete in other disciplines and the impact of disaffiliation on them;
- responsibility for races organised under the AAW scheme by MDC members under the banner of affiliated clubs;
- whether it was politically better for the Club to disaffiliate or for AAW to expel the Club;
- whether there should be a clean or a final and irrevocable break or any attempt to maintain a relationship outside of the strict parameters of the affiliation scheme

The motion put by Fred to the meeting supported by Clive and Dave inter alios was that the Club should actively disaffiliate from AAW stating reasons in a letter to be drafted by the secretary to be approved by the committee.

The motion was passed unanimously.

8. Elections:- Martin to continue as president, Douglas as secretary and Fred to be treasurer. John Sweeting to continue as membership secretary. As we were effectively no longer a recognised athletics club, a junior development officer was no longer a requirement; in Dick's absence it was decided to dispense with this position. The question of club captaincy was considered but left open. The role of newsletter editor was also left open as Bill Fear had theoretically assumed this with the webmaster role; if there were difficulties Rhys Williams volunteered to assist with the production of a hard copy item for circulation.

9. AOB. The Club thanked Kay for her special contribution in marshalling everywhere (and getting a nice tan in the process today at least), writing the Winter League results software and designing/organising mugs tshirts etc