

# MINUTES OF SWANSEA HARRIERS ATHLETIC CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

HELD AT

**KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELDS CAFE, SKETTY  
LANE, SWANSEA, THURSDAY 5 OCTOBER 2017**

**PRESENT:** Barrie Owen (President), Colin Davies (Chair), Lynne Brier (Vice-Chair), Sue Griffiths (Treasurer), Tony Clements (Secretary), Ian Griffiths, Chris McCoubrey, Wendy Slade, Brian Fox, Sue Leyshon, Imelda Morrisson, Catherine Collins, Daphne Marler, Roderick Davies, Karen Evans, John Griffiths, David Jones, Neal Merry, Marilyn Davies, Ann Owen, Judith Gooding

**Apologies:** Jo Wood, George Edwards, Wynford Lyshon, Marian Williams and Andrew Jenkins

## **President's Welcome**

Barrie Owen opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the Annual General Meeting and by highlighting how successful a year it has been. As well as the many successes on and off the track throughout the year, Barrie commented on the very favourable comments he has received from visiting clubs and officials when attending meetings held in Swansea. These comments include the friendliness of our volunteers, the efficiency and helpfulness of the University staff and the generally well-run meetings that have taken place. Officials, in particular, enjoy coming to Swansea where they feel very well looked after.

Reflecting on what many perceive as the most successful season the club has had, Barrie highlighted that improvements are still needed in some areas. Talent identification remains a challenge as well as retaining athletes through from under fifteen to the under twenty age groups.

Barrie paid tribute to John Collins who we sadly lost in June of this year. Barrie said he misses John tremendously and this loss was felt throughout Welsh and British athletics.

In concluding, Barrie thanked everyone associated with the club - the athletes, coaches, team managers, officials and all the other volunteers and helpers.

## **Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting were accepted as a true record

### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

### **Hon. Secretary's Report 2016-17**

Tony Clements introduced his report and highlighted the additional reports from Caroline Hurley on the Senior Women's Team, David Jones' report on the Senior Men's Team, George Edwards' Off Track report, Jo Woods' Track and Field report including the Junior Team's performances, Brian Fox's Cross Country report, Eamonn Kirk's Endurance Group report and a Coaching report from Andrew Jenkins.

Tony reiterated how successful a season it has been both from a club and athlete perspective. The profile of the club has probably never been so high with national and international coverage of our athletes at the London Marathon, alongside both our men and women now taking their place in their respective British league Premier Divisions next season. This followed the promotion of the men's team from Division One and our women retaining their Premiership status. Our juniors had another successful season coming 5<sup>th</sup> in the YDL Lower Age Group final. We were also winners of the National Men's Twelve stage Road Relays and our women second in the Six-stage Road Relay at Sutton Park.

Tony explained that the club now has over 700 members and given the changing environment that athletics finds itself in, our governance arrangements and structures have been reviewed. The club is therefore seeking to change from a Community Amateur Sports Club to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Tony also paid tribute to John Collins and reflected on the personal support and friendship John had given to all those he came across within the club.

In response to the reports, Neal Merry also highlighted the high profile that some of our officials have in the sport, with particular mention of David Jesset, Competition Director, Carina Jones, Ffion Jenkins and Jane Dakin who had all officiated at the World Championships in London. He also paid tribute to Phillipa Roles who had sadly passed away in May of this year.

## **Hon. Treasurer's Report for Financial Year ending 31 March 2015**

Sue Griffiths presented the audited financial report, which is showing an improving financial position for the club.

The Meeting approved the Treasurer's report.

## **Election of Officers and Officials**

### **a) President**

Barrie Owen was re-elected as President

### **b) Elected Vice President**

Sue Leyshon was confirmed as Senior Vice President

Brian Fox was elected as Junior Vice President

### **c) Chairperson**

Colin Davies was elected as Chairperson

**d) Vice Chairperson**

Lynne Brier was elected as Vice Chairperson

**e) Honorary Secretary**

Tony Clements was elected as Honorary Secretary

**f) Honorary Treasurer**

Sue Griffiths was elected as Honorary Treasurer

**g) Membership Secretary**

Chris McCoubrey was elected as Membership Secretary

**h) Committee (5)**

The following were nominated and elected to serve on the Committee:

Jo Wood, Ian Griffiths, Imelda Morrisson, Wendy Slade and Brian Fox

**Life Members**

Brian Fox and Glyn Price's nominations were received for Life Membership which were fully supported and approved by meeting Members.

**Auditors**

Peter Hughes was approved as auditor for the coming year.

**Proposed Change of Constitution to Charitable Incorporated Organisation and Appointment of Trustees**

Barrie Owen and Tony Clements gave a background to the work that has been ongoing to consider changing the constitution of the club from a Community Amateur Sports Club to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Tony explained that this work had arisen from recommendations from advisers GB Sports who had been funded by Welsh Athletics to look at Welsh clubs governance arrangements and structures

It was unanimously agreed that:

- \* The work to establish the club as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation should continue
- \* The initial CIO Trustees will be the current Committee members. This will be subject to the appropriate checks and each Committee member's agreement
- \* To call a Special General Meeting to dissolve the Community Amateur Sports Club and transfer all assets to the new CIO once this is approved by the Charity Commission.

## **Announcements and Coming Events**

Wendy Slade informed Members of the Junior Awards night on 20 October, and the Annual Awards Dinner on 2 March 2018 which will take place at the Village Hotel.

## **Close**

President Barrie Owen thanked everyone for attending and reminded everyone of the need to recruit to all the vacant team manager posts to ensure the ongoing success of the club.

**The meeting closed at 9.06pm**