

MINUTES OF THE EGM FOR ALMOST ATHLETES, 28th Jan 2021

Held via Zoom.

1. Apologies

Ingird Harris, Jo Jonston.

2. Minutes, 2019 AGM

As the Covid pandemic prevented an AGM being held in 2020, the minutes of the 2019 AGM have been made available for members to read on the website, with a link from the club facebook page.

Acceptance of accuracy proposed by Matt Polson, seconded by Mike Daly.

3. Chair's Report

Good evening and welcome to this extraordinary General Meeting. I'm sure many of you will have spent plenty of time listening to people on Zoom already today so I will keep this summary very brief!

It hardly needs saying but the last twelve months have been very strange and difficult for all of us in our personal and working lives and it's been equally unusual in the history of Almost Athletes. All the events that we would normally expect to happen, from the weekly club training and social runs, to the Good Friday, Christmas Eve and Bank Holiday runs and of course nearly all the races, were lost or severely curtailed.

However, I am really pleased to say that the club has stayed together and everyone has encouraged and supported one another both virtually and in person, when allowed. We have devised new virtual events such as the Baton relay last June and July, the relay getting Archie to and from Lapland before Christmas, and the virtual Linda Franks race this month. We had a Handicap Race, somewhat different to the usual format, but nonetheless plenty of Almosts participated and it had that element of competition. The Cotswold Way Relay also happened, again in a different format but with plenty of support from Almosts, and there have even been some real races - the Wye Valley Challenge and the Westonbirt 10k for example, where we've been able to don the purple vest and represent the club.

I thank all of you who have taken part in any way at all with these club activities, for sustaining Almost Athletes as a vibrant and friendly club in these most difficult of circumstances.

I particularly want to thank the committee for all their hard work. Everyone has contributed, but a special thank you must go to Fi Barnes and Dave McGrath who got to grips with England Athletics covid guidance – not always the easiest thing to do! - to enable us to have the Wednesday social runs back in some form, and I also want to say a big thank you to the LIRfs and Coaches who have stepped up to enable us to run together or to work on our training.

I also would like to thank Wendy Haskins who is stepping down tonight as our Treasurer. It's not an easy role, and we thank her for doing it so ably. At this point in a normal AGM I would present Wendy with some flowers but I can tell her that those flowers will be with you tomorrow!

As the vaccination programme rolls on, we all surely hope that it won't be too many weeks before we can get together in person again, and regain the happy running environment we all enjoy as Almost Athletes. Until then, please stay safe, enjoy your running and we'll be back together soon. Addendum: I did not mention the Upcote Run, organised by our own James Clay, and a great success too. We look forward to a repeat event in the not-too-distance future!

4. Treasurer's Report

A copy of the financial statement for 2018-19 and 2019-20 has been made available for members to read on the website, with a link from the club facebook page.

Wendy covered the accounts with explanations.

David Chittock: Kit stock check with Pete Hooper – no order for over a year. Hamstrung with min order requirement & lead time. Discuss with Claire offline.

Mike Daly: Is old kit stock going to charity? That's the idea, any suggestions welcome.

Acceptance of accuracy proposed Kevin Beamish, seconded by Philip Jeyes.

5. Election of Committee for 2021

The following members are standing for election:

Claire Hawes	Chair
Peter Mitchener	Vice Chair
Elzbieta Antosiewicz	Treasurer
Alison Hume	Membership Secretary
Phil Jeyes	Secretary
Fi Barnes	Welfare Officer
Dave McGrath	Welfare Officer
Steve Adams	
Kevin Beamish	
Dave Elliott	
Penny Lewis	
Steve Taylor	

Many thanks to our outgoing committee members, Wendy Haskins and Matt Polson.

Proposed that all should be elected by Wendy Haskins, seconded by David Chittock.

6. Any Other Business

Matt Polson gave thanks to Claire for her hard work over this period. We are sure that everyone reflects this sentiment.

7. Close

(close)