**Wye Valley Runners**

**Minutes of Committee Meeting**

Monday 6th February 2023, 7:30 pm

Rose and Crown, Ledbury Road, Hereford

**Attendees:** Paddy Nugent, Peter Nugent, Harry Franklin, Dave Sherwood, Jeremy Jehan, Becki Ansfield, Lou Foti, Lillian Istance, Ralph Lloyd, Brent Lowson

**Apologies for absence:** Laura Tootell, Amelia Louth, Martin Flowers, Kaleigh Ingram

**Introduction**

Paddy welcomed new Committee members, Ralph, Lillian and Brent to their first meeting.

**Muddy Woody**

Peter gave an update on preparations for Sunday’s Muddy Woody race. The course is all signed off now by the Forestry Commission after they required some late changes. The course is still 6 miles with just a slight diversion required.

The sponsors, Wye Valley Brewery, have given a “vague” response to date. Brent, who works at the brewery, will follow up and also collect the prizes from Jack Morris on Friday.

Peter reported that there are 216 bottles of water available in the lock-up.

Martin’s van which is usually used to transport kit, etc is reported to be in a somewhat “iffy” condition. It was proposed that a van should be hired for the weekend. This was agreed and Peter was given the authority to proceed.

Ralph will check the lock-up on Wednesday.

The subject of catering supplies, tables, etc was raised. It was proposed that we buy folding tables from J-Mart. This was agreed and Peter was authorised to buy 2 tables.

Dave gave an update on the marshal situation. Currently 23 people have committed – we need a minimum of 21 and it is anticipated that some will drop out on the day.

Dave will go up to Haugh Woods on Friday and put out tape. No clearing work is required, it’s all good to go and relatively dry for Haugh Woods although it will still be muddy.

Set-up on Saturday: The keys will be in Ralph’s porch. The toilets will be delivered at 2pm. We will need people up there at 2pm on Saturday to set up the course, etc

Peter and Dave will liaise over pre- set up on Friday.

The marquees will go up at 2pm on Saturday and require 2 to 3 people to erect.

We will need 5 people on registration to hand out race numbers (c/w timing chips) and t-shirts.

Dave will provide the marshals with emergency contact numbers.

First aiders will arrive at 10:15.

There will be a spot prize for the 40th finisher to celebrate our 40th anniversary.

As in previous years we will present a hamper to Mr Hancock who owns a yard in the wood. A budget of £50 to £70 was agreed and Ralph agreed to take care of this.

As parking is limited it was proposed that members car share as much as possible.

Doughnuts – it was reported that Brian Symonds has these in hand.

Tail – Simon Oliver will bring up the rear

Pre-race warm up to be conducted by Becks White.

Chris Smart will take professional photographs, but the new club camera is now available. This will be given to Lillian on Sunday. It was suggested that she marshals at the stream crossing where she should be able to catch some good shots.

Lillian will also make a video to promote the club on social media. It was suggested that we might use a drone to take ariel photos/video of the race. Lillian will investigate this possibility.

Several members reported that that had been asked about transfers. It was clarified that transfers are available up until race day by using the link in the original sign-up confirmation email.

**AGM Follow-Up**

**Queenswood** have proposed a Family 5k for September. This would be a community event that they have asked us to help with. We already have a course up there for the cross-country league. It was agreed that this would be a good thing to be involved with and that we should continue talking with Queenswood.

**Crocodile 8 –** 60 odd entries received so far and numbers are creeping up. As part of the course is on the road we will need to obtain a licence and sign-off from Balfour Beatty.

We will need someone to take on organising the marshals.

It was proposed that we set a date for a “cut and run” - i.e. go up one day to clear the course and then run it the next day as a test.

We need to publicise the race more and also recruit marshals.

The school will organise and host the after-race party and organise the kids' races.

**Social event updates:** Brent reported that Burghill Village Hall has been booked for the quiz on Friday May 19th at 7:30 pm.

**Social Media:** Lillian remarked that we are a nice small friendly inclusive club. Members should be encouraged to take as many photographs as possible – Lillian will use what she needs. She will follow up on a Tik Tok presence for the club to reach out to the younger generation. It was mentioned that new members can come along and try on a club night before joining and this was worth mentioning on social media. Lillian to also set up a Linked In page which will be good for networking.

**Beginners Group:** A second beginners' group will start up in April, again led by Kate. We should start advertising this soon, 6 weeks in advance. The first group will graduate by taking part in Hereford parkrun on 18th March. It was suggested that this group could soon merge into the club runs on Mondays and Wednesdays.

**Ukrainian Refugees:** Victoria, a member of the local Ukrainian Coordination Group has agreed to contact Ukrainian refugees in the county to let them know about the club.

**£6000 Funding:** available for social, open evenings, etc – ideas required.

**Sunrise Sessions with Becks White:** Paddy meeting with St Michael’s Hospice on Sunday to discuss arrangements.

**Bearwood Trail Races:** Paddy to set up entries with Entry Central and let Lillian have photos to help promote this fairly low-key series. Funding can be used to subsidise.

**Club Championships:** Jeremy has this up and running with 12 events included. It was suggested that Bearwood be included as a 13 event.

**Any Other Business**

* General agreement was that the quality of the food provided by The Courtyard at the AGM was poor for £8.50 a head. New suggestions are sought for next year.
* Following the sad death of Peter Smith it was agreed that the club should send flowers. The date of the funeral will be announced once the club has been informed. A tribute and round of applause for Pete will be held before the start of Muddy Woody on Sunday.
* Mark Dempsey is recovering well in Hereford County Hospital following brain surgery.
* Proposed Strength and Conditioning sessions to be led by Lorna Shaw have hit a snag. Lorna is only available on Wednesday evenings so the sessions would be immediately after the track or tempo sessions. It was the general opinion that this would be excessive and it was remarked that the Point 4 is available for £17/hr every other week. It was also suggested to check with Becks White regarding an alternative. The committee decided to inform Lorna that Wednesday night sessions are not really going to work.
* Next committee meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm on Monday 20th March at the Rose and Crown.

The meeting was terminated at 8:42pm.