



Perth Road Runners

Established 1985

Affiliated to Scottish Athletics 1986

Annual General Meeting

Monday 30th November 2015

Craigie Hill Golf Club

1. Welcome / Introductions

The meeting was opened by Neil Muir, Chairman at 7.25pm.

Neil opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and thanking everyone for attending on a snowy night. Neil also thanked our hosts at Craigie Hill GC for the venue which was proving to be good value for money for the Club.

2. Attendance and Apologies

The meeting was attended by 52 members.

Apologies were received from the following members:

Gary Wright, Robin Livingstone, Angela Park, Marianne McLevy, John Johnston, Fiona Muir, Dave Sherman, Steward Reid, Craig Antrobus, Eleanor Martin, Julie Ramsay, Gair McRostie, Roy Mitchell, Jo Connell, Bill Connell, Debbie Jackson, Vicky Park, Steven Gilbert, Cath Livingstone, Ian McArthur, David McFadyen, Bob Brown, Anne Wombill, Claire Douglas.

3. Adoption of AGM Minutes 2014

The AGM minutes from 2014 were accepted as true and accurate.

Proposer: Veronica Muir

Seconder: Fiona Manson

4. Intimations

Congratulations to Brian Cooper and Amy Greig on the birth of their son this year. Congratulations to Vicky Pollock, nee Park on the occasion of her marriage in March.

Neil announced the following Forthcoming Events:

- 15th December - Xmas Yahoo Handicap Race (9.5 miles), Bells Sports Centre, 6.00pm. Please bring a small gift for the Secret Santa draw afterwards (max value £5). Organised by Kirsty Johnston and Veronica Muir.
- 20th December - Annual Xmas Club Run. Meet 8.45am at Bells ready to leave for Sma Glen at 9.00am
Only rule is, wear something festive! Organised by Neil Muir.
- 14th February – Wee Winter Run. Cherrybank Inn at 10.30am, ready for 11.00 am start. Organised by Robin Wombill.
- 20th February – Club Presentation Night. 7 for 7:30pm at Craigie Hill Golf Club. Ticket price £10 per head for hot and cold buffet and band.

5. Reports from Office Bearers

The Committee's Annual Report 2015 was emailed to members 2 weeks in advance of the AGM. NM read highlights from the Annual Report and thanked a number of members for their contributions to the Club during the year:

- In the year of the Club's 30th Anniversary, it is rewarding to see the Club membership growing to 124. We believe the parkrun is a big contributor to this. However, we wish to place on the record our thanks to Mike Dales for the promotional material and ideas he created and which we've started to use to promote the Club.
- Championship, Summer Series and Hills Are Alive races have been well attended. Thanks to Grant Strachan for organising for the past 4 years.
- Thanks to the Race Sub Committee for all the work involved in organising the 2 Club races, the new Tay Ten and the Brig Bash 5. The 2 races are very popular on the racing calendar and sell out quickly. Thanks also to all members who assisted on day and also to all for the catering at Brig Bash.
- The Club's 30th Anniversary Relay & Ceilidh was a success with many member participating in the joint relay with KRRs and over 60 members and partners going to the Ceilidh. Congratulations to Barry Campbell and David McFadyen for completing the whole relay distance of 35.4 miles.
- The committee wishes to place on record our appreciation to Grant Wooler and his subcommittee for all their work on the junior section. There will be more discussion on this work under the proposal section of the AGM.
- The committee wishes to record its thanks to Mel MacRae for organising our Club clothing. Mel has sourced new suppliers and new items to get value for money for the Club. We have introduced a Club Clothing sales Night at Bells on the first Tuesday of the month which has proved very popular with members. We would also place on record our gratitude to Steven Gilbert at Campus Sports for his support both for assisting with our club clothing and his help with the Tay Ten and the Brig Bash.
- Thursday night speed work sessions are proving more popular than ever. Colin Keough remains as encouraging as ever and our thanks go to Colin for his hard work throughout the year. (There is a collection going round for Colin who gives us his time and weekly commitment free of charge).
- 39 Press Reports with photographs have been published by the PA despite changes at the PA this year. Thanks to all who gave their photos and in particular to Ian Morrison and Gordon Donnachie. The Press Reporters would ask members to please let the press reporter know your race times so they are recorded for the press report. Thanks to Jimmy Fotheringham and Stuart Robertson.

- The Club website has continued to be developed, updated and maintained to ensure that it is a valuable resource for club members and also a showcase for attracting prospective members. The website also has links to the PRRs Facebook and Twitter. Since setting up the PRR twitter account this year, Mike Dales has posted 98 tweets, and the account has 49 followers. Thanks to Simon Grieshaber and Mike Dales for managing the Digital Media.
- The Club had a good turnout for the Hartley Relays, hosted by Dundee Road Runners for 2015. The Men's A team and the Mixed A team were runners-up. Thanks to Grant Wooler for organising all the teams.
- Interest in cross country is higher than ever with 23 members showing interest in running. A reminder that all members are welcome to compete. Thanks to Simon Grieshaber as Cross Country Captain.
- The meet and greet continues to work well with new people reporting that they appreciate someone taking the time to break the ice for them on their first visit to the Club. If you are on the rota and you can't attend, can members please either swap your allocated evening or let us know if you're not available. The committee's thanks goes to Fiona Angus for arranging the rota every year and to all who volunteer. Fiona Angus requested updated email addresses for the volunteers and this was completed at the AGM.
- The Committee's thanks goes to Stephen Ferguson for the work he has done this year on maintaining Martin's Memorial Bench. For newer Club members, Martin Ryan was a member of PRRs who sadly died in 2007. Martin's Bench is at Bridge of Cally. For the record, Jean Wainwright's bench is in Quarrymill Woodland Walk.

There were no further questions on the report from members present.

5a Treasurer's Report

Sue Jones presented the Income and Expenditure account to members. Funds at 31/10/2015 were £5,067.63. Both the Brig Bash and Tay 10 had returned profits of £1,202.89 and £1,671.94 respectively.

Proposer: Daile Sipple

Secunder: Barry Campbell

There were no questions from the floor on the Accounts.

Sue thanked Phil Turner for producing and verifying the Final Accounts.

Neil thanked Sue for her work as Treasurer.

6. Race Sub Committee – Brig Bash & Tay Ten Update

Duncan Ryan gave a verbal report on the sub-committee's work in organising the 2 Club races which had both been a big success in 2015.

Tay Ten

Tay 10 in its second year, had taken place on 2nd April, Easter Sunday with 256 finishers. The race had sold out quickly to the 350 limit but it was thought that Easter Sunday had possibly reduced the numbers taking part on the day. New for 2015 was the kids race with 35 completing a mile on the track. Thanks to Campus Sports for their sponsorship, particularly for the technical t-shirts with the Tay 10 logo. Campus Sports, Caledonian Physiotherapy and ARD Blair set up in the hall on the day adding further value to the event.

Feedback from participants was very positive, in particular the marshals were singled out for praise. Chip timing was used for the first time and there were a few glitches. However, the problems were rectified quickly by Terry. The race had returned a very good profit of £1,671.94. The 2016 race will be on 3rd April.

Brig Bash 5

In its 19th edition in 2015, the race quickly sold out to the 300 limit. Chip timing was used for the first time and was very successful. Feedback from competitors was again how friendly and helpful the marshals were and the now infamous Brig Bash post race buffet was highly praised by all.

Duncan thanked Sally Newton for writing the application for the Perth & Kinross Sports Award. The Brig Bash achieved Runner Up in the Event of the Year category. Duncan also thanked all the sponsors Campus Sports, Highland Spring, Caledonian Physiotherapy and Tunnocks.

There are videos of the courses for Tay Ten and Brig Bash on You Tub courtesy of Duncan. There are Facebook pages set up for both races. In 2016 it is planned to have chip timing for both races and the Olympic mile for Brig Bash. It is also planned to get the races linked to Strava Races.

The sub-committee for 2015 consisted of: Duncan Ryan, Nicola Crowe, Veronica Muir, Daile Sipple, Alan Paterson, Fiona Morrison and Fiona Hair. Thanks to all for their hard work. Particular thanks to Nicola Crowe who was stepping down after 4 Years as Race Co-ordinator.

Nicola said that there is a manual in place for the races which lists all the tasks and procedures for organising the races.

Those stepping down in 2016 are Nicola Crowe, Daile Sipple and Alan Paterson. The sub-committee is still looking for a volunteer to replace Nicola as Race Co-ordinator for 2016.

Maureen Summers asked the date for Brig Bash in 2016 – 6th July.

Neil Muir emphasised that Terry Hislop had done an excellent job of rectifying the problems experienced with the chip timing at Tay Ten. Terry had gone out of his way to contact competitors whose times were initially wrong. Although there had been glitches Terry had quickly and effectively recovered the situation.

Neil also thanked Duncan for producing the design for the Tay 10 logo. Neil also backed up Duncan's appeal to the members to volunteer and marshal at the Club races.

7. Presentation – Jean Wainwright Salver

Sue Jones, the current holder of the Jean Wainwright Salver, introduced the award with a talk about Jean and why the salver is presented:

“The Jean Wainwright Salver is awarded to the member who has proved to be the most adventurous in their running during the year.

Jean joined PRRs in 1996 and was a club member for 15 years. She joined the club in retirement and had some amazing achievements, Jean's age category awards included:

- 15th in New York marathon in 1998
- 2nd place for Britain in the European vets championships in Belgium,
- 6 London marathons, always in top 10 in her age group,
- 17 marathons in total.
- First British woman to complete a marathon on every continent. This took Jean to Antarctica - poor weather meant the ship couldn't dock so the marathon was reorganised to running 430 laps of the upper deck and 326 laps of the lower deck - not Jean's easiest marathon in her 70th year

Jean sadly passed away in 2011 but her legacy lives on in this award.

- In the first year, 2012, the salver was presented to Anne and Robin Wombill
- In 2013 – Peter Ritchie was the winner
- In 2014 – Sue Jones won the award

The 2015 winner has been a difficult call as we had 6 very worthy nominations. After much consideration the committee decided to award the salver to an individual who had undertaken some huge challenges this year completing:

- Jedburgh ultra 38 miles plus Half Marathon the next day
- York marathon
- Edinburgh marathon
- Liverpool marathon
- Full PRRs relay – 35.3 miles
- D33 ultra
- Highland fling - 53 miles

The winner of the 2015 Jean Wainwright Salver, for A Spirit of Adventure, is Barry Campbell.“
The salver will be presented at the Club Presentation dinner in February.

8. Most Improved

Grant Strachan introduced the Most Improved male and female runners, stating that it was a challenging choice again this year.

There were 4 contenders in the female category. The winner had achieved 3rd place in the Championship, 2nd place in the Summer Series. During the year she had taken 9 minutes off her half marathon time from Inverness in March (2:12) to Barry Buddon in August (2:03). Congratulations to Gillian Smith.

There were 4 contenders in the male category. The winner ran well after the cross country season achieving the inaugural Hills Are Alive trophy and finishing 3rd in the Summer Series. The individual also took 5 minutes off his half marathon PB at Lancaster half marathon by achieving 1:32. Congratulations to Paul Grace.

9. Club Personality of the Year

Simon Grieshaber counted the votes that had been cast by members and announced that it was a very close vote - the Club Personality of the Year for 2015 was Sally Newton.

10. London Marathon Ballot

Sally Newton explained that the Club has been awarded 2 Club places by Virgin London Marathon. Sally had received 5 notes of interest from members who had been unsuccessful in the main VLM ballot. (Sally had received 7 requests in total, however, one had not applied to the VLM ballot proper and the other person had not been a member for 6 months prior to the Club ballot date).

The 5 notes of interest - Richard Hughes, Lenny Burnett, Stewart Reid, Caroline Ness and Gillian Smith went into the draw. The Club places drawn were Caroline Ness and Stewart Reid.

11. Proposals for 2016

1. David Wood – Day Out to Arran Half Marathon

“My proposal is that we organise a day out to Arran Half Marathon July 2016. The good news is I can supply mini bus seating 16 for a bit of advertising for A & B Taxis which I can organise along with club reporter. I'd need to do the driving.

Details:- Whatever Sunday in July to be confirmed leave about 6.30 from central pick up point Perth, catch Ardrossan ferry 9.45, race 12 noon and return ferry either 16.40 or 19.20. The mini bus can hold 16 people so I'd suggest either first come or names in a hat. The cost of ferry (this year prices) mini bus and driver £96.64 plus £7.00 per person. I think it reasonable the club covers the ferry costs but each individual to cover their race costs as usual.”

Seconded by David Stokoe

Sally Newton asked if the proposal assumed the Club would pay for the fuel for the bus. David answered yes.

Kenneth Stewart believes a bus is provided by the organisers so the mini bus may not be needed on Arran. Others agreed with this. There followed a discussion about the availability of parking at the ferry terminal in the event that the minibus does not go over on the ferry. David stated he would need to check out the availability of secure parking in this event.

Neil Muir asked was it expected that the Club would pay the ferry fares (£7.00 per person) for club members who do the race but do not travel on the bus in the event it is over-subscribed. David answered yes.

In summary the proposal voted for was that the Club would pay for fuel for the bus and ferry fares for all club members doing the race. A few people stated that you do not need to take the bus on the ferry as there is a bus at the other side for the runners. David will check this out to ensure there is secure parking for the bus at the ferry terminal in the event that the bus does not cross on the ferry. In the event that the bus is over-subscribed, David suggested that we draw names out of the hat.

The proposal was AGREED by a vote of 38 in favour versus 7 against.

2. Simon Grieshaber – London Marathon Ballot

“Change the rule to read as follows ‘you must be a paid up member of the club by 1st March to be eligible for entry into the club ballot for a free place for that year’s ballot’ e.g. you must be a paid up member by 1st March 2016 to be eligible for the 2016 VLM ballot draw. This clears up the rule and makes it unambiguous and protects the club a little more.”

Seconded by David Wood.

Kenneth Stewart said that he couldn’t see any ambiguity in the rule as it stands ie you must be a paid up member 6 months prior to the Club ballot which takes place at the AGM every year.

Simon argued that it was clearer to have a specific date by which a person must be a member to be eligible for entry into the Club draw.

Nicola Crowe agreed that the date should be in advance of the London Marathon.

The proposal was AGREED by a unanimous vote of 48.

3. Myles Bax – Increase weekly speed sessions from 1 to 2 per week

In Myles’ absence, the proposal was put my Michael McConnell

“Would PRR ever consider going from 1 to 2 speed sessions a week? At the moment there is a run on Tuesday and a speed session on Thursday. Would an optional session on Tuesday also be a possibility? The run could still be attended by the majority, but perhaps a group who wanted to do a little more quality work in the week could do a session – this would be in line with most endurance groups”.

Seconded by Stuart Fraser

David Stokoe asked if the session would take place on the track? The answer was yes.

Caroline Ness noted that the track is very busy on a Tuesday.

Sally Newton asked about Colin Keough’s availability on the basis that Colin provides the Thursday session in his own time and FOC? Also would there be any impact on the Club’s Tuesday night session in taking people away to a different session?

Mike replied that Colin had agreed to do an additional session with a few Club members in the run up to their Spring marathons. They had not thought particularly about where the additional session would take place.

Veronica Muir commented that it was different Colin Keough doing sessions to help people with their marathons as opposed to being committed to doing 2 speed sessions for the Club every week. Colin needs to be asked.

Fiona Angus commented why not meet at Bells and do the session on an ad hoc basis?

Stuart Fraser said the session could still be part of the meet and greet at Bells, the session could be done at the Inch, we don't want to split the Club on a Tuesday night.

In summary the proposal for the vote is a speed session on a Tuesday night at Bells for those who want it.

The proposal was AGREED by a vote of 30 in favour versus 7 against.

4. David Stokoe - Organised Summer Social Occasion

“Following the success of the celebration events for PRR Anniversary and the barbecue and Ceilidh at Kinross, Committee are asked to consider another organised social event in the summer months. Suggestions from some PRR members include -

- *An organised day or full weekend away with the club running a race (perhaps a Championship race) in the day and having meal and drinks in the evening.*
- *A barbecue for members and their families following a Tayside based event.*
- *A meal and Ceilidh in central Perth.*

*I'm sure there will be other ideas from members at the AGM and Committee is respectfully asked to consider these and perhaps **establish a small working group to scope out and make further recommendations to the Committee** at the next meeting.”*

Seconded by Paul Grace

Duncan Ryan asked if July could be avoided if possible as people with kids are often away on holiday.

The proposal was AGREED by a unanimous vote of 50.

5. David Stokoe - Relay Run in support of C-R-Y and #4Pete

“Every week in the UK at least 12 young people die of undiagnosed heart conditions. Since its formation in 1995, Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY) has been working to reduce the frequency of young sudden cardiac death (YSCD). CRY supports young people diagnosed with potentially life-threatening cardiac conditions and offers bereavement support to families affected by YSCD.

The #4Pete memorial fund has been set up by the family of Pete McAvoy. Pete, 22, tragically died after collapsing in his college apartment in the United States from a suspected heart attack. He was a student at Herkimer College in New York State and was America's reigning Junior College Player of the Year. Pete was also a former pupil of Craigie High School and his father Peter is Head of Secondary Schools and Inclusion at Perth and Kinross Council.

The proposal is to have a relay run from Perth to Dundee (exact route to be determined) to raise awareness and funds for C-R-Y and perhaps some local charities. The involvement of Dundee

RoadRunners may also be beneficial as this worked well for the Kinross/PRR joint anniversary celebrations and much of the #4Pete activity to date has been based in and around Dundee. Clearly the specific details for this proposal would need to be planned and Committee is asked to consider approving a small working group to look into the feasibility of the event and report back to Committee at a future Committee meeting. Initial feedback from some PRR members has been very positive and the leader of the #4Pete campaign has offered his support for the event.

Seconded by Kenneth Stewart

David Stokoe went on to say he'd liaise with the Race Committee about dates to avoid clashes.

Caroline Ness asked does the Club not already have a dedicated charity? Neil Muir replied that we don't. The way it works is that we give donations ad hoc. For example we have given £50 to the Church of Scotland in Bridge of Earn for the use of their car park for Brig Bash which in turn supports local charities.

Hugh Daly asked how we would go about raising the money? David Stokoe said most likely we would use Facebook and Just Giving. Possibly offer free heart monitor tests.

Maureen Summers asked if the relay would take place on the back roads? Yes.

Stuart Fraser asked about sponsorship. David Stokoe said that the key aim would be to raise awareness of CRY.

The proposal was AGREED by a unanimous vote of 51.

6. James Fotheringham / Ronnie Glen – Introduce new 'level' in Club Standards

"The proposal is for a new level of club standard between gold and diamond (possibly platinum). A number of members have remarked on the big jump between gold and diamond in relation to the other standard times. I expect there may be quite a few runners who can achieve gold fairly comfortably, but diamond is truly a remarkable standard, one which would place the runner possibly into the top ten in Scotland in the age category. It would provide good for age runners with something to work towards if there were an additional level in between. "

Seconded by James Fotheringham

John Rudd, the originator and organiser of the Club Standards gave the background to the Standards:

The standards were UK athletics based criteria that John's previous club in Lancashire adopted and John introduced them to PRRs 3 years ago. John contacted his old Club and UK Athletics to ask for guidance about introducing a new level as was being proposed. UK Athletics advised that

"There are no UKA 'standards' other than selection criteria for major championships and British championships. There are also the times required to get on the Championship start line at the London Marathon. So therefore, we cannot give you direct guidance on this."

John's ex Club advised that they had received no similar requests even although they had the standards in place for 15 years.

John put his own view that with these points he believes that these standards are set this way and are meant to be a reasonable but very real challenge. "We at PRR, have already had a Diamond standard winner (Fiona Hair), which was a first for our club AND for John's old Club too! This was a massive achievement and one which we acknowledge and rewarded with a special award (we didn't have any such award as it had never been attained before).

If we create another set of standards between the gold and diamond, would this undermine the fantastic achievement that Fiona made?

This year, having attained reasonable times, I realised I could push hard and try for silver, I got my 5K at Parkrun and my 5ml at Brig Bash and hoped to get the half at Glasgow. As it happens I had a good run but missed out by a minute on my silver standard. As I crossed the line I was very disappointed but certainly didn't think that the standard was too far away or that it was too hard to achieve, just that I need to try again.

I do sympathise with club members who look at that Diamond level and thinks it's too hard, but that is relative to your talent and commitment and that is where you need to be to attain it. I personally don't think I could ever reach gold standard and am in awe of our club mates that can reach this level of ability.

It would be easy for me to put a new "Platinum" standard half-way between gold and diamond, but what does this say? Therefore the best thing to do is to put it to our membership to vote."

Grant Wooler said he believed we could calculate a level to go in between gold and diamond.

Neil Muir asked John about the calculations that would require to be done.

John Rudd agreed that it would be relatively straightforward to put a new standard half way between gold and diamond but he personally didn't see the point of it for the reasons he had already stated.

Sally Newton asked if the proposal was agreed, who would have to do the work of implementing a new standard. John Rudd answered that it would sit with him.

The proposal was AGREED by a vote of 34 in favour versus 2 against.

7. The Committee – PRR Junior Sub Section

"At the 2014 AGM the Club endorsed a proposal to create a junior section. One year on and now having been made fully aware of the responsibilities and the complexities, the committee feels that this would not be a long term viable option for the club to pursue any further. The committee proposes that the club cease any further activity in creating a junior section."

Seconded by Fiona Angus.

Neil Muir spoke to the above Proposal from the floor. Simon Grieshaber took the Chair while Neil spoke to the proposal. Neil explained that Proposals 7 and 8 (see below) would be heard separately with the committee's first (No. 7). If the committee's proposal is agreed, Grant Wooler's proposal will fall (No. 8) If the committee's proposal is not agreed, Grant's will be discussed. However, in practice, during the course of the debate on the committee's proposal, Grant will naturally outline why in his

view the committee's proposal is flawed and seek to persuade the AGM to defeat the committee's proposal. In other words, the two proposals will in effect be discussed simultaneously.

Neil stated that this was the first time in the Club's history that he could recall that a proposal which had been agreed by the AGM in one year was challenged the following year. Neil said that if he had been in possession of the facts he has now, last year, he would not have voted for going ahead with a Juniors section as he had done in good faith in 2014.

Neil reminded the AGM that the Juniors proposal had first been put to the AGM in 2013. On that occasion, it was rejected on the basis that there was not enough information for the members to form a judgement. In 2014, a lot of work had been undertaken by Grant Wooler to develop the Juniors section such as, setting up the After School Club running group, GW gaining a Jog Scotland Coach qualification and PVG applications. Although Grant had put a lot of effort into getting a kids group up and running, as 2015 unfolded there were fundamental challenges with what was being proposed for the Juniors. A very small example of this was that it had been stated that the child membership would be £5 per year but upon checking with Scottish Athletics the Club would have to pay £7 for each junior member to the Scottish Athletics. Neil went on to detail the key issues which had led the committee to conclude that continuing to develop a Junior section was not in the best interests of the Club:

- Scottish Athletics rules on age and stage related training mean that we cannot offer endurance training/long distance running to under 12s as had been suggested. Information from Jim Goldie of Scottish Athletics confirmed that training for under 12s must be on the track with an insured Level 2 coach present. Jim Goldie had also confirmed that Level 2 coaches are "Athletics Coach", not the Coach in Running Fitness (CiRF) qualification which was for working with over 12s but the CiRF qualified coach is not insured to train under 12s.
Whereas it was originally proposed that PRRs would be offering something unique, the Scottish Athletics rules did not allow the Club to do this.
- A Development Plan had been put forward by the Sub Committee on 22 September. The 3 year Plan aims to have 24 juniors and 12 coaches by the end of year 3. The plan is based on PRRs offering juniors a session at the track every 2nd Thursday. Neil commented that while members of the sub-committee are self funding their coach training this year, the cost of coach training going forward could be an issue for the Club, depending on the availability of funding grants. Level 1 coach training is £150 and Level 2 is £120*. Neil pointed out that the offer of 20-22 sessions per year under PRRS was not an attractive or viable offer when the Strathearn Harriers are offering sessions every week.
- Other local Clubs who appeared to have Junior sections in fact do not operate a Junior section. Kinross had told us that their kids are actually members of Pitreavie AC; their under 12s train in track and field activities supervised by Level 2 and Level 1 coaches to meet Scottish Athletics requirements. Wee County Harriers juniors have a similar arrangement.
- Committee members are legally responsible if anything goes wrong; there is no limit of liability; For example, in the unfortunate event that a child gets injured, individual committee members can be sued if a parent decides to go down that route.
- All of these factors have led the committee to question what are the benefits to the Club of introducing a Juniors section? From the figures shown in the annual report, the Club is growing and continuing to attract members in its current form. With regret, and acknowledging all the work that has been done by the sub-committee, the committee is recommending we cease the development of the Juniors.

Caroline Ness stated the issue of legal responsibility of committee members applies to all unincorporated Clubs, whether or not there is a Junior Section. Caroline also said that she has paid for her Level 2 Coach qualification which she is currently completing.

Sally Newton responded that it was true that unincorporated status means that the committee is legally responsible whether or not there is a Junior section. However in her view, the balance of risk for committee members changes considerably on the introduction of a Juniors section, given all the rules and regulations surrounding children. Further from attending Scottish Athletics Annual National Club Leaders Conference for the past 2 years, it was evident that those Clubs with active Junior sections had changed their legal frameworks so they are no longer unincorporated, they have charitable status (SCIOs).

Caroline responded that she did not know of any Clubs with junior sections had changed from their unincorporated status.

Fiona Angus asked why PRRs was trying to compete with Clubs which already have all the infrastructure already in place like Strathearn Harriers and Strathtay Harriers? Fiona has worked with 12-16s and understands why the committee is taking the position they are – it is a lot of work and risk, especially when there are already other Clubs with provision in place for Juniors.

Duncan Ryan stated Grant Wooler and the sub-committee should have been given more time to run its course as per the development plan. Duncan believes that the committee had got this wrong. In bringing the proposal to cease the Juniors, this was not giving enough time to develop the project.

NM responded that he appreciated Duncan's views. However, he believed the committee had acted correctly given the difficulties we encountered over the past year. Neil stated that as a committee we have a duty to protect the integrity of the Club and the AGM is the right forum for discussing our concerns. That is why the committee has been elected, to keep the members informed. To not bring the committee's honest opinion back to the AGM would be grossly irresponsible in Neil's view.

Grant Wooler put the sub-committee's views:

- Grant stated that the cost of the Assistant Coach Level 1 qualification is £150 and he would expect grant funding. We have a Level 2 coach Colin Keough. Strathtay Harriers do not have a Level 2 Coach at present. Grant is currently doing the Coach in Running Fitness (CiRF) qualification which is a cross country coaching qualification and he cannot coach under 12s with this qualification. We are doing all the coaching now. Caroline Ness is completing Level 2 and Grant will complete the CiRF qualification in January.
- Grant said Kinross Road Runners and Wee County Harriers have Junior sections in name only. Pitreavie is their first claim club. They complete Hartley Relays, Tour of Fife, and cross country races. Grant wants Perth kids to be able to do these races in PRR vests.

Mel MacRae said it was a very confusing picture for members who had not been involved to understand the arguments.

Kenneth Stewart asked Grant given all the issues why not go to Strathtay Harriers with this?

Fiona Angus agreed with Kenneth Stewart.

Grant responded that he had been a member of PRRs for 30 years and did not wish to move to the Harriers.

Terry Hislop stated that the Club should be looking at developing the Club. Children are bored with the track, we should be getting kids away from the track and into the countryside.

Fiona Angus commented that it all has to be managed by volunteers, in practice it is difficult to get enough people to consistently commit the time needed.

Neil responded to Terry's points saying that he appreciated Terry's view, indeed it had been his own view in 2014 when he had voted for developing the Juniors section. However, what this year had shown was that under Scottish Athletics rules, under 12s cannot do off road, hills, endurance running etc. Scottish Athletics rules dictate that it is track and field only for under 12s. Also the proposal of 20-22 sessions a year was very unattractive particularly compared to other local clubs. Further, in the cross country or Scottish Athletics events, the juniors would have to wear their first claim club vests, rather than PRRs vests, if they are PRRs in name only.

Veronica Muir commented that her grandson was a member of the Harriers and trained with the Harriers on a Tuesday night. On a Thursday night he runs with our Club under Veronica's responsibility, this works very well.

Grant said that he had set up the Kinnoull After Schools running Club for Tuesday nights training and it was all insured and worked very well.

Hugh Daly commented that given all the work already done, Grant might consider setting up his own Juniors Club. David Wood agreed with this.

Sue Jones stated that she wanted to put on record as a member of the committee who had been party to all the discussions on this project, including attending a meeting with Grant and the sub-committee in August, her view is:

- The issue of the legal responsibility and the impact for Committee members had not been given due consideration by the sub committee's plans
- The sub-committee's development plan has a lot of "inputs" for very little "output" ie it is all about the Club making an investment with very little in return for PRRs
- With the Junior parkrun about to be established in Perth, and the already established Strathtay Harriers club, there was no need for another Juniors Club and no discernible benefit

Sue said on this basis she was 100% supportive of the case that had been made by Neil on behalf of the committee.

Neil said that he genuinely wished GW good luck with the After Schools Club. His view was that PRRs could not do what GW was doing with the Juniors After Schools Club as we would not be insured for under 12s off track. Neil stated for the record that Colin Keough is not doing the coaching for the proposed Junior Section as had already been stated on several occasions.

Grant said that the Level 2 Coach does not have to be present at the training sessions. The Level 2 coach can plan the session and give it to the Level 1 Coach to deliver with the kids.

Neil clarified that Grant was incorrect on this point and read an extract from Scottish Athletics which clearly states “ A Coaching Assistant can lead sessions, but the UKA Level 2 or above must be in the venue whilst the Coaching Assistant is coaching.” This statement is replicated on the Scottish Athletics website.

Jimmy Fotheringham said that he was keen to see the introduction of a Juniors section. However the critical point for him was the issue of personal legal responsibility if anything went wrong.

Caroline Ness commented that this could be prevented by having Risk Assessments in place and following the procedures.

Maureen Summers asked what are the distances that under 12s can run under Scottish Athletics rules?

Grant Wooler answered in detail.

Sally Newton commented that she wanted to place on the record that she believed that the Committee had acted fairly in considering all the information from the sub-committee before bringing the proposal to cease the project. A huge proportion of the Committee’s time this year had been given over to discussing and researching the Juniors through meetings with members of the sub committee, meetings and conversations with Scottish Athletics and with other local running Clubs. The time spent on the Juniors had meant that other work had not been advanced as the committee would have intended. Sally believed that there was no more the Committee could have done to support the sub committee despite the sub committee’s assertion that they had not been given enough time.

The proposal to cease the Juniors Sub Section was AGREED by a vote of 23 in favour versus 11 against.

8. Grant Wooler - PRR Children’s Sub Section

Given the time frames involved in gaining full coach certifications, which is a pre-req to running active children’s sessions under Scottish Athletic rules, I propose that in the interim we would do this...

- 1/ Open up the children’s subsection in name only but with no formal training nights.*
- 2/ The children will be allowed to wear PRR colours and run in approved children’s races such as cross country, Hartley relays, Tay 10 children’s race, Glenrothes 5K etc.*
- 3/ Assess how many children’s members we recruit before committing to running children’s training sessions.*
- 4/ Carry on with the coach training and once qualified make a decision based on 3/*

All the required steps are in place for this to happen such as appointed Child Protection Officer, PVG, SA registration, development plans and a children’s subsection committee.

The above proposal was not discussed. As explained at the top of page 11, by virtue of Proposal No. 7 being Agreed by the floor, Proposal No. 8 falls. This is because during the course of the debate on Proposal No. 7, the detail of Proposal No 8 had been put by Grant, in seeking to persuade the AGM to defeat the committee's proposal. In effect, the two proposals were discussed simultaneously and the floor had Agreed Proposal No. 7.

12. Election of Committee Members

Chair – Neil Muir was proposed by David Stokoe and seconded by Sally Newton
There being no other nominations, Neil was duly elected Chair.

Vice Chair – Stuart Fraser was proposed by Veronica Muir and seconded by Daile Sipple.
There being no other nominations, Stuart was duly elected Vice Chair.

Secretary – David Stokoe was proposed by Gillian Smith and seconded by James Fotheringham.
There being no other nominations, David was duly elected Secretary.

Treasurer – Catriona Liddell was proposed by Gillian Smith and seconded by Julie Reid.
There being no other nominations, Catriona was duly elected Treasurer.

Championship Organiser – Ronnie Glen was proposed by Stuart Fraser and seconded by David Wood.
There being no other nominations, Ronnie was duly elected Championship Organiser.

Press Reporter – Caroline Hogarth and Richard Hughes were proposed by David Stokoe and Seconded by James Fotheringham.
There being no other nominations, Caroline and Richard were duly elected Press Reporters.

Club Clothing Organiser – Stewart Dallas was proposed by David Stokoe and seconded by Daile Sipple.
There being no other nominations, Stewart was duly elected Club Clothing Organiser.

Web Organiser – Simon Grieshaber was proposed by Fiona Manson and seconded by Veronica Muir.
There being no other nominations, Simon was duly elected Web Organiser.

Race Sub Committee –

Jean McCullough was proposed by GW and seconded by Stewart Dallas

Susan Smith was proposed by Allison Brown and seconded by Nicola Crowe

Sonja Crow was proposed by Fiona Angus and seconded by Caroline Hogarth

Barry Campbell was proposed by Terry Hyslop and seconded by Grant Strachan

Michael McConnell was proposed by Maureen Summers and seconded by Kevin Riddell

The sub-committee is still looking for a volunteer to replace Nicola as Race Co-ordinator for 2016.

13. Any Other Business

KS noted that the Club Rules still state the names of the 2012 Committee.

NM agreed that the Committee Names would be deleted from the rules as the Committee changes annually and the information is replicated elsewhere.

14. Close

Neil Muir closed the meeting at 9.55pm with thanks to the 2015 committee for their hard work and with thanks to all those present for attending the 2015 AGM.