26.2 RRC Annual General Meeting
8.30pm, Wednesday 14 May 2025
Ealy Room, SRFC
Minutes
Chair: Kate Hancock

1. Welcome & Apologies — Kate Hancock

Thanked attendees,

Attendees: Andrew Bennett, Rob Buckle, Jacqueline Chang, Bob Dean, Andrew Eames, Peter Edwards, Kate Hancock, Gerry Hasson, Maria Higgins, Lee Hilton, Louise Jeffreson, Rike Jones, Paul Keddie, Rami Khatila, Lisa, Kingsbury, Vicki Kirk, Alice Pike, David Pimm, Rob Pyke, James Senior, John Sweeney, Peter Tozer, Paul Turkington, Laura Twomey, Lizzie Wilson, Henry Carter

Apologies: Joe Chang, Sophie Cooke, Steph Harvey, Dave Wilson

2. Approval of Minutes from AGM held on 15 May 2024 — Kate Hancock

Proposed by Rike Jones as true reflection of the meeting; seconded by Andrew Eames; all in favour.

3. Any matters arising from 2024 AGM — Kate Hancock

Nothing arising in minutes.

4. Chairman's Annual Report — Kate Hancock

Kate's written report had been circulated in advance and was taken as read.
She thanked the club and the committee for their support over the past year and the previous four years.

Various successes over the past year were highlighted, including:

- Imber Court Relays
- Cross Country (XC), with multiple individuals achieving podium finishes. Special

congratulations were extended to the ladies' cross country team for their promotion.

The **V10K** event was noted as being financially less successful. Due to the low profit margin over the last two years, the committee will review the event. A decision will be made on whether the club will continue with the event or implement changes to improve its financial viability.
The club continues to be well represented at many local events. A special mention was given to all those running and marshalling in the upcoming Green Belt Relay.

Club membership remains stable compared to previous years. The club encourages more members to take up **England Athletics (EA)** affiliation, as this helps secure London Marathon places and provides discounts on running events. Members are advised to speak to committee members for more information about the benefits of EA affiliation.

5. Treasurers' Report — Kate Hancock

Kate communicated apologies on behalf of Steph Harvey, who was unavailable to present the Treasurer's Report.

Steph's written report had been circulated in advance and was taken as read.

Kate presented the key highlights:

- **Opening balance (1st May 2024):** £15,719.26
- **Closing balance (1st April 2025)**: £7,172.12

She explained that the accounts are not directly comparable year-on-year due to expenses carried over from previous years or paid in advance. For example, the club headquarters was previously in arrears but is now up to date. Catering for the Awards Night was paid in arrears for 2024 and in advance for 2025.

Other notable expenses included new trophies and social events. The committee has made a conscious effort to invest in social activities, such as providing drinks for runners after cross country events.

Kate reiterated that the V10K event generated approximately £200 in profit. The future of the event remains under review, as current profit levels do not justify the effort required. Further updates will be provided by the committee in due course.

Q&A:

- **Andrew Eames** asked what an ideal account balance would be. Kate responded that the club's main expense is the venue. The club has been operating under a two-year agreement with the Tennis Club, with the latest agreement costing approximately £5,200. The club must maintain sufficient funds to cover potential future cost increases. The current balance supports this need.
- **Rike Jones** asked what the club receives in return for this expenditure. Kate explained that the club has a regular meeting venue, storage space for a shed, and access for events such as the monthly handicap race and the annual Mob Match.
- **Peter Edwards** noted that the Tennis Club also benefits from the running club's presence. Kate agreed, adding that many running club members go on to join the Tennis Club as tennis or social members.

- **Peter Tozer** asked if there was an opportunity to increase the V10K entry fee. Kate acknowledged that while the current entry fee is relatively low, the club aims to keep the event attractive and affordable. She also pointed out that the V10K competes with many other races held around the same time.
- **Peter Tozer** also raised safety concerns regarding traffic during the race, even with the earlier start time.
- **Paul Keddie** noted that the earlier start may have contributed to a reduction in race entries.

6. Proposed changes to constitution — Kate Hancock

The proposed changes were circulated in advance.

Kate reviewed each change and asked the club to vote on all of them at the end:

- **Pages 2 & 3:** Extend the Club President's term to two years.
- **Page 3:** Clarify the committee's power to remove members for repeated absences from meetings and to fill vacancies on the committee (not just when a member resigns).
- **Page 5:** Permit the use of online nomination forms and clarify the Secretary's ability to accept late nominations. Clarify that, in a vote, the nominee with the most votes wins—no majority required if more than two candidates contest.
- **Page 6:** Amend the rule that changes to the constitution require only a simple majority.

Voting Outcome:
All changes were approved, with one abstention (David Pimm). There were no votes against.

7. Ratification of Honorary President — Kate Hancock

Kate announced that the committee had invited **Peter Tozer** to continue as President for another year. Peter accepted, and the appointment was ratified at the AGM with no objections.

8. Election of Honorary Officers – Chair and Treasurer — Kate Hancock

Kate communicated Henry Carter stood unopposed as Chair and was elected by the committee. Steph Harvey stood unopposed as Treasurer and was re-elected to the post. Kate informed whilst these positions did not go to the AGM to vote she asked if there were any objections and if the committee had taken the right approach.
There were no concerns or objections.

9. Election of Ordinary Committee Members — Kate Hancock

There are up to nine positions available for ordinary committee members. Seven nominations were received, so no vote was required.

Elected members:

- **Laura Twomey** (re-elected)
- **Gerry Hasson** (re-elected)
- **Robert Pyke** (re-elected)
- **Alice Pike** (re-elected)
- **Paul Keddie** (re-elected)
- **Maria Higgins**
- **Andrew Eames**

Stepping down:
Kate Hancock, Vicki Kirk, and Lauren Wade.

Kate welcomed the new members and thanked the outgoing members for their service.

10. Election of Life Members — Kate Hancock

Each year, the committee can accept up to two life membership nominations.

- **Lizzie Wilson** was nominated this year and received unanimous approval from the committee. Her nomination was ratified at the AGM by unanimous vote.
- **Jacqueline Chang** had been nominated the previous year, but no formal vote took place. A vote was held at this meeting, and all voted in favour.
- Jacqueline then announced a new nomination from within the committee for **Kate Hancock** to become a life member. The remaining committee members had unanimously agreed. Kate thanked the club, and a vote was held – all voted in favour.

11. AOB — Kate Hancock

Before opening the floor, Kate raised an issue regarding Championship events and the allocation of awards. She acknowledged current challenges and imperfections in the process. The committee will seek feedback from the wider club membership and will hold consultations after upcoming monthly handicap races. Members were encouraged to attend and share constructive suggestions.

Andrew Eames asked that feedback be delivered constructively and preferably in person, avoiding social media.

Peter Tozer noted an error in the Chairman's Report regarding the **Maidenhead race**. Kate acknowledged the oversight, explaining that the report had been written prior to the event. She confirmed it would be corrected.

David Pimm thanked Kate for her years of service and dedication to the club.

Kate closed by expressing how much she had enjoyed the role and thanked everyone for their support over the years.