



**The Fell Runners Association Limited  
Provisional until 2024 AGM  
Minutes of 2023 AGM  
Sheperd's Rest Inn, Todmorden | 18 Nov 2023**

## **Preliminary matters**

Reference below to “articles” refer to the FRA’s articles of association (“the articles”) which are linked from the ‘Documents’ page on the FRA website ( [www.fellrunner.org.uk/articles](http://www.fellrunner.org.uk/articles) ).

## **Attendance and Apologies**

The annual general meeting (“AGM”) of The Fell Runners Association Limited (“the FRA, “the Company”) for 2023 was held on the afternoon of 18th November 2023, chaired by Stuart Ferguson, FRA Chairman. The format followed that prescribed by articles 13-21.

The meeting was attended by nine (9) members of the FRA. Apologies were received from 22 other members; the majority of these had submitted a proxy voting form, of which a total of twenty (20) had been received and verified. The meeting was therefore quorate under article 13. The secretary thanked all those in attendance.

## **Minutes of the previous meeting**

The previous AGM had been held on the 8th October 2022 in the Langdale Village Hall, Cumbria. The minutes had been circulated to attendees shortly thereafter and had been made available for inspection on the FRA website, with no queries having arisen nor amendments made.

**Resolution:** The motion to approve the minutes of the 2022 AGM was passed .

## **Ordinary resolutions**

### **Chairman's report**

The Chairman briefly summarised his annual report, which had been made available in full on the FRA website prior to the AGM.

The Chairman noted that the finances were in great shape, membership continues to slowly rise, access remains a major concern and that environmental issues are taking a key focus such as the support to the Upper Derwent Valley coalition. The CiRF Fell module production has commenced.

**Resolution:** The motion to approve the Chairman's report was passed unanimously .

## **Treasurers report and 2022 accounts**

The FRA accounts and balance sheet for 2022 was made available on the FRA's website prior to the AGM.

The Chairman explained that total income had increased by 16.3% to £156,791, the two main drivers were increases in Membership subscriptions and income from courses. Net surplus for the year was £7,202. At the end of the year there are net reserves of £152,750, a very healthy balance sheet.

**Resolution:** The motion to approve the Treasurer's report was passed unanimously .

## **Appointment of an auditor**

The Chairman had proposed Claire Calverley of Northumberland Fell Runners, a trainee accountant be re-appointed as auditor of FRA accounts.

**Resolution:** The motion to approve Claire Calverley as auditor was passed unanimously .

## **Establishment of co-opted roles**

In accordance with article 24 the Chairman proposed to extend by a further year the co-option of Charmian Heaton as Commercial Officer and to amend Ian Winterburn role to Safety Advisor and to co-opt Olga Woods, as replacement to James Lowe as Communication Officer.

**Resolution:** The motion to approve the three co-opted appointments was passed unanimously.

## **Election of Officers for 2023-2024**

Nominations for the committee positions had been posted on the FRA website along with the meeting agenda in accordance with articles 22 and 23. The Secretary stated that since all named Committee roles had exactly one nominee ( or, in the case of the Membership, representatives , three nominees , fewer than the maximum of four ), would be elected unopposed. The full FRA Committee is included at Appendix 1.

## **Vote of thanks for outgoing officers**

The Chairman thanked everyone whom had served on the Committee for the past year. The chairman also thank the other outgoing Committee members Ed Gamble after 7 years as Welfare Officer, Dave Littler as Junior Editor, Pita Oates as Race Liaison Officer Lead and James Lowe as Communications Officer. James was instrumental in the 50&50 series and the launch of the Club Ambassador Scheme.

## **Informal discussion**

Following the AGM an open discussion about fell running took place between all present, in accordance with article 16. A record of the discussion is published at Appendix 2.

## Date of next meeting

The date of the next AGM will be published in due course on the FRA website, Facebook Page and Fellrunner magazine but is likely to be October or November 2024.

Original Signed

Stuart Ferguson  
Chairman  
The Fell Runners Association  
3rd December 2023

## Appendix 1: FRA Committee 2023-2024

Following the resolutions passed at the AGM, the FRA Committee for 2023-2034 will comprise of the following personnel:

### FRA Committee 2023-2024

Chairman	Stuart Ferguson (Northumberland Fell Runners)
General Secretary	Neil Talbot (Ambleside Athletic Club)
Treasurer	Simon Long (Saltwell Harriers)
Membership Secretary	Patrick McIver (Howgill Harriers)
Fixtures Secretary	Andy McMurdo (Pennine Fell Runners)
Magazine Co-ordination	Vacant
Race Liaison Officer (Lead)	Clive Thornton (Esk Valley Fell Club)
Website Officer	Jamie McIlvenny (Trawden AC)
Environment and Access Officer	Kathryn Miller (Clayton-Le-Moor Harriers)
Junior Co-ordinator	Gareth Hardcastle (Mercia Fell Runners)
International Selection Committee Chair	Duncan Richards (Helm Hill Runners)
Coaching and Education Co-ordinator	Nicky Spinks (Dark Peak Fell Runners)
Championships Co-ordinator	Nic Barber (Helm Hill Runners)
Welfare Officer	Julie Carter (Keswick AC)
Liaison to other Athletics Bodies	Nic Barber (Helm Hill Runners)
Membership Representatives	Ben Abdelnoor (Ambleside AC)
	Scout Adkin (Ambleside AC)
	Kelli Roberts (Helm Hill Runners)
Commercial Officer (co-opted)	Charmian Heaton (Ambleside AC)
Communications Officer (co-opted)	Olga Wood (Preston Harriers)
Safety Advisor (co-opted)	Ian Winterburn (Dark Peak Fell Runners)

## **Appendix 2: Open discussion about fell running**

### **Environment issues**

Kathryn Miller, Access and Environment Officer outlined a discussion with Doni Clarke of Green Runners. It was discussed that personal areas such as how many fell shoes you should have, recycling gear, etc is not for the FRA to mandate. The green runners have ideas which may be welcomed by RO's and have been incorporated into the FRA Environmental guidelines such rubbish re cycling, pack in pack out and car sharing.

### **Access issues**

There was general discussion around the meeting attendees on access and that it is still a major concern for race organisers.

### **Run in't fells exhibition at Armit museum in Ambleside**

The FRA was asked to assist in this project. It was confirmed by Stuart Ferguson, Chairman that the FRA be required to be a partner or be committed to financial support. It was proposed FRA would offer to act in an advisory capacity only. The exhibition sounds like it is a very worthwhile visit attraction.

### **Handbook**

Andy McMurdo, Fixtures secretary updated the meeting that the handbook was on track for publishing with a healthy 300 races to be included to date.

### **Transgender**

Stuart Ferguson, Chairman gave a background to the Joint Statement produced alongside the WFRA and NIMRA. Stuart also commented that the FRA was committed to ensuring fair sport for female competition.

### **First Aid Courses**

Due to the mandatory requirement for a 2 day First Aid Course to attain your licence, complementing the LiRF FHTM module, the interest in these courses has meant a twofold increase in courses during 2023. Ian Winterburn, Safety Advisor outlined the partnership details that the FRA has entered for delivery of courses 2024 with Will4Adventure.