

# Sandhurst Joggers – 27<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

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Held Tuesday, 17th March 2015 at 8.00pm  
Sandhurst Town Council Offices – Community Hall

## Agenda

1. [Welcome by Chairman](#)
2. [Apologies for Absence](#)
3. [Approval of the 2014 AGM Minutes and Matters Arising](#)
4. Receipt of Committee Members' Reports
  - 4.1. [Secretary](#)
  - 4.2. [Treasurer/Annual Statement of Accounts](#)
  - 4.3. [Membership](#)
  - 4.4. [Events: Winter/Cross Country](#)
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  - 4.9. [General Members](#)
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5. [Yateley Road Races Report and Accounts](#)
6. [Club Subscription](#)
7. [Club Championships](#)
8. [Election of Committee for 2015/16](#)
  - 8.1. Chairman
  - 8.2. Vice-chairman
  - 8.3. Treasurer
  - 8.4. Secretary
  - 8.5. Membership Secretary
  - 8.6. Social Secretary
  - 8.7. Events Secretary-Winter/XC
  - 8.8. Events Secretary-Summer/Relays
  - 8.9. Publicity Secretary
  - 8.10. General Members
9. [Non-elected Posts for 2015/16](#)
  - 9.1. Yateley Road Race Director
  - 9.2. Handicap Run Organiser
  - 9.3. Webmaster
  - 9.4. Track Coach(es)
  - 9.5. Newsletter Editor
  - 9.6. Kit Director
10. [Any Other Business](#)
11. [Closing Remarks by Chairman](#)

## Proceedings

The meeting started at 8.00pm. The following were present (54 members):

### Committee:

Richard McCready (*Chairman*), Vicky Rice (*Vice Chairman*), Ian Watson (*Secretary*), Janice Alves de Sousa (*Membership*), John Tzanetis (*Events:Summer*), Janet Foran (*Social*), Lou Gubb, Mike Gascoigne, Lisa Harrold, Jane Crawford, Newton Johnstone, Monica Burbidge (*all General Members*)

### Other post holders:

Jenny Robinson (*Yateley Road Races*), James Casey (*Track Coach*)

### Other Members:

Sarah Alexander, Paul Alexander, Paul Biggs, Richard Boese, Dave Breslin, Sharon Conquer, Caroline Cutcliffe, Madeleine Duncan-Booth, Alurie Dutton, Mark Fallowfield-Smith, Fiona Gascoigne, Simon Gibbon, Karen Gill, Debbie Harris, Sarah Hyatt, Kerstin Johnson, Sacha Kendall Woods, Sally Kent, Jackie Kent, Lance King, Jim Laidlaw, Elin Loftesnes, Suren Mannick, Katy Mead, Dick Newman, Susan Plumb, Darren Rice, Christine Rivers, Graham Robinson, Larry Sharp, Steve Sims, Tanya Sims, Charlie St.Aubyn, Nikki Stanley, John Tovell, Chris Trott, Janet Venables, Patrick Wadsworth, Greg Ward, Nicki Watson

### **1. Welcome By Chairman**

Richard McCready called the meeting to order, thanked everyone for their attendance and requested that everyone make sure they had put their name on the register of attendees which was being circulated.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Received from:

Vicky Horne(*Treasurer*), Claire Hobson(*Events:Winter*), Nicola Ward(*Publicity*), Jane Bradley(*Webmaster*), Erol Ali, Amy Gates, Jon Gubb, Rob Hewison, Ann Hewison, Leon Hicks, Matt Johnson, Lesley McDonald, Gemma Potter, James Ratcliffe, Clive Rolfe

### **3. Approval of the 2014 AGM Minutes and Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last AGM. Their acceptance was proposed by Lisa Harrold, seconded by Newton Johnstone and approved.

### **4. Receipt of Committee Members' Reports**

Slides from many of those reporting were shown and are attached as an Appendix. In some cases the reports were simply to present these slides. Please read slides in conjunction with any additional notes below.

#### 4.1. Secretary (report by Ian Watson)

- Ian highlighted the increase in cost to us of England Athletics, both for the club affiliation and for individual members to register and emphasised that for each member's decision, the club doesn't recommend either way – it is for the individual to decide. Our role should simply be to point out the benefits of registration so that members can make an informed choice.
- The meeting was supportive of the club continuing to offer to race organisers publicity (e.g. banners on our website, us posting race details on our Facebook page) where in return there is worthwhile benefit to the membership, like free places.
- Mark Fallowfield-Smith asked if, in order to spread such free places around, we should exclude members who had won a place in one ballot from entering any further draws that year. After discussion, the meeting agreed that we should not – since we don't know which places we might get at a later time, we don't want to find that a successful applicant for a less-popular event excluded themselves for a later, more popular draw they didn't even know might happen. The luck of the draw should apply in each case.

#### 4.2. Treasurer, Annual Statement of Accounts (report by Vicky Horne)

- In Vicky's absence, John Tzanetis presented this report.
- Printouts of the accounts were distributed.
- Questions:
  - Charlie St.A: What is GBR? Ans: Green Belt Relay
  - Darren R: What was the £935 Coaching Fees? Ans: This is actually the cost of England Athletic coaching courses we sent people on (mostly "Leadership in Running Fitness" but also Level 2 coaching for James Casey). It is not payments to our coaches.
- Last year, we highlighted that the club account had more money in it than would be considered a reasonable 'reserve' for a non-profit organisation and that we should look to spend some of this – appropriate to the needs of the members. The handout showed a reduction on this of £453 but the level is still high and members were asked to think – both at the meeting and through the year – of ways the money could be used which were consistent with the goals of the club. Some ideas immediately came out:
  - Paul A : provide all members with club vests
  - Patrick : free subscription
  - Jim C : instead of members paying each time they go to track, pay or subsidise this. The club also owes around £500 in lights fees though the Sports Centre has not been pursuing this. This suggestion was the one which many attending agreed would be a good idea given the murmurs and nodding of heads.

#### 4.3. Membership (report by Janice Alves de Sousa)

- Last year's figures in *italics*:
- Membership is 302 (*304*)
- 56 are new members (*53*), 7 rejoining (*5*).
- There are 71 Senior (*60*), 130 Vet (*116*), 105 Super Vet (*104*)
- The gender mix is 159 male (*160*) and 143 female. (*140*)

Paul Alexander said that in previous years, members had been sent 3 reminders about renewing subscriptions. This year they had only been sent one before being removed from the membership

list. He felt that this was unnecessarily harsh and this time round people should be given more chance to pay.

Response: People had been given 3 months from 1<sup>st</sup> April to renew their subscription and this was considered to be patient enough. In previous years we had let renewal drag on well beyond this and had deliberately wanted to reduce the time it took to get renewals done, which was why non-renewers were taken off the mailing list and Facebook. It was accepted that we should give more than one reminder and the new committee would take note.

#### **4.4. Events: Cross Country (report by Claire Hobson)**

In Claire's absence on maternity leave, Richard took the meeting through her slides – no further explanation beyond these was given (or needed).

It was brought to the meeting's notice by Newton that there are plans to change the land use for the area we have used for our cross-country by introducing cattle to keep vegetation down. This means that there are proposals for extensive erection of fences and stiles which interfere directly with our course. Jenny said that as things stood, we would have a tiny area to stage a race requiring multiple small laps and this was not a realistic option. A period of consultation is underway. Newton said that he had asked for gates to be put in such that we could open them on the day (properly marshalled) to run the race. Meantime, Jenny and Tim Rivers had been looking at an alternative area in Hawley woods. Tim volunteered to take this further.

If we are unable to get a race arranged at one of these venues in time this year, then we need to let the TVXC organisers know. There are other clubs looking to stage races in the race series and this would be their opportunity. We could still look to join the series again in 2016/17.

#### **4.5. Events: Summer (report by John Tzanetis)**

John's slide contains the highlights of the year, even though because of the size of the club and the diversity of events that members found to enter across the country, SJ were represented at many, many other events not mentioned.

He particularly called out that 270 different runners taking part in at least one event is a participation level to be very proud of.

In terms of competing, he called out the vets' team winning the Green Belt Relay, our domination of the Bounders Relay, sweeping the board with 1<sup>st</sup> Men's, 1<sup>st</sup> Ladies' and 1<sup>st</sup> Mixed trophies. At the Endure24 (24hr off-road relay), our team was 2<sup>nd</sup> (and might well have had a chance of coming 1<sup>st</sup> if they had not taken the high moral ground with their decision to stick to the original plan to send runners out in strict rotation right to the end, rather than give extra legs to our fastest runners towards the end of the day)

We were invited to take part in an inaugural XC event within the RMA Sandhurst organised by Milocarians. Although we did not win in the team competition against strong competition, we had two ladies placed.

#### **4.6. Social (report by Janet Foran)**

Janet said that the social events had been a "mixed bag".

- Pub runs had been a bit hit-and-miss, with some having excellent support and others struggling for numbers. The first committee meeting should discuss which pub runs we should have.
- The Hallowe'en Hash was again a great success this year.
- We had a Quiz Night and this had taken place at Sandhurst Social Club. Turnout was excellent – effectively this was a Sandhurst Joggers “takeover” of their regular Quiz Night. However it was enjoyed by all and they were happy to have us. This should strongly be considered for a repeat next year
- The Barn Dance in the new year was a success socially, with those attending participating well in the dancing yet all enjoying a bit of extra space. However this was because attendance was down on the previous year and as a consequence the event did not cover its costs, which we aim to do with every event. It may be that after two years, the interest in a Barn Dance has waned and we will look at other alternatives for next year.
- The Grand Ball and Awards Evening had 96 attendees and was enjoyed for the most part, though despite assurances from the Casa da Cesare that there would be no repeat of the poor meal service of 2014, there were still problems.

Darren Rice expressed his disappointment at a “bad food experience”. As the chef at Wellington, he believed that it was poor quality and poor value. He offered to look into whether we could use Wellington premises if one was suitable in terms of numbers for the occasion.

Subsidising the ball was suggested for consideration as a use for some of the excess reserves held by the club. The new committee would consider the arguments for or against when arranging next year's event.

#### **4.7. Publicity (report by Nicola Ward, presented by Richard)**

- Twitter has been set up for the club by Nicola. It currently has 77 followers and follows 80 Twitter accounts.
- Nicola feels that “SJ publicity needs to be brought into the 21<sup>st</sup> century”. To her this means making fuller use of social media, with the traditional newsletter format, which was out of date by the time it was published, having had its day

In terms of external publicity, Graham R. felt that we had not been very visible as a club in attending events. Ian said we had attended the Wokingham “Super Sunday” on Health and that after not happening last year, there would once again be a Sandhurst Fitness Fun Day this year. Paul Biggs pointed out that our runs themselves are a shop window – we run through and around Sandhurst and all people will see is a group of runners. They won't know who we are and don't get to ask as we are on the move. We should encourage more people to wear SJ kit on club runs.

#### **4.8. Webmaster (Jane Bradley, presented by Richard)**

The slides contain the state of play for the new website and online membership. Richard and Ian both emphasised that the plan had always been to put up a site which was not intended to be a ‘full’ site at the start. The first goals were to move away from the way that the current site was implemented which was very difficult to maintain, especially for someone new coming in; and to put up a site to get member feedback on its appearance and navigation. Only then would more content

be added based on member feedback of what content was required. Since there was much stale and irrelevant content on the old site, this should not be blindly carried over. In this respect, Jane had been doing what was asked of her. At the same time, she had been asked to look after MailChimp and Facebook admin, plus introduce a totally new online membership and payments system.

However, of those who expressed an opinion at the meeting, the feeling was that the current website was unappealing and would not give a good impression of the club to visitors. It was suggested that we have maybe asked too much all at once of one volunteer who also has a full life outside the club. Richard said that as Chairman, he accepted that he had not made sure that all the changes had been managed properly and in good time. Paul Alexander asked if we had considered paying someone to design the new website and that this might be paid for out of our club reserve. Others felt that if we did not go that far, might it be easier to use some off-the-shelf web design packages to reduce the work involved and possibly allow updating of content by several contributors, even if they are not website experts? This might get a simpler yet functional website and reduce the workload on Jane.

In terms of immediate requests for content, Paul Alexander would like for us to put in a prominent position news of our successes and what we are up to, so that visitors can see that this is a vibrant, successful club. Mike Gascoigne wanted us publish on the site the members who were qualified coaches.

Royston said that it was important for us to know how many visits we were getting to our site even if we can't track who they are, just to see if we are getting lots of people interested in us.

#### **4.9. General Members (presented by Mike Gascoigne)**

- Monday. See slide from Lou Gubb. Mike emphasised that where this used to be our "club run" with only one group, Jenny had offered to open up the intervals session which runs from her house and several more people had been joining.
- Tuesday. See slide from Mike Gascoigne, Lisa Harrold and Jane Crawford. Although there have been quite a number of run leaders, there was a request for another course (Jenny's "internal" one) to encourage others to do run-leading with confidence. For the introduction of the off-road group, Mike had drawn up a list of rules and guidelines for running this group to minimise risk to runners, (such as stating that all runners had to have a headtorch to take part at times of year when light was not good). These had been reviewed, amended, approved. There had been no incidents or injuries on these runs.
- Wednesday. See slide from Newton Johnstone. Wednesdays had seen a maximum of 28 runners. For the Handicap, we should be working to persuade all standards of runners that it is something truly for all runners, do what is needed to ensure that everyone feels this when they take part...and to explain that it is the one competition where *anyone* could win each month.
- Thursday. See slide from Monica Burbidge. Thursday attracts a smaller, but largely consistent, group of runners. Jeff Culkin had been leading runs for the most part, but now Richard Boese has been doing most of them. Leon had also stepped up to lead Thu runs.

#### **4.10. Chairman**

Richard told the meeting that as could be seen from the reports, it was a busy year. He thanked the committee for their work and for all the others who help – coaches, run-leaders and volunteers for events like our home cross-country and the stall at the Wokingham “Super Sunday”.

Richard said that though the vast majority of things had gone well, there were some things where he wished that more progress had been made – namely the new website and online membership – and he took responsibility for those not having progressed better.

#### **5. Yateley Road Races Report and Accounts**

Jenny presented the information on the slides. She thanked the YRR committee, but also made a particular thanks to all those from the club who volunteer and without whom the races simply could not happen.

Although many things are the same from one race to another and year to year, there are always unexpected things to deal with. In Race 1, there was an issue where there were insufficient medals on the night. We lost the use of the school field as a car park when, on account of rainy weather making the ground soft, permission to use it was unexpectedly withdrawn immediately before the race. This led to quite a bit of scrambling by car parking marshals to try and identify on-road parking and direct drivers. We hope to regain the use of the field, but will be putting in place a “Plan B” in case this happens again.

The Yateley Series was nominated for the Running Awards “Best Race Series”. The result is not yet known but we are up against the nationally recognised names like ParkRun. In any case, it is a great achievement to have reached the shortlist and this will undoubtedly raise the profile of the races.

We celebrated 25 years of YRR by introducing spot prizes for finishers

#### **6. Club Subscriptions**

The Club’s finances are sufficiently healthy that it was proposed that the annual subscription for 2015/16 be held at £15 (Proposer Ian Watson, Seconded Paul Alexander). It was suggested that some of the surplus could be used to reduce this, but after some discussion, the consensus was that for the small sums involved it was not worthwhile making a reduction. The proposal to keep the subscription at £15 was unanimously carried.

#### **7. Club Championships**

The events which comprise the Club Championship were discussed and agreed upon. These are posted on the club’s website. The meeting was asked to decide what the eligibility for this was, particularly with respect to those who are members, but for whom it is their “second-claim” club. As Paul Biggs noted, it came down to deciding what the point of the Championship was. Some present felt that those eligible for their first-claim club’s championship should not also be eligible for ours. Against that, Jenny Robinson expressed the view that our club is about inclusiveness and encouraging participation. It was also expressed that a runner in another club’s vest should not expect that their result be eligible for our club’s championship. Jackie Kent pointed out that the vest itself should not be the deciding factor for a result to count as members may be running in a vest for a charity. After some discussion the motion was that what was required for eligibility of both runner and result was: (a) the runner was a paid-up member of Sandhurst Joggers, irrespective of any other membership and/or what their “first-claim” club was; and (b)

that for a result to count, the runner should have declared Sandhurst Joggers as their club for that event. The motion was put to the meeting and carried overwhelmingly.

## 8. Election of Committee for 2015/16

- Ian confirmed to the meeting that in the event of more than one person being proposed for a position, the procedure would be that each candidate would briefly say why they wanted the job and what they would bring to it, candidates would then leave the room, voting would take place by show of hands and then the candidates would be asked back in and the result announced.
- The election then took place with the following results:

	<i>Position</i>	<i>Candidate</i>	<i>Proposed by:</i>	<i>Seconded by:</i>	<i>Result</i>
<b>8.1</b>	Chairman	Ian Watson	Richard McCready	Vicky Rice	Elected unopposed
<b>8.2</b>	Vice-Chairman	Caroline Cutliffe	Ian Watson	Royston Crandley	Elected unopposed
<b>8.3</b>	Treasurer	Vicky Horne	Charles St.Aubyn	John Tzanetis	Elected unopposed
<b>8.4</b>	Secretary	Lisa Harrold	Caroline Cutliffe	Ian Watson	Elected unopposed
<b>8.5</b>	Membership	Janice Alves de Sousa	Nicki Stanley	Sarah Hyatt	Elected unopposed
<b>8.6</b>	Social	Janet Foran	Paul Alexander	Simon Gibbon	Elected unopposed
<b>8.7</b>	Events-Winter/XC	Claire Hobson	Dave Breslin	James Casey	Elected unopposed
<b>8.8</b>	Events-Summer/Relays	John Tzanetis	Newton Johnstone	Janice Alves de Sousa	Elected unopposed
<b>8.9</b>	Publicity	Nikki Stanley	Darren Rice	Caroline Cutliffe	Elected unopposed
<b>8.10</b>	General Members:				
	- Monday	Patrick Wadsworth	John Tzanetis	Lou Gubb	Elected unopposed
	- Tuesday	Mike Gascoigne	Vicky Rice	Lisa Harrold	Elected unopposed
	“	Monica Burbidge	Ian Watson	John Tzanetis	Elected unopposed
	- Wednesday	Mark Fallowfield-Smith	Richard McCready	Darren Rice	Elected unopposed
	- Thursday	Richard Boese	Madeleine Duncan-Booth	Sarah Hyatt	Elected unopposed

## 9. Non-elected Posts for 2015/16

- 9.1. Yateley Road Race Director  
Jenny Robinson to continue.
- 9.2. Handicap Run Organiser  
Simon Willis to continue.
- 9.3. Webmaster  
Jane Bradley to continue.
- 9.4. Track Coaches  
James Casey and Carl Bradshaw to continue.
- 9.5. Newsletter Editor  
The committee felt that this post is no longer needed. Instead, the Publicity Secretary, as Social Media Secretary, would encompass the task of communicating news to members via whichever means seen fit. Members would then get more up-to-date news. The meeting agreed.
- 9.6. Kit Director  
John Tzanetis to continue.

## 10. Any Other Business

### 10.1. Looping.

There was a lively discussion about looping, lack of looping, ineffectiveness of looping and what to do to make it work better. There was no disagreement that it was needed (other than Long Run, Intervals and Handicap). It was agreed that all runners play a part in ensuring that looping happen on their runs; GMs and run leaders are responsible for reminding runners, especially those who go off at the front and don't loop, that this is the case. Appointing a 'sweeper' in larger groups who does not leave the back of the group will help make sure no-one gets left behind, even if doesn't deal with the "oblivious front-runner".

#### 10.2. Slides.

Patrick pointed out that the slides used included photos which were marked as copyright. We should not be using photos without permission.

#### **11. Closing Remarks by Chairman**

Richard thanked the outgoing committee for their work over the past year. Those who were leaving were presented with a small gift as a thank-you for their contribution. He wished the new committee all the best for the coming year. Ian asked the meeting to show their appreciation in the usual way to Richard for his work as Chairman. Richard then invited everyone to stay behind for some drinks and nibbles.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05pm

Appendix 1 : Slides used at meeting. Includes those used for presenting reports

1. **WELCOME TO THE SANDHURST JOGGERS AGM**

THE SUBJECT: The Food

THE SUPPORTERS: The Social

**Sandhurst** Joggers

2. **Approval of the minutes and matters arising.**

"The cow moved, the pig ordered, the chicken clarified, I blasted, end of meeting."

3. **Apologies for Absence.**

"JUST SEND THE APOLOGIES BY EMAIL, THEN WE CAN GET ON WITH IT."

4. **Committee Reports Secretary**

- Secretary takes the minutes of committee meetings (about every 8 weeks) and publishes the action list so that "stuff gets done"
- Board of all incoming emails to club, picking out the odd one of interest
- NEB: Organized by date for 60mins monthly and 20mins for national (in future for publicity and for the internet)
- DO WE WANT TO GROW THIS USE?
- EA: National registration to have with membership secretary

Take note when we're set up so that YOU can access lots of events by clicking with...

5. **Committee Reports**

Area	What do they do?	Why do we affiliate?	Cost to club
England Athletics (EA)	Organising daily in England and all activities. Free until 2015 (LGA)	• Access to national facilities (e.g. 11 p.m.) • FROM THE ROAD • Training opportunities • Access to national events • Carry on with the club • Sports insurance (e.g. 1000)	£220 a year (club affiliation) £100000 (EA) £1000 (EA per member)
South England Athletics Association (SEAA)	Organise regional activities	• Club members become eligible to compete in SEA and all competitions • Can't do any other activities they compete	£20 a year per member
Devon County Athletics Association (DCAA)	Organise County and regional activities	• They don't participate in SEA and all competitions	£20 a year per member
Association of Running Clubs (ARC)	"No club" for clubs only doing road and XC. Insurance	• Better insurance cover for club members • Access to race license for our 42 events (and 100)	£27 a year (£1.00 per member)

6. **Committee Report Treasurer.**

"Will you stop talking until I've finished my report?"

7. **Committee Reports Membership**

Breakdown  
The number of members, aged 18/19/20, 21-30, 31-40, 41-50, 51-60, 61-70, 71-80, 81-90, 91-100

(Senior, membership = over 35 / Vets, membership = 35-40 / Junior, membership = over 40)

Revised	Revised	New	2014
228	7	33	33

Seniors		Total	Vets		Total	Junior Vets		Total
Men	Women		Men	Women		Men	Women	
46	22		14	13		19	16	

8. **Cross Country Report**

By Claire (treasurer - Cross Country Secretary (Captain))

Apologies (am not there)

9. **Home Cross Country Event**

- Resounding success even in the fiercest weather!
- Great feedback from all the clubs - positive all round.
- 307 runners turned out despite the weather for our home event - 2nd highest number of runners at a race in the season (not including 400 of the 3rd race of the season)
- Huge thank you to all who made it happen and made it happen - couldn't have done it without you.

10. **Thames Valley Cross Country League 2014 - 2015**

- 35 teams took part across 6 races from November 2014 - February 2015
- Sandhurst joggers finished **BEST** club 2nd - huge high well done! Proud of you all!
- 8 points behind Reading Road Runners and 12 points clear of the lowest placed Barnes & Witley who finished 3rd!
- Strong competition from Reading Road Runners this year who finished a strong team this year and came 3rd on 7 out of 6 races





**Division of Officers: Roles and responsibilities.**

<p><b>Chairman</b></p> <p>Organise agenda for each meeting          Represent the club at all meetings and events          Represent the club at all meetings and events          Represent the club at all meetings and events          Represent the club at all meetings and events</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b></p> <p>Take minutes at all meetings          Organise the club's correspondence          Organise the club's correspondence          Organise the club's correspondence</p>	<p><b>Treasurer</b></p> <p>Manage the club's finances          Prepare and submit the club's accounts          Prepare and submit the club's accounts          Prepare and submit the club's accounts</p>
<p><b>Competition Director</b></p> <p>Organise the club's racing programme          Organise the club's racing programme          Organise the club's racing programme</p>	<p><b>Publicity Director</b></p> <p>Organise the club's publicity programme          Organise the club's publicity programme          Organise the club's publicity programme</p>	<p><b>Kit Director</b></p> <p>Organise the club's kit programme          Organise the club's kit programme          Organise the club's kit programme</p>

31.

32.

**Non – elected posts.**

- Non-elected posts for 2014/15
  - Yateley Road Race Director
  - Handicap Run Organiser
  - Webmaster
  - Track Coach(es)
  - Newsletter Editor
  - Kit Director

**AOB**



Looping  
AOB

33.

34.

**Closing Remarks from Chairman**

**REFRESHMENTS**



35.