**Club Development Roadmap – Jan 2014 – Ver 4 updated**

This document sets out formally what the activities of the Club Development sub-committee are – for formal approval by the Management Committee. It also gives us the opportunity to agree what does and does not fall within our remit. (If it’s not ours then another sub-committee should be picking it up!)

1. **Objective**  
   The objective of the development sub-committee is to work on the things that will keep the club feeling ‘alive’, fresh and interesting. This will be achieved by
   1. reviewing the things we already do and deciding to keep them the same, recommending that we drop them or find ways to improve them
   2. suggesting new activities for the club
   3. Coming up with other suggestions that we feel are beneficial to the smooth running of the club, or beneficial to member’s running or enjoyment of the club.
2. **Current Activities which the Development Sub Committee do**
   1. Team Captains activities (in brief)
      1. Encourage people to participate in running generally and competitions of all types in particular
      2. Ensuring the events we focus on are well supported
      3. Produce a monthly news letter  
           
         The current structure seems to be working. No change proposed at this stage.
   2. Monthly 5k Handicap
      1. Numbers are variable but good lately. The marshalling has become easier with the introduction of the finish numbers and the feedback is generally good
      2. People seem to be inspired after the 5k to perhaps go to a Park Run or enter a formal event if they have not done so before.
      3. We will continue to review routes – particularly winter ones. Suggestions welcome.
      4. The monthly social afterwards always works well and requires minimal effort to organise . We will monitor menus etc and see if the Engineer continues to cater for us well, as it has in the past.  
           
         Although we might ‘tweak’ it a bit at present we do not plan to change this a lot, particularly as people can earn league points by attending. We will be continuing to encourage people to come along to run or marshal.
   3. Cross Country League
      1. Support is generally good
      2. We will be taking part in the league again in 2013 /14
      3. The club captains will rally support for the event to try to have complete teams and win prizes.   
           
         No change planned at this time.
   4. Club League
      1. Deciding the races to be included in the league and publishing the ‘rules’. This is a current activity of the sub-committee for 2014
      2. Rallying support for the league events from members. These are generally local events where we can do well as a club and individually, or events which are good for the club to attend for whatever reason.
      3. Managing the collection of results. This is on-going thanks to the help of volunteers. We need to continue to review the simplest way to do this.  
           
         No major changes are planned for 2014. Need to get cleverer with results collection and points calculations as this task is becoming onerous.
   5. Club Standards
      1. There are no major changes in the current year (2013). We have now admitted both your best Park Run and your best Club 5k time (if you wish) into the qualifying races and the club website has been amended to explain how the WAVA score is to be calculated from these events.  
         We will review the uptake at the end of 2013 to decide if we want to continue to run this in 2014 and if any changes are necessary to keep it interesting / relevant and easy to administer.
   6. Producing the program of running activities on Tue and Thur Club nights BUT NOT necessarily ‘manning’ them. This is an on-going repeating task which the sub-committee are happy to take responsibility for.
      1. The current program of hills and speed work on Tuesdays seems to work well most of the time but we need to review who we have who is able and willing to organise / lead them. We are currently very reliant on the good will of Louise and Viddy..
      2. General club runs / organising groups on the night.   
         Generally we feel this works ok (better than it was) but it’s hard to plan in advance as everybody has external commitments.
         1. We need to trial the use of the ‘Pace Boards’ that Louise and Karen have produced.
         2. We need some plans on how we can get more people involved with both leading runs / hills / speed sessions. The Dev committee are actively recruiting - complete
         3. We would like to take responsibility for nominating people to go on the UKA / EA run leaders course (etc)
         4. We are producing / have produced a ‘club ethos’ statement which we would like to promote within the club / on the website. Complete – ethos statement on the website
      3. Long Slow Runs. Are Collette and Tina happy with the way these are going? What is the uptake? How can the club support this better – on going?
      4. Southdown Summer Specials. We are almost at the end of the light evenings so we need to review what we actually managed to do and begin planning for 2014 – on going. 2014 long slow and siuthdown special – dates already published and on website.
      5. Circuits. Seem to have been well received and well attended. We need to review the frequency and content of these. It would be good to try to find a way to replicate this in the winter months. (In 2012 we did one circuit session; in 2013 we have done 2. 2014 – TBA). We have also decided that we should not program ‘circuits’ in the same week as the club 5k as it drastically reduces the number of miles run overall which could be a problem for some runners.
      6. Routes. Karen has documented loads but they all rely on having enough run leaders who know the routes. We are planning to address this through the points outlined above.
   7. We are prepared to be responsible for ‘recruitment’ of run leaders, including making recommendations for level 1 run leaders courses. We also want to change the ethos of the club so that more ‘ordinary’ members are available / willing to lead runs.

Update – two run leader briefing sessions have taken place and about 20 people in total are happy to lead runs. Briefing notes are on the website now and next action is to encourage volunteers to actually run the sessions. Need to get other members to lead hills / reps – this is also stating to happen now

* 1. Cake nights / new member chat nights. We will be programming these in on the 3rd Tue of each month. This will be on the website and further publicised on Face book. These sessions will also form the vehicle for general feedback / ideas from the membership generally. Action complete. John Rowlands co-opted as ‘cake night monitor’
  2. We would like to review annually which external associations the club should be affiliated to – for the benefit of the members and the club. In early 2014 (after the AGM) we will review the costs and benefits of our current ARC / UKA affiliations, for 2015.

1. **New Activities**
   1. Short term
      1. Arrange another park run ‘mob’ meet – done – 7th Sep – done . Next in 2014?
      2. Mid week leagues / other leagues? Too late for 2013 but possibly for 2014 – we will support but this would need somebody to co-ordinate and drive it. We are looking at the Garden City 5k series to see if there is much interest in that. <http://www.gardencityrunners.org.uk/5khatfield.html>
      3. Golden mile. As a separate event. GH has worked out how to do the timing bit . It’s not much of a run on a Tue / Thur so maybe we should pick a Sat morning . As an experiment we’ve set up the Marathon Talk Magic mile week 2nd to 8th of Sep to gauge interest. See <http://marathontalk.com/events.php?event=3068>   
         Update – Not a huge update but a handful of people gave it a try
      4. Our own event – hobble style planning run to plot a route and write instructions – say 5 – 8 miles, local? We could do this fairly soon – Will be called the Arrows Amble.
      5. TR24 again in 2014 – decided co-ordinator appointed already. (Em Hooper)
   2. Middle / Longer term
      1. Our own event – hobble style with instructions – for our own members first as a test
      2. Our own event – ‘working party’ set up at the AGM. We have already ‘adopted’ Simon T into the sub-committee in order to pool our ideas and resources and offer a bit of support for people who have actually been doing some work on this. Simon T has already planned a 5k route which we ‘dry ran’ 15th Aug.
      3. Eventually hosting our own full 10k or 5k ‘public’ event
      4. More joint activities with other clubs / ‘open’ evening like DRR held? Summer 2014
      5. A program for people ‘just starting’ running
      6. A Harpenden ‘Park Run’ – do we want to do this? (SS WIP)
      7. Youth membership. We’ve previously said no to this but might want to look at it again in a year or two (2014/15? SS WIP needs another volunteer if we want to)
2. **Other suggestions** possibly not in our remit but for discussion at main committee
   1. Frequency of meetings. We seem to have a lot of meetings but get little done. Should we have half as many meetings (maybe) and intersperse them with ‘working’ sessions where we actually do stuff rather than talk about it?
   2. A second ‘feather’. (= instant ‘finish line’ for our own events and the ability for Arrows to fly the flag at more than one event at a time)
   3. More head torches? We only have 6 and we regularly have 30 people on a club night. More torches would allow more people to try ‘off road’ in the winter. We need to review this during Winter 2013 Action completed
   4. Storage is becoming a real problem. There is kit and head torches plus the ‘feather’ but the more we get into our own events the more there will be – sign posts, marshal vests, water bottles, tables etc.
3. **We are not (we don’t think) responsible for** (although our input may affect these areas and subcommittee members might be responsible whilst wearing another hat!)
   1. Social Events
   2. Arranging Guest Speakers (although we may suggest which ones might be good – e.g. nutrition / first marathon / avoiding injury etc)
   3. Training plans (We probably need a committee member / officer responsible for training that we could work with / advise)
   4. Increasing Membership
   5. Kit
   6. The website
   7. Away Marathon 2014
   8. Marketing
   9. Finance. We would need to apply for approval funding for any of our plans that have costs.
   10. Welfare
   11. Advising the structure of the main management committee. That’s a management committee matter.

If this roadmap / working document idea works for the Dev Sub Committee then maybe it’s a good template for other Sub Committees.. as and when they get formally assembled (e.g. Social sub-committee, Away Marathon sub-committee etc )