

**Minutes of the England Athletics (EA) Annual General Meeting held at
The Hilton Metropole, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, B40 1PP
at 11:30am on Saturday 15th October 2022**

Members present:

Board members

Gary Shaughnessy (GS)

Chair of the Board

Tunji Akintokun

Non-Executive Director

Lorna Boothe (LB)

Non-Executive Director (Member Elected),
Sutton & District AC

Peter Crawshaw

Non-Executive Director

Achilles Club

Crawley AC

Surrey County AC

Leshia Hawkins

Non-Executive Director

Janyce Holmes

Non-Executive Director

Janice Kaufman

Non-Exec Director (England Council nominated)

Gateshead Harriers

Helen Kendall

Non-Executive Director

Clive Poyner

Non-Executive Director (Member Elected)

City of Norwich

Athletics Norfolk

Norfolk Sports Hall Athletics League

Julian Starkey (JS)

Non-Executive Director (England Council nominated)

Bracknell AC

Chris Jones (CJ)

CEO, Board Director

Member clubs

Janita Maaranen	2 Dash.
Stuart Paul	Birchfield Harriers
James de Vivenot	Ealing Eagles.
David Ashbourne	Leamington Cycling and Athletics Club
Debbie Beresford	Manchester Harriers
Gemma Arbon	Mansfield Harriers
Jane Pidgeon	Notts AC.
Matthew Dalton	Peterborough & Nene Valley AC.
Kay Reynolds	Radley AC
Andy Day	Tamworth AC
Richard Llewellyn-Eaton	Taunton AC.
Sarah Benson	Telford AC
David Franks	Thames Valley Harriers
Stuart Horsewood	Winchester & District AC

The following members were not present, but voted via proxy:

Gateshead Harriers
St Mary's Richmond
Tadley Runners

Steve Grainger, Non-Executive Director
Anne Wafula Strike, Non-Executive Director

Other attendees

Yasmin Al-Daftary	West Midlands Regional Council
Vickie Armitage	Member Engagement Officer
Michael Davis (MD)	Head of Finance
John Devine (JD)	Muckle LLP (England Athletics' Company Secretary)
Moirra Gallagher	Chair of Yorkshire & North East Council
Dan Isherwood	Head of Operations
Tony McPhillip	Muckle LLP
Sam O'Shea	Board & NED Secretary
Lynette Smith	Member Services Manager
James Webb	PR & Communications Manager

The Chair confirmed that the 2022 Annual General Meeting was quorate, and it was opened at 11:30am. The Chair acknowledged the attendance of John Devine (JD) representing Muckle LLP, who are the Company Secretary and legal advisers to England Athletics. This was John's last AGM representing England Athletics and the Chair thanked him on behalf of the Board.

The Chair also thanked Peter Crawshaw and Steve Grainger who were stepping down at this AGM after 8 years of service on the England Athletics Board. They will be replaced by Helen Kendall and Jim Buckle following a rigorous recruitment process earlier this year. In addition, Janyce Holmes was continuing to a 2nd term on the Board and the Chair confirmed his support for Helen, Jim and Janyce.

The Chair announced that Tunji Akintokun will replace Steve Grainger as the Senior Independent Director on England Athletics Board.

The Chair re-iterated England Athletics' key values of fun, inspiration, integrity and inclusivity. Being one of the most accessible sports, athletics has a particularly important role in benefitting the physical and mental health of people in England. The Board and Council will continue to work together to address challenges that face the organisation and understand the key priorities.

1. Minutes of the AGM Meeting held on 23rd October 2021

- These draft minutes had previously been made available on the website.
- Via a show of hands, a majority vote for the approval of the minutes was recorded. There were no votes against or abstentions.
- **The draft minutes of 23rd October 2021 AMG were approved.**

2. Matters arising from the minutes

- No matters were raised.

3. To receive the Directors Report of the Activities of the Company during the year ended 31st March 2022 and to include a report from a Director directly elected by the membership

Chris Jones (CJ) was invited to give a presentation of the Directors Report. The pre-AGM webinar held on 27th September provided an additional opportunity for the membership to receive this information.

CJ reported the significant investment that had been made over the last year, which was directly benefitting the sport. He thanked the many volunteers as this work would not have been possible without them.

England Athletics continues to work closely with UK Athletics, particularly around the split of roles and responsibilities. These changed recently, with Road Race Licensing now the responsibility of England Athletics. Another positive change is that England Athletics would soon be accountable for Levels 1-3 Officials Education (training and content).

CJ commended the excellent Commonwealth Games in which athletics attained 34 medals, the most delivered by an England Athletics team in this century. In addition, over 5000 children enjoyed taking part in the funetics activation zone which was being followed up with local community holiday camps and clubs.

It was encouraging to see a return to major competition following the Covid pandemic. However, there were still challenges facing the organisation, particularly the Track & Field drop out of the 15-17 age group. It remained important for all to work collaboratively to tackle this issue.

CJ informed the room that he was pleased that the organisation had achieved the Advanced Level of the Sports Equality Standard and Investors in People. England Athletics' new charity, the Personal Best Foundation, will be launched at a dinner in London on 18th November. The charity will focus on Track & Field and its aim is to remove barriers and inequality for young people.

An address from a member elected Director, Lorna Boothe (LB)

LB thanked England Athletics staff, Board, Council, Coaches and Officials who have continued to support the sport over the last year. She also echoed CJ's congratulations to the Commonwealth Games team.

As a member elected Director, LB stressed the benefits of member clubs and affiliated organisations engaging with the AGM so that their voices can be heard.

An address from the Chair of England Council, Julian Starkey (JS)

JS thanked regional councillors for their help and collaboration in amplifying the voice of grass roots athletics.

The regional council elections will be taking place in 2023 and he encouraged all to reach out to any potential candidates to put themselves forward. Athletics is one of the most accessible sports and therefore, it is important that Regional Councils represent the diverse population and therefore nominations from those with different backgrounds and skills would be very welcome.

4. To receive a presentation of the Company's Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2022

Michael Davis (MD) was invited to give a presentation of the Financial Statements. The company's financial statements were available as part of the AGM notification, and these have been filed at Companies House.

The rigorous statutory audit took place in the summer and auditors Haysmacintyre have confirmed their approval of England Athletics' accounts and going concern. Income streams were recovering, and the budget was achieved for 21-22. The organisation continues to seek to grow the various income streams so that there isn't reliance on any

one particular stream. England Athletics continues to invest significantly in the sport to achieve its key objectives.

5. **To appoint the Company's Auditors for the year ended 31st March 2023 and delegate agreement of their remuneration to the Board**
 - Via a show of hands, a majority vote for the appointment was recorded. There were no votes against or abstentions.
 - **Haysmacintyre was confirmed as the Company's auditors for the year ended 31st March 2023, and the auditor's remuneration would be delegated to the Board.**
6. **To confirm the appointment of Helen Kendall as Director and Chair of the company through to the 2026 AGM**
 - Via a show of hands, a majority vote for appointment was recorded. There were no votes against or abstentions.
 - **Helen Kendall was confirmed as Director and Chair of the company through to the 2026 AGM.**
7. **To confirm the appointment of James (Jim) Buckle as Director of the Company through to the 2026 AGM.**
 - Via a show of hands, a majority vote for appointment was recorded. There were no votes against or abstentions.
 - **James (Jim) Buckle was appointed as Director of the company through to the 2026 AGM.**
8. **To confirm the re-appointment of Janyce Holmes for a 2nd term as Director of the Company through to the 2026 AGM.**
 - Via a show of hands, a majority vote for the re-appointment was recorded. There were no votes against or abstentions.
 - **Janyce Holmes was re-appointed as Director of the company through to the 2026 AGM.**
9. **Special resolution to approve the proposed changes to the Articles**
 - 75% of the votes was required to pass this special resolution.
 - Via a show of hands, a majority vote for the amendments was recorded. There were no votes against or abstentions.
 - **The special resolution to approve the proposed Articles changes was carried.**

An address from the Chair of England Athletics, Gary Shaughnessy

GS thanked the attendees in the room and joining online. AGM engagement does tend to be low, as with many other sports, unless it includes an emotive topic or an opportunity to elect a Board Director. The online pre-AGM webinar on 27th September was held so that travel was not a barrier, but the attendance could still have been much higher. He welcomed suggestions on how to encourage greater AGM attendance. A suggestion was made regarding alternative scheduling of the AGM by aligning it with other large athletics events.

GS finished by highlighting that there are numerous inspirational stories across the country, and we should not underestimate the good work that we do. GS thanked officials, volunteers, councillors, England Athletics staff and the Board for all that they have done collectively, over the last year to move the sport forward.

The meeting was declared closed at 12:30pm