

Our Fund Raiser

First of all, thank you to those who have already subscribed to this by donating £5 per month.

In our hurry to get things underway, I fear that we cut a few corners and did not explain thoroughly enough what we are trying to achieve, and what led us to where we are with it.

At the beginning of 2022, after a long and tortuous exercise, we finally got the use of the floodlights at Don Valley Bowl, courtesy of Sheffield Council and SIV. This allowed us to conduct some of our training on grass and hills through the winter months – rather than having to do all sessions at the track.

Last Autumn, it emerged that the key had been lost (*not by us!!*) and subsequent efforts to acquire another one have proven fruitless. A change of venue operators has exacerbated this and although efforts continue, we have to conclude it is unlikely to be resolved in the foreseeable future.

We looked into the cost of sourcing some portable floodlighting and realised that we were faced with an outlay in the region of £3,500. It did not seem reasonable to expect the Club to fund one specific group to that extent, so we looked at the idea of being self-sufficient and get them ourselves. Our very ambitious target date by when to have them is October 2025.

It is hoped that we can get sufficient money to attract match funding, or at least a grant contribution from elsewhere. Being aware that it can take some time to set up a group bank facility (especially an on-line one), a temporary personal bank account is being used in the meantime. Tom is looking at setting up a community account, at which point the money will be transferred to it.

If we are fortunate enough to meet our target, we will poll the group on ideas as to what we should do with funds beyond that. It may be that there is other equipment that would help delivery of the sessions, or we might be able to subsidise some competition entry (for example).

As at 14th April 2024, the account stands at **£501.69** (*including a little bit of interest*).

We would like to stress that this contribution is NOT associated with Hallamshire Harriers, either in terms of membership, or deployment – however, it was tabled and minuted at the committee meeting on 24th February 2025 for transparency.

Furthermore, all donations received are voluntary. No athlete will be turned away, whether a contribution has been made or not. We do not expect families to donate multiple £5s - irrespective of how many siblings attend.

If you have not subscribed to this, but would like to, please ask one of the coaches for the details.

We hope this answers any questions or concerns you may have but if not, please do not hesitate to ask.

Thank you,

Coaches