

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE OLD ALDENHAMIAN SOCIETY**

Wednesday 12th March 2008
in the Whitbread Room, Aldenham School

At 18.00

Present:

Mike Taylor (MT)	President (& Chairman)
Richard Peart (RP)	Honorary Treasurer
Derick Burlingham Johnson (DBJ)	Vice President
James Fowler (JF)	Headmaster
Patrick Llewelyn-Jones (PL-J)	Vice President
Ian Luetchford (IL)	Committee Member
Nick Pulman (NP)	Appointed to Committee
John Rimer (JR)	Committee Member
Trevor Barton (TB)	Committee Member
Jackie Wilkie (JAW)	OA Office
Frank Rogers (FR)	OA (S53-58)
Chris Carnaghan (CC)	OA (S56-61)

Apologies:

Mark Jordan (MJ)	Acting Honorary Secretary
John Edwards (JE)	Committee Member

1	<p>Minutes of the 2007 AGM</p> <p>The President reviewed and signed the minutes of the 2007 meeting, having changed 'Tony Hart' to 'Tony Hunt' in Item 8.</p> <p>The only matters arising were the money promised by the OA Society for the development of the Theatre. £10k had been promised for the changing rooms and 3 rows of seats (13 per row @ £300 per seat) making a total figure of £21,700. £6k would be taken from the cash reserve and the remainder from investments. This would leave a general reserve of approximately £50k.</p> <p>Funding was agreed for the OA Football Club for the 2008 season with £500 already provided in January to cover last season's costs.</p> <p>FR asked what the School was giving to the footballers? JF said that ASE dealt with the hire of football pitches and used them to the benefit of the School. RP asked when the Football Club are charged the hire money. JF thought it was monthly in arrears.</p> <p>Referring to 7.1 and having OA data available on the web site, MT said we had to be careful of the Data Protection Act. We cannot disclose information without permission. Regarding the note sent</p>	RP
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	<p>out to OAs about the ASPA Ball, we have to be careful as we are not registered to ask people for money. FR passed on the complaints of 3 other OAs about this 'e-mail shot'.</p> <p>RP asked whether we were fund raising. MT replied that OAs register to keep in contact; however, many do not want their details used for fund raising. FR said that data protection meant that people did not disclose information on the web and therefore had to ask the OA Office for information and consequently the web was not enabling OAs to contact one another. TB reiterated that it was because of data protection that we couldn't publish this information. MT stated that he needed to speak to MJ and ask him about amending the current Data Protection Act registration.</p> <p>FR asked about the content of <i>Aldenhamiana</i> and data protection. TB said that the content was stories and did not give out information that contravened the Data Protection Act. Where people have put their own personal details in e.g. requesting contact it is at their request.</p>	MT
2	<p>Election of Officers</p> <p>MT informed those present that he did not intend to stand for re-election as the President at the 2009 AGM and was looking for a successor. If one was not found, the matter would be debated.</p> <p>The Hon. Treasurer RP needed to be re-elected and this was proposed by DBJ and seconded by JR.</p> <p>The Hon. Secretary MJ needed re-election and this was proposed by MT and seconded by TB.</p> <p>It was noted that re-election of Committee Members was not a requirement at this time.</p>	
3	<p>President's Report</p> <p>The President stated that it had been a very busy year and highlighted the events. The major one had been OA Day and a Gaudy for the 1990's on the 24th June 2007 with 40 attendees. MT thanked the Development Team and JF.</p> <p>The OA Dinner was held on the 14th September 2007 at the RAF Club, Piccadilly, attended by 58 OAs and their guests.</p> <p>Regional lunches had been organised by the OA office, with a very successful Cambridge lunch in May last year with some 20 OAs and their guests attending. Unfortunately the proposed Chester lunch in November could not go ahead due to a lack of support.</p>	

	<p>Full details of future events are in the current issue of <i>Aldenhamiana</i> and are updated on the School and OA websites.</p> <p>The next Aldenham.net event is scheduled for 16th April 2008 in the Watford area and is to be hosted at the offices of an OA.</p> <p>There is a Richard Platt Society lunch at the School on 22nd April for those OAs who have pledged a legacy to the School. There will also be a Regional Lunch in Bedford on 14th May 2008.</p> <p>The OA website which is the key means of communicating with the OA community needs to be considered and some constitutional changes made to benefit the society. However the Society is in a very healthy state.</p>	
4	<p>Headmaster's Report</p> <p>JF reported that the body corporate is in very good health with all constituent parts playing a role in the school's success. The Prep School is now very much complete and fully integrated with the Senior School in terms of preparing its pupils for Senior School. Aldenham was developing well as a co-education school. Two events stand out, the Theatre development and, most recently, the Ofsted inspection regarding boarding, which is important to Aldenham's history. The inspection lasted 3½ days and the previous one had been in October 2004, when it was satisfactory - albeit there were recommendations. Since then a lot of changes have occurred including different Housemasters in each of the boarding houses.</p> <p>Customer satisfaction forms were completed by both parents and pupils and the School achieved Level 1 in the Ofsted report - which is 'Outstanding'. This covered the headings of how 'healthy', 'safe', 'enjoyable and achieving', and 'making a positive contribution to life in school' Aldenham provided. The School was 'Good' at 'achieving economic well-being', but overall it came out as 'Outstanding'.</p> <p>Regarding boarding, the School is 20% up on night boarding with 130 pupils that board on an average of 4 nights a week.</p> <p>In relation to the development of the Theatre, great moral and financial support had been provided by individual OAs and groups, including the OA Committee and for which JF gave thanks. The Theatre is now in good use with 4 shows already being performed. It is an important part of OA life with 3 pupils being members of the NYT and 2 applying from school to drama college in the hope of one becoming an actor and the other as a stage manager.</p>	

	<p>JF had recently hosted a dinner for the Chairman of Governors and members of the OA Committee where they were able to look positively ahead at the role of the OA Society and its future relationship with the School.</p> <p>FR asked what the capacity was for boarders and JF stated that it was 150 plus junior boarders who will be housed in Kennedy's which is being updated to accommodate 4-5 nights a week boarders. There were now 520 pupils in total.</p>	
5	<p>Honorary Treasurer's Report</p> <p>A copy of the Society's accounts is attached to this document. Overall the Society's finances are healthy with a similar income to last year. Expenditure includes the subsidy to the OA Dinner.</p> <p>FR asked about the Software Maintenance figure. RP said that he would have to speak to Molly Barton in the OA Office and MJ about this figure as the School give the Society a contribution; again, there were data protection issues.</p> <p>The committee asked about the travel grant which RP informed them had been given to a boy who was golfing in the USA.</p> <p>It was noted that under Other Expenditure it mentioned the "Drew Memorial". This should read the "Harvey Mortimer Beck Memorial".</p> <p>Regarding the OA Dinner, RP having chased the two OAs who had not paid for the dinner, a cheque had been received from one and the other had promised to pay by BACS [<u>Afternote</u>: both now paid].</p> <p>MT stated that the Golfing Society had submitted a bid to cover their 2007 entry fees of £1513 and it was agreed that the Society would contribute £1360 i.e. 90% (in line with its previous practice). RP stated that the Golfers would like the money before September.</p> <p>JF said that the golfers played their part by inviting younger OAs to golf days. MT would like some clarification from the golfers as to what they are offering.</p> <p>PL-J asked if there were any other Societies? JR said there was the Fives Club; however, they do not need funds as they did not incur significant costs in playing at the School.</p> <p>PL-J thanked the Hon Treasurer for his excellent work.</p>	<p>RP</p> <p>RP</p> <p>RP</p>
6	<p>Constitutional Change</p> <p>MT stated that it needed to be discussed how the Society should receive its income and what OAs should receive for membership,</p>	

	<p>now that there were several different categories of “OA”. We have reached a broad set of conclusions and MJ would put a detailed proposal to JF and the Chairman of Governors. If agreed, it would be published in <i>Aldenhamiana</i> and on the Website and, if appropriate, a vote taken at the 2009 AGM. The proposals are essentially about funding and control. There would need to be a clear Protocol between the School and the Society e.g. in regard to use and maintenance of the database.</p> <p>JF reported that there was a charge for those attending regional lunches but the cost is subsidised by the School. Other events e.g. OAs brought to the School for the theatre lunches were paid for by the School; similarly, OA Day was paid for by the school. PL-J remarked that individuals used to pay for OA Day.</p> <p>FR felt that the Register used to be better than the existing web database. MT stated that this was part of the proposed constitutional changes, as it was no longer practically possible to produce a Register. MT advised that, with the changes proposed, we were trying to reflect the aims of the Society and the School.</p>	MJ
7	<p>Web Site Report</p> <p>The web site attracts around 1,650 visits per month (up from 1,250 in 2007) mainly for <i>Aldenhamiana</i> download and to view the photo database. Much of the dynamic content (events) has been moved to the School site and is now managed by the OA Office.</p> <p>Behind the scenes, MJ has been experimenting with an Open Source data driven site (which is a site that permits various sections of the OA community to manage their own web presence) and hopefully will lead to more up to date content.</p> <p>The issue of disclosing data on the Database section of the site can only be resolved by writing to members (either personally or via <i>Aldenhamiana</i>) and requesting their permission to disclose more information.</p>	MJ
8	<p><i>Aldenhamiana</i></p> <p>TB said that he had received many letters praising <i>Aldenhamiana</i>. It is now being issued once a year due to time taken to produce it. However, It will be a full edition and come out in October to enable an advertisement to appear promoting the annual OA Dinner.</p> <p>There had been previous discussion about including <i>Aldenhamiana</i> in The Aldenhamian, which needs to be debated further. The concern is about the amount of information that could be included.</p>	

	FR said he had heard grumbles from OAs about <i>Aldenhamiana</i> now being published once a year. However, CC thanked the editor for <i>Aldenhamiana</i> and said that he enjoyed it. FR suggested that it would be good if <i>Aldenhamiana</i> were indexed on the web. MT suggested FR spoke to MJ direct about this.	FR
9	<p>Aldenham School War Memorial Educational Fund</p> <p>TB advised that as a trustee along with JR, David Hayes and John Gillman, they have a portfolio of shares that funds people who have fallen on hard times. There is £307K which yields £13K per annum and supports 8 pupils. CC asked who made the applications. TB advised that it was normally the parents of those pupils who are already in the School and hope to continue their education here.</p>	
10	<p>OA Day – 22nd June, 2008</p> <p>Those who came to OA Day last year enjoyed it but there had not been a large turn out.</p> <p>This year OA Day will be targeted to those that attended McGill's as it is their 120th anniversary. For those who were not already aware, JF advised the meeting about the disappearance while on holiday in South Africa of Michael Hetherington (79-89), who was a former Housemaster of McGill's.</p> <p>JF advised the meeting that the Grandson of S R Cox (33-46), also a Housemaster of McGill's, was due to attend Aldenham in September.</p>	
11	<p>Annual Dinner – 20th November 2008</p> <p>The Dinner has been reinstated to November as it did not make a difference in numbers by changing it to September. The date has been set for Thursday 20th November at the RAF Club, Piccadilly.</p> <p>PL-J asked if the dinner might be held at the House of Lords, where it had been in previous times and whether Lord Vincent could be asked. JR stated that it was expensive and there were security issues as they needed 48 hours notice of who would be attending. PL-J said that we could have sponsors which could reduce the cost. IL was asked to investigate.</p> <p>The cost of the tickets would again be subsidised by the Society this year, giving a further reduction for the under 30s. The Principal Guest would again be the Headmaster.</p>	IL
12	<p>Election of Honorary Members</p> <p>There are no proposals.</p>	

13	<p>Letchmore Trust</p> <p>JR explained that the Letchmore Trust held works of art for display by the School. When the Stanley Spencer was sold in the 1990s, £40K was given to the Trust and this money is now worth £70K.</p> <p>The Dove & Peace picture which is in the Chapel is also owned by the Letchmore Trust. TB said that the Trust were looking for a new Trustee.</p>	
14	<p>Register & History</p> <p>FR asked whether there could be a coffee table history of the school printed. This was something JE was looking into and it was agreed that JR would call him to find out the situation. The target date was hoped to be 2010.</p>	JR
15	<p>AOB</p> <p>House flags are to be hung in the Chapel to give it more 'vibrancy' and it is proposed to incorporate an OA flag. A proof was shown to the Committee. After discussion it was decided that the flag should be based on the older style OA tie which incorporated a bigger blue and black band with the blue stripe to be less vibrant than that in the proof. JAW to advise Marketing.</p> <p>FR again queried (see Item 1) how/when the Football grants were paid. TB said that if on a monthly basis, perhaps it could move to a quarterly basis for ease of accounting. JF asked if football training was all year round? The Committee believed it was all year, apart from the summer holidays.</p>	JAW
16	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>The date of the 2009 AGM would be confirmed by MJ after consultation with JF and MT.</p>	MJ

OLD ALDENHAMIAN SOCIETY
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2007

2006	£	INCOME	£	2007
18,718.84		20-year Subscriptions		18,191.56
		Voluntary subscriptions:		
	680.00	lump sums	559.50	
3,513.60	<u>2,833.60</u>	standing orders	<u>2,958.60</u>	3,518.10
		Interest on investments, gross:		
	1,640.44	Quoted securities	3,255.51	
1,703.73	<u>63.29</u>	Deposit account	<u>10.52</u>	3,266.03
0.11		Interest on Corp'n tax refund		-
95.00		Register surplus		37.50
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24,031.28		TOTAL INCOME		25,013.19
=====				=====
		EXPENDITURE		
		<u>Aldenhamiana costs:</u>		
	3,571.77	February issue	3,025.14	
6,589.12	<u>3,017.35</u>	November issue	<u>3,556.46</u>	6,581.60
		<u>Administration costs:</u>		
	6,387.78	Secretarial assistance	6,574.40	
	350.00	Software and training	480.88	
	666.29	Software Maintenance	1,880.00	
	306.24	Postage & Stationery	144.96	
	230.39	Corporation Tax	550.28	
	133.00	AROPS, DP, flowers	53.00	
	392.95	O A Dinner subsidy	1,016.60	
8,966.00	<u>499.35</u>	Committee & AGM expenses	<u>179.17</u>	10,879.29
		<u>Grants to Clubs:</u>		
	77.60	Aldenham.net	52.62	
	500.00	O A Football Club	500.00	
1,577.60	<u>1,000.00</u>	O A Golfing Society	<u>1,000.00</u>	1,552.62
		<u>Grants to Aldenham School:</u>		
	150.00	O A Society prize	150.00	
550.00	<u>400.00</u>	Travel grant	<u>800.00</u>	950.00
		<u>Other expenditure:</u>		
60.00		Richard Harman farewell gift		-
--		Harvey Mortimer Beck Memorial		302.60

<u>17,742.72</u>		TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>20,266.11</u>
6,288.56		SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR		4,747.08

OLD ALDENHAMIAN SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2007

2006	£	FIXED ASSETS	£	£	2007
		Quoted investments at cost			
26,154.96		Treasury Stock			26,154.96
35,645.00		Corporate bonds			35,645.00
<u>14,230.43</u>		Corporate Bond Funds (accum)			<u>16,490.69</u>
76,030.39					78,290.65
		NOTE: Market value at			
		31 December 2007 - £ 77,337			
		(2006: £ 75,086)			
		CURRENT ASSETS			
		Cash at bank:			
	2,433.31	Current account	10,266.64		
	<u>3,000.00</u>	Societies Reserve account	—		
	5,433.31			10,266.64	
		Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES			
1,412.22	<u>4,021.09</u>	Sundry creditors		<u>6,367.60</u>	3,899.04

77,442.61		<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>			82,189.69
=====					=====
		REPRESENTED BY:			
		Accumulated Fund			
51,191.93		Balance at 1 January 2007			68,942.61
11,462.12		Surplus on redemption of stock			—
<u>6,288.56</u>		Surplus for the year		<u>4,747.08</u>	
68,942.61					73,689.69
		Register / history account			
	8,500.00	Balance at 1 January 2007	8,500.00		
	<u>95.00</u>	Add: surplus for the year	<u>37.50</u>		
	8,595.00		8,595.00		
	<u>95.00</u>	Less: transfer to income for the year	<u>37.50</u>		
8,500.00					8,500.00

77,442.61					82,189.69
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R W PEART
Hon. Treasurer

