

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

Wednesday 11th March, 2009
In the Whitbread Room, Aldenham School

at 6pm

Present:

Mike Taylor (MT)	President (& Chairman)
James Fowler (JF)	Headmaster
Derick Burlingham Johnson (DBJ)	Vice President
Richard Peart (RP)	Honorary Treasurer
Mark Jordan (MJ)	Acting Honorary Secretary
Trevor Barton (TB)	Committee Member
Ian Luetchford (IL)	Committee Member
Nick Pulman (NP)	Committee Member
John Rimer (JR)	Committee Member
Jackie Wilkie (JAW)	Secretary to the Committee

1	Apologies	
	Apologies received from John Edwards & Frank Rogers.	
2	Minutes of the 2008 AGM	
	The minutes were agreed and signed by the President.	
3	Matters Arising	
	<p>Under Item 5 of the last AGM minutes MT asked what the situation was regarding the golfers. TB said the Golfing Society were very good at providing information for publication in Aldenhamiana and JF added that the golfing links with the School were very good, due to Peter Easby, who is a Governor and OA, being on the Golfing Committee. JF suggested that maybe a representative from the Golf and Football societies ought to attend an OA meeting (possibly the AGM) to help the Committee. MT asked RP to speak to both societies and ask that a representative, possibly the Secretary, to attend one meeting per year.</p> <p>Under Item 14, Register & History, JAW reported that JE had written to past pupils, two previous Heads and two Masters. So far he had heard back from Terry Ford and had initial contact from Richard Harman's office.</p>	RP

<p>4</p>	<p>Election of Officers (Hon Treasurer & Hon Secretary)</p> <p>It was proposed that RP remain as Hon Treasurer and duly seconded.</p> <p>The Hon Secretary role would be covered by JAW until MT could find someone to replace MJ who wished to step down. Historically, there have been two 'Honorary Secretaries', normally one member of the academic staff and an OA, although MT believed that this was no longer necessary as the OA office (JAW) had taken on the meeting arrangements, agenda, production of draft minutes, etc. MT said that the Hon Secretary/ies needed to have knowledge of both the School and OA Society. He expressed his thanks to MJ who agreed to continue to support the Society over Constitutional change matters and the website.</p>	<p>MT</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>Election of Committee Members</p> <p>TB, JE, JR & IL were all for re-election and all were proposed and seconded for a further 3 years. FR, who has been an acting Committee member, was officially proposed by DBJ and seconded by MT.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>President's Report</p> <p>The President reported yet another busy year with the 2008 OA Day attended by some 120 OAs and their guests, most of whom were from McGill's celebrating its 120th Centenary. MT thanked JF and the School & Development team for making the day possible and organising it so well.</p> <p>July saw OAs attending Lichfield Cathedral to hear the School Chapel Choir sing Evensong and in November, 38 OAs and their guests attended the OA Dinner at the RAF Club.</p> <p>On a sad note, 6th September saw the Memorial Service for Michael Hetherington (CR59-94), a member of the Common Room and Housemaster of McGill's (1979-89) where some 400 attended. Further, in April the death of Patrick Llewellyn-Jones (SH38-42) had occurred. He was a long time member of the OA Lodge and a Vice President of the Society since 1995, becoming a regular attendee at meetings.</p> <p>The OA Regional lunches organised by the Development Office with great success, demonstrated a clear wish by OAs to maintain and strengthen relationships. Last May there was a lunch held in Bedford and this May there is one planned in Marlborough. There is also an OA Oxford Dinner at Wadham</p>	

	<p>College and full details can be found in <i>Aldenhamiana</i> and on both the School and OA websites. 3rd March 2009 was the most recent 'Aldenham.net' initiative which gives OAs working and living in London the opportunity to network in an informal atmosphere.</p> <p>Finally, the President reported that the Society continues to develop the OA website and its linkages in order to communicate with the OA community and it closely monitors membership and financial matters. He was pleased to report that the Society remains in a very healthy state, albeit, looking to the future, we need to consider some constitutional changes to benefit the Society.</p>	
7	<p>Headmaster's Report</p> <p>The Headmaster reported that, having been in the job for nearly 3 years, he is well on the way to getting things in the School to where he would like them to be; even with the current financial instability he was pleased that the School remains full. Indeed a meeting had been convened recently to see if the School could accommodate an extra class group in Year 9 from next September.</p> <p>The School had received 3 very good inspection reports last year. An outstanding rating from Ofsted for boarding provision, also outstanding provision for Nursery and, in November, there had been a full school inspection with a similarly positive result, the 'Overall Conclusions' paragraph which JF read out. The entire inspection report is available on the School website for anyone to see.</p> <p>JF reported a number of successes on the sporting field, two successful girls' hockey fixtures against Highgate. The School golf team are through to the regional final of the ISGA Cup against Mill Hill with a good prospect of reaching the National Final. The First XI Football had a good win against Charterhouse (their first defeat for over a year) and the Cricket team beat both the MCC and OAs in the cricket fixture list the day before Vis Day was cause for celebration.</p> <p>JF was delighted with the links between the OAs and the School, not least by the work done in the Development Office. He had attended a significant number of events meeting OAs which had given him a sense of pride in the School and, in July, would be dining with OAs in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. JF felt that the work and generosity of the OA Society was greatly appreciated by the School.</p>	

	<p>DBJ asked about golfers in the School and JF confirmed that one pupil had also played in the Halford Hewitt competition last year.</p> <p>RP asked about the extra class in Year 9. JF said the School already had 3 classes for Year 7 but there was demand for the extra class in Year 9 also.</p>	
<p>8</p>	<p>Honorary Treasurer's Report</p> <p>The Committee members were given a copy of the Income & Expenditure report for the year ended 31 Dec 08 by RP, who reported the income much the same due to "20 year subscriptions" being up on last year, but voluntary subscriptions being down.</p> <p>The <i>Aldenhamiana</i> costs are also similar, due to the printing of one colour glossy issue rather than two black & white issues.</p> <p>The OA Dinner subsidy was less due to fewer people attending.</p> <p>Grants to clubs include £500.00 plus £667.00 paid to the OA Football Club. RP had received a credit note for February due to the snow, but had not yet received a bill from them for this season's football. RP agreed to chase up the bill for the Astroturf costs.</p> <p>The overall deficit was mainly due to the contribution to the Theatre Project, although JR said the Leeman's Bond held by the Society was also a contributing factor. MT said it was a good thing the theatre fund money had been given prior to the recession. However he felt we need to keep a reserve of about £50K.</p> <p>TB said that we had dropped about £18K due to the financial situation and could only hope the market picks up soon.</p> <p>RP said the golfing costs for 2008 were £1,533.00 with the Society paying £1,400.00 which is the 90% that had been agreed. This money was used for entrance fees to tournaments. MT said that maybe this percentage ought to be changed but TB disagreed.</p> <p>MT was concerned that more parents were declining to pay the OA subs but JF confirmed that not many had done so, considering it is an optional fee.</p>	<p>RP</p>

<p>9</p>	<p>Constitutional Changes</p> <p>MJ said that we needed to modernise. At present OA subscriptions are voluntary to parents at Year 9 and Year 12 and since the last changes there are now girls in the School and 10 academic years. Also the School is more pro-active in development.</p> <p>MJ felt that sites like Facebook etc undermined the perceived value of OA status and that perhaps everyone ought to be allowed to join the Society. He went on to say that 2022 will see the first batch of OA members leave the 20 year membership scheme and it will be interesting to see what the uptake of renewal is.</p> <p>JF said that it looked like the School would have to incorporate the cost into the fees but details of the constitutional changes would need to be ratified.</p> <p>MJ said that once he had the proof ready, it would need to be approved by the Committee and the School before publication on the website and in <i>Aldenhamiana</i> and then it would need to go to the AGM and finally to the Governing Body to have it agreed.</p> <p>MJ said he would give his draft report to MT and then it could be discussed at the next meeting, after which the draft would be given to JF. MT stressed the need for getting it right rather than pushing the changes through quickly. JF added that he felt that he and NP should not be party to these discussions at the next meeting as they had to look at the draft from the School's perspective. MT agreed. MJ said he would ensure MT had a draft available before the next meeting.</p>	<p>MJ</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Website Report</p> <p>MJ reported that he had completely revised the OA Sports Clubs section on the website because it was out of date and each club is now able to update their own fixtures. Things can also be bolted on i.e. photographs and a booking system etc. and MJ feels it promises to be a good site.</p>	
<p>11</p>	<p><i>Aldenhamiana</i></p> <p>TB felt that the last issue was a radical departure from previous issues because it was in colour and had received much positive feedback.</p>	

	<p>TB showed the Committee the October 2001 issue which looks more like a news letter compared to its present magazine format. Postage costs had been saved due to the annual rather than bi-annual publication.</p> <p>TB although happy to continue to be the Editor of <i>Aldenhamiana</i> for now, did not want to still be doing the job in 10 years time and asked the Committee to let him know if they knew of anyone who would like to take over as Editor.</p>	
12	<p>Aldenham School War Memorial Educational Fund</p> <p>JR stated that there were 4 trustees for this fund which are D Hayes, J Gillman, TB and JR. JR said that the portfolio of investments originally amounted to £307K which had gone down to £250K and is now less than £175K due to the economic climate. However last April's dividend of £13,400 helped support 9 pupils, which was a similar number to the previous year. The funds which were managed by HSBC had recently been moved to Brewin Dolphin.</p> <p>TB said that the Trust had a good relationship with Karin Read, Aldenham's Director of Finance, and had agreed to help a number of pupils rather than just one.</p> <p>RP advised the Committee that there was also the Aldenham Club Trust that he and IL, T Harvey and S Clarke were trustees of. It gave away about £10K per year to 12 clubs in Kentish Town which was historical to the School. MT said that this needs to be put on next year's AGM agenda and RP to report.</p>	RP
13	<p>OA Day 2008 & 2009</p> <p>MT reported that OA Day 2008 was a great success and it looked like 2009 would be too with 38 OAs and 27 guests having already accepted the invitation to the School House Gaudy, which incorporates School House Evens & Odds, plus Riding's and Leeman's.</p> <p>MT said that OAs attending previous Gaudys had said that they felt the chapel service to be an important part of the day.</p>	
14	<p>Annual Dinner 2008 & 2009</p> <p>2008's Annual Dinner although a success was not very well attended and therefore 2009 was being heralded as the last of the annual OA Dinners. This black tie event was to be held at the school (details are already on the website). IL was asked to speak to Rob Haigh-McLane the Catering Manager</p>	IL

	<p>at the School to procure some menus and prices from him.</p> <p>TB felt we ought to limit the number of attendees, perhaps to 40 or so, on a first come first served basis to make catering arrangements easier for the Society.</p> <p>MT felt that two mailshots ought to go out in the Spring and Summer, plus a booking form put on the website and in the next issue of <i>Aldenhamiana</i>.</p> <p>IL advised the Committee that he had booked the RAF Club for 19th November 2010, which can always be cancelled.</p>	MJ/JAW
15	<p>Election of Honorary Members</p> <p>DBJ said that Molly Barton's Honorary Membership ought to be agreed at the AGM and therefore he proposed this and this was seconded by RP.</p>	
16	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>MT reported that he had found a successor for the role of President of the OA Society when he steps down immediately after the 2010 AGM. He is Neil Sutherland OBE MA (B1966-70) who lives in Oxfordshire, whose son Robert is also an OA (B1992-97).</p> <p>Neil would like copies of the Minutes of the Meetings, by post, between now and then.</p> <p>JR asked if Neil had many other commitments, but MT reported that although he was still in full time employment, he was happy to take on the role of President of the OA Society.</p> <p>DBJ was unhappy about people wearing OA ties who had not attended the school. MT said that while this was unfortunate, there was little the Society could do to stop people wearing ties that were given to them. No action should be taken about the particular case mentioned, as it was now far too late.</p>	JAW
17	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>MT would speak to Neil Sutherland regarding a suitable date for the next AGM. Post Note: Date fixed for 10th March 2010 at 6pm at the school.</p> <p>The next OA Society Committee Meeting would be held on Thursday 4th June 2009 at 6pm in the Whitbread Room at the School.</p>	

OLD ALDENHAMIAN SOCIETY
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008

2007	£	INCOME	£	2008
18,191.56		20-year Subscriptions		19,157.98
		Voluntary subscriptions:		
	559.50	lump sums	220.00	
3,518.10	<u>2,958.60</u>	standing orders	<u>2,886.00</u>	3,106.00
		Interest on investments, gross:		
	3,255.51	Quoted securities	3,340.59	
3,266.03	<u>10.52</u>	Deposit account	<u>3.53</u>	3,344.12
-		Interest on Corp'n tax refund		1.82
37.50		Register surplus		80.00
25,013.19		TOTAL INCOME		25,689.92
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		EXPENDITURE		
		<u>Aldenhamiana costs:</u>		
	3,025.14	February issue	-	
6,581.60	<u>3,556.46</u>	October issue	<u>6,262.50</u>	6,262.50
		<u>Administration costs:</u>		
	6,574.40	Secretarial assistance	6,771.68	
	480.88	Software and training	--	
	1,880.00	Software Maintenance	1,974.00	
	144.96	Postage & Stationery	616.89	
	-	Bank charges	72.12	
	550.28	Corporation Tax	592.72	
	53.00	AROPS, DP, flowers	183.27	
	1,016.60	O A Dinner subsidy	437.50	
10,879.29	<u>179.17</u>	Committee & AGM expenses	<u>425.95</u>	11,074.13
		<u>Grants to Clubs:</u>		
	52.62	Aldenham.net	--	
	500.00	O A Football Club	1,167.24	
1,552.62	<u>1,000.00</u>	O A Golfing Society	<u>1,360.00</u>	2,527.24
		<u>Grants to Aldenham School:</u>		
	--	Theatre Project	21,700.00	
	--	C. McGinty	300.00	
	150.00	O A Society prize	150.00	
950.00	<u>800.00</u>	Travel grant	<u>800.00</u>	22,950.00
		<u>Other expenditure:</u>		
302.60		H M Beck Memorial		--
20,266.11		TOTAL EXPENDITURE		42,813.87
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4,747.08		SURPLUS/DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		(17,123.95)

OLD ALDENHAMIAN SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2008

2007					2008
	£	FIXED ASSETS	£	£	£
		Quoted investments at cost			
26,154.96		Treasury Stock			12,061.25
35,645.00		Corporate bonds			30,525.00
<u>16,490.69</u>		Corporate Bond Funds (accum)			<u>20,646.86</u>
78,290.65					63,233.11
		NOTE: Market value at			
		31 December 2008 - £ 54,885.42			
		(2007: £ 77,337)			
		CURRENT ASSETS			
		Cash at bank:			
	10,266.64	Current account		4,429.76	
		Less: CURRENT LIABILITIES			
		Sundry creditors		<u>3,334.84</u>	1,094.92
3,899.04	<u>6,367.60</u>				-----

82,189.69		<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>			64,328.03
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		REPRESENTED BY:			
		Accumulated Fund			
		Balance at 1 January 2008			73,689.69
68,942.61		Net Loss on redemption of stock			(737.71)
—		Surplus/Deficit for the year			<u>(17,123.95)</u>
<u>4,747.08</u>					55,828.03
73,689.69					
		Register / history account			
	8,500.00	Balance at 1 January 2008		8,500.00	
	<u>37.50</u>	Add: surplus for the year		<u>80.00</u>	
8,537.50				8,580.00	
<u>37.50</u>		Less: transfer to income for the year		<u>80.00</u>	
8,500.00					8,500.00
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82,189.69					64,328.03
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R W PEART
Hon. Treasurer