

## OLD IPSWICHIAN CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Little School at Ipswich School at 6.30pm  
on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2017

### **In attendance:**

John Graham (President), Tim Passmore (Vice-President), Sally Webber (Chairman), Clare Lock (Secretary), Steve Runnacles (Treasurer), Nicholas Weaver (Headmaster) and those signing the attendance register:

James Davey, Richard Welbourne, William Coe, Paul Wranek, Karl Daniels, John Ward, Ian Galbraith, Trevor Woods, Guy Main, John Caudle, Bob Clayton, Bob Porter, Philip Ind, Geoffrey Cook Geoffrey Bell-Jones, William Coe, Chris Jeffery, John Felgate, Michael Graham, Richard Staines, Vanessa Bell, Vicki Gordon, Heather Bush

### **1.0 Apologies for absence:**

Apologies for absence were received from: Mike Fenn, Leigh Belcham, John Job, John Skeates, Peter Rolph, Florence Milner and Chris Warnes

Members were welcomed to the AGM by the President, John Graham

### **2.0 Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting:**

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record Proposed by Bob Clayton and Seconded by James Davey.

### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes

### **3.0 Chairman's report**

Sally Webber presented her Chairman's Report for 2017 as follows:

On membership, 86.5% of Year 13 joined the Club, compared to 89% in 2016, 85% in 2015, 80% in 2014 and in 2014 it was 89%.

Interestingly more year 11 leavers joined the Club, which we will continue to monitor as it is somewhat different to the trait we typically see for those leaving at this stage.

I am grateful to the Headmaster for inviting me to speak at the new parents evening in September. I always find this a really happy event, with pupils and parents embarking on their journey at Ipswich School, and it gives an opportunity to introduce the Club and what it does to parents and pupils at an early stage, which is helpful. Awareness of the Club, its role and what it does is rising in the School, and we are working for more opportunities to show the benefits of membership of the OI Club.

In an age where many schools and their alumni associations have difficult and fractious relationships, I am very happy that the Club's link with the School remains such a positive one. The Head and I speak regularly, and the Club is also very ably supported by Heather Bush, Development Director, and her team. Much of what the Club does,

and certainly the planning and delivery of bigger events, would be difficult without the assistance of the Development Office and its team. I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank the Headmaster and his staff for their support of the Club.

### Highlights of Events 2017

**London Dinner** – On Thursday 27th April, we assembled at the Lansdowne Club in Mayfair for the London Dinner. As always with the London Dinner, we were treated extremely well. Dinner was delicious, with roast duck for the main course followed by a marvellous crème brulee. The venue was bright and welcoming, the only change one would have made would have been to have more space for more Old Ipswichians! Your President, Mr John Graham, hosted an enthusiastic group of 50 OIs. His guest speaker Tim Kiddell, the Prime Minister's Speech writer, highlighted some key moments from his life in politics as well as reminiscing about his time at Ipswich School. He was pleased to toast the health of the OI Club.

**London: Drinks in the City** – This year three Drinks in the City have taken place. We gathered at The Devonshire Terrace on Thursday 23rd February, Thursday 27th July saw us at The Sterling, and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at Balls Brothers, Bury Court. There have been many familiar faces and a significant number of younger OIs joining us at Drinks in the City for the first time. The ebb and flow of the evening is such that OIs arrive over period of some hours, some staying for a drink or two and some for a few more.

**The Diamond Lunch**, renamed the Summer Lunch – this took place at School on Saturday 10th June. The dining hall was again full, but not quite bursting, and we were joined by OIs who left the school 50 years ago or more, plus their partners. They were taken on a tour of the School, followed by a sumptuous lunch in the School Dining Hall. As always, the Summer Lunch was a very enjoyable and enthusiastic gathering, made more so by a special archives display arranged by Melissa Joralemon, the school archivist.

**President's Event** – Sunday 24th September at 6.30pm saw the President's Event unfold in the School Chapel. With the support and backing of the excellent Chapel Choir, a Songs of Praise Service in which seven well-known and well-loved hymns were sung, made for a very enjoyable hour. The hymns were introduced by OI's spanning six decades, as well as the Schools current Head Boy and Head Girl. Refreshments afterwards in the Dining Hall were well received and finished off a really lovely event.

As we have for many years, the Club sponsored a night of the School's Festival of Music and those assembled were entertained with some beautiful music.

**The Remembrance Service** in Chapel was well attended by the School's CCF and OIs, and the wreath was laid on behalf of the Club by Committee member Bob Clayton, a reception was held in the dining hall afterwards.

The gathering of OIs who left School during the past 5 years – First Five Years Out – will be held in Ipswich next week.

## Sport

2017 was another busy year for the Club sports-wise with cross country, rugby, golf and fives.

This year's Cross Country took place on a surprisingly sunny afternoon at the usual venue of Fynn Valley Farm. We had a good turn out this year, with 9 OI runners. Congratulations to the OI team, who beat the School! Special mention for Charlie Harpur OI (2001-2009) who won the senior's race in a time of 27.29 minutes.

The Sports Festival unfortunately had to be cancelled due to poor take up from OIs. We will move it back to Easter, and look at how we publicise it and see if 2018 is a better year.

Many people help the Club. My thanks to the School, and the Headmaster in particular, as well as many of his staff including the majority of the Sports Department. As I have already said, the Club owes much to the Development Office.

I formally record my thanks, and I hope yours, to many who have made this year so successful for the OI Club. My particular thanks to those on the committed who have completed their term of service and contributed so much: President John Graham (who I thrilled has agreed to be co-opted back on by the Committee), Junior President George Finch, committee members Chris Warnes and Martin Holland. We also have some excellent individuals who have put themselves forward for election later at this AGM.

As Chairman, I see early on news of OIs who have died. This year there have been many of these, and we remember with gratitude OIs we knew who have died in the last year, as well as their families. We pay special tribute to those who have given so much to pupils of Ipswich School and to OIs. As we look forwards to 2018, and the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the end of the First World War, the Committee will be working with the School to look at how we formally commemorate this important milestone, and honour all OIs who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

The OI Club is about, in part, fellowship, staying in contact with OIs and building new friendship with other OIs, links with and supporting the School, and running functions to enable OIs to meet.

The Club has momentum, excellent events, good communications, and an ambition to be better. I am very much looking forward to 2018, and another year full of catching up, events, and friendships renewed and strengthened as your Club Chairman.

Proposed by William Coe and Seconded by Tim Passmore the Chairman's report was adopted

## **4.0 Treasurer's report**

Steve Runnacles circulated copies of the Annual Accounts for the year ended July 31<sup>st</sup> 2017, noting that these had been published on the Club's website for over two weeks prior to the meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes.

The treasurer reported on an annual surplus of £11,508 compared to £9,807 in the previous year. Both Income and expenditure grew during the year.

As reported at last year's AGM, life subscriptions received from the 2016 Leavers was higher than the amount received from the 2015 leavers. I am pleased to report that the figure comparable figure for the 2017 leavers is nearly £5000 higher. Overall expenditure has risen by just over £200 during the year.

The Club continues to grow funds and is actively considering various strategies to utilise its surplus funds.

Paul Wranek enquired who the creditors would be and SR responded that we have six years of website monies set aside.

Proposed by Karl Daniels and Seconded by Paul Wranek, the Annual Accounts and Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017 were received and approved.

#### **5.0 Election of President for 2018**

Proposed by Sally Webber and Seconded by Geoffrey Bell-Jones, Tim Passmore was elected President for 2018. This was approved by the AGM

#### **6.0 Election of Vice President for 2018**

Proposed by Sally Webber and Seconded by Richard Staines, William Coe was elected Vice President for 2018. This was approved by the AGM

#### **7.0 Election of Junior President for 2018**

The Chairman reported that we have been unable to find a Junior president or Junior Vice President which has proved increasingly difficult over the last few years. The Chairman requested that it be left with the committee to look at how we can improve take up of this role. This was approved by the AGM

#### **8.0 Election of Junior Vice President for 2018**

As point 7.0 above

#### **9.0 Appointment of Officers**

Proposed by John Ward and seconded by Guy Main. Sally Webber was elected as Chairman, Clare Lock was elected as Secretary, and Steve Runnacles as Treasurer. This was approved by the AGM

#### **10.0 Election of New Committee Members**

Proposed by Guy Main and seconded by Michael Graham, Mike Fenn was elected as a Committee member for the three years 2018 to 2020.

Proposed by Clare Lock and seconded by John Caudle, Henry Gaskin was elected as a Committee member for the three years 2018 to 2020.

Proposed by Sally Webber and seconded by Bob Clayton, Peter Boughton was elected as a Committee member for the three years 2018 to 2020.

These were approved by the AGM

All business being concluded the meeting closed at 6.55pm