

## OLD IPSWICHIAN CLUB

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the New Dining Hall at Ipswich School at 6.30pm on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2018

### **In attendance:**

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

John Graham, Peter Boughton, James Davey, Karl Daniels, Richard Staines, Oliver Pitt, Richard Passmore, John Ward, Richard Welbourne, Paul Wranek, John Caudle, Bob Clayton, Ian Galbraith, Trevor Woods, Geoffrey Bell-Jones, John Felgate, John Skeates, Bob Porter, Tery Cracknell, Chris Jeffery, Geoffrey Cook,

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

Apologies for absence were received from: Mike Fenn, Leigh Belcham, Florence Milner and Chris Warnes

Members were welcomed to the AGM by the President, Tim Passmore

### **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 2018 as follows:

On membership, 87.7% of Year 13 joined the Club, compared to 86.5% in 2017, 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. It is also, therefore, with sadness that I wish Heather all the best in her new role as she moves on and hope that you join me in showing our appreciation for all her hard work on behalf of the school and the Club.

### **Highlights of Events 2018**

We kicked off the year in style with an amazing wine tasting organised by John Caudle in conjunction with Majestic Wines. 21 OIs learnt how to really appreciate various wines, and how to pair them successfully with food. A skill I'm sure we've all applied every Friday night since.

London Dinner – On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April, we assembled at the In and Out Club in Mayfair for the London Dinner. As always with the London Dinner, we were treated extremely well. Dinner was delicious, the venue was bright and welcoming, and the company, as always, stimulating and fun. Your president, Mr Tim Passmore, hosted an enthusiastic group of 50 OIs. His guest speaker Anthony Stansfield (Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner), highlighted some key moments from his life and not only told us of his exciting military career in territories as far apart as The Falkland Islands and Hong Kong but some of his escapades during the Cold War with Military Intelligence and his experiences of the troubles in Northern Ireland. He was pleased to toast the health of the OI Club.

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 56 OIs and their families joined the Club in the Loggia & Sports Hall for a 1988 Leavers Reunion organised by Charles Bagnall and Simon Ballard to celebrate 30 years since leaving Ipswich School. The event was blessed with fine weather, and conversations and beer flowed in equal measure. The Committee has further plans for additional reunions for 2019.

**The Diamond Lunch**, renamed the Summer Lunch – this took place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 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** – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30pm saw the President's Event unusually take place away from the school in Christchurch Mansion. Themed around a celebration of all the amazing food and drink produced in Suffolk, and supported by Suffolk Co-op, guests were treated to a fantastic array of canapés. Nearly 50 OIs attended, including some who had not been back to an OI event, ever. Donations were given at the end of the evening for Inspire Suffolk, and over £400 was raised.

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 "Club Night" was 4mality, where OI Sam Wilson and his percussion group put on a fabulous display.

Ollie Morris OI also performed with the Gents of St Johns on the Monday evening, proving that OIs are really a very talented bunch of people!

2018 marked 100 years of the end of the First World War. Those members of the Club and the School who paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country are now commemorated by a joint plaque in the Chapel at Ypres. This year the annual Remembrance Service was replaced by the town's memorial event in Christchurch Park, where over 10,000 people attended. Afterwards the School welcomed in excess of 1000 back to the school to view the amazing art installation in the Chapel. The Club was delighted to help support this initiative with a contribution of £5000 to light the display. For those who wish to, the Headmaster has very kindly agreed to take OIs to view it after the AGM. It is absolutely breath-taking, and I highly recommend that you see it.

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

Many people help the Club. My thanks firstly to the School, and the Headmaster in particular, as well as many of his staff including many of the Sports Department, and the oft forgotten Estates and Catering teams. And 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 committee who have completed their term of service and contributed so much: President Tim Passmore (who I am thrilled has agreed to go on the Committee), and 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.

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 2019, and another year full of catching up, events, and friendships renewed and strengthened as your Club Chairman.

Proposed by William Coe and Seconded by Oliver Pitt 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> 2018, 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 £13,332 compared to £11,508 in the previous year. As reported at last year's AGM leavers' subscriptions peaked at over £31,000. Subscriptions received in this financial year are £28,700 still the second highest on record and a sign of the health of the School.

Expenditure rose by over £3,000 during the year mainly as a result of higher expenditure incurred at the London Dinner. This came about because of room hire due to a change in venue and the package offered to attract members.

For some years I have been reporting that your committee has been discussing ways to utilise the accumulation of funds within the club's accounts. During the year a subcommittee made a proposal to the committee as to the level of reserves that needed to be retained by the Club and that excess funds should be donated to a selected School based project. This proposal was made after due consideration of the likely income and expenditure of the Club over the next five years. After deliberation, the Club has decided to donate £50,000 to the Wolsey Appeal.

A discussion took place in relation to the London and Ipswich dinner subsidies. The headmaster also expressed his thanks to the club for their donation.

Proposed by Karl Daniels and Seconded by John Ward, the Annual Accounts and Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 were received and approved.

#### **5.0 Election of President for 2019**

Proposed by Sally Webber and Seconded by Ian Galbraith, William Coe was elected President for 2019. This was approved by the AGM

#### **6.0 Election of Vice President for 2019**

Proposed by Bob Clayton and Seconded by Sally Webber, Tim Kidell was elected Vice President for 2019. This was approved by the AGM

#### **7.0 Appointment of Officers**

Proposed by Trevor Woods and seconded by William Coe. Sally Webber was elected as Chairman, Clare Lock was elected as Secretary, and Steve Runnacles as Treasurer. This was approved by the AGM

#### **8.0 Election of New Committee Members**

Proposed by James Davey and seconded by Geoffery Cook, Nicola Notcutt was elected as a Committee member for the three years 2019 to 2021.

Proposed by Clare Lock and seconded by John Caudle, Glenn Williamson was elected as a Committee member for the three years 2019 to 2021.

Proposed by Sally Webber and seconded by Bob Clayton, Tim Passmore was elected as a Committee member for the three years 2019 to 2021.

These were approved by the AGM

## 9.0 AOB

Karl Daniels mentioned that last year the club struggled to find a Junior Vice President, he informed the AGM what Framlingham do and enquired whether the club have come up with a strategy to overcome the problem. Sally Webber responded that we have had a strategy day to discuss the issue. Framlingham pay someone to be involved which has had mixed reviews. Instead, the club decided to approach younger OIs for the committee. William Coe also mentioned that he has plans to encourage OIs next year. Karl mentioned there being a drop in younger OIs attending the dinner but the committee responded that 20% of attendees at the dinner had left since 2012.

All business being concluded the meeting closed at 6.55pm