

Old Persean Society

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Barry Room 7 May 2008

Members Present: Amanda Augstein, Alan Baldwin, John Bishop, Rodney Dale, John Davies, Ashley Edgar, Ed Elliot, Anthony Gray, Bruce Gill, John & Janet Hicks, Peter Jackson, Colin Kidman, Richard King, Edward Lachlan, Richard Noble, Ben Rawley, Peter Reeve, Nigel Richardson, Gordon Waits, Jennie Wallis, Ed Wiseman

1. Apologies were received from Jonathan Green, Simon Clemmow, Richard Duke
2. Minutes of the last meeting were accepted and discussed. It was decided to delay networking events for the immediate future, as per item 7 on the Minutes 2007. Jennie Wallis's name spelling was amended as per item 4 2007. The President welcomed Amanda Augstein as the new Alumni Officer for the school and Old Perseans Society.
3. President's Report: The President looked back over the year advising that it had sped by with traditional meetings, dinners and events. There were record attendances to the Annual Dinner in September. The New York reception hosted at the Park Avenue home of the Rose family in October was a great success with a wide selection of OPs attending. The House of Commons reception was a very positive occasion and a trip down 'memory lane' and he thanked all who organised these events. The President acknowledged that this was the final OP occasion for Nigel Richardson as Headmaster and noted how many tributes have been received for all that he has achieved for the school including being Chairman of HMC and still somehow managing to complete a PhD! The unprecedented support for the OP Society has been unfailing and was gratefully acknowledged, including the database/magazine/website development which is now all up and running. He thanked the team for their dedication and support. Nigel Richardson responded, advising that he was extremely grateful for the support and encouragement he had received from OPs over the last 14 years.
4. Treasurer's Report: Was duly presented by Shiela Holmes, the Perse accountant, to assembled members. The funds of the Society are invested in the Cambridge Building Society passbook account which is their main asset. The only expenditure on Society business this year has been the subsidy of £1,106 towards the cost of the 2007 annual dinner. The repayment of 'balance unused' was explained to members, showing that a balance of £394.00 would be repayable to the school at the end of the year if not claimed. David Loades asked if there is any specific expenditure planned in the near future. The President advised that presently there is nothing planned but it is always the role of the Society to have enough in the account for any unforeseen events. David also enquired if routine expenses were claimed from the school and was advised that this was the case. Rodney Dale questioned the subsidy for the

Annual Dinner and was advised that it is there to help younger members who may otherwise be put off from attending due to the high ticket cost. Nigel Richardson informed members that some organisations sell tickets at half-price to members under a certain age and this could be discussed as an option. The President signed the accounts as being a correct representation.

5. Committee Elections: The president asked for OPs to volunteer for the committee and it was agreed to delay formal elections until the next Management Committee Meeting.

Any Other Business:

- David Loades was asked how his history of the school book was progressing. Progress has been limited but he is in touch with new people and the project should be completed by next year's AGM . The main gap is information since 1970 and he would welcome further contributions to this area.
- John Hicks brought up the subject of dress code at The Annual Dinner and that it could be a smarter affair, taking into account the Gonville & Caius location. The President responded that there is a move to more informal wear in the younger generations. Nigel Richardson suggested there could be other formal dress events other than the Annual Dinner during the year and Richard King recommended an 'any dress' code whereby Old Perseans dress according to their personal choice.
- Rodney Dale informed the members that he did not like the 'Class of..' on the OP name badges this year and would rather the year date only. Ed Elliot acknowledged that we are always very receptive to new ideas of how we can improve future Open Days, including formalities and this observation will be noted.
- Colin Kidman thanked the Society for the newsletters and information that he receives three times a year advising that he had lost touch with the school until recently contacted. He also added that a re-union dinner for the Year 1938 would be very much appreciated and that the room needed would not need to be very large!

The meeting was closed at 12.49pm