



# The Old Cicestrians



## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at the Chichester Park Hotel

The President, Colin Snook welcomed all those present to the 2015 Old Cicestrians' AGM, coming as it did at the end of his first year as President.

### **1) Apologies for Absence:**

Allan Coombes 1948-56, Patrick Combes 1947-54, Tony Deacock 1937-45, Sir John Herbecq 1934-39, Doug Murgatroyd 1954-61, Chris Pile 1954-62, Geoff Smith 1959-66, Tony Wheatley 1948-55, Geoff Wills 1944-52, David Wood 1955-63. Where available, letters from the aforementioned were on display for attendee's to view.

### **2) Minutes of the last AGM: held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2014:**

The minutes of the 2014 AGM were distributed and approved as an accurate record of the meeting. Proposed by Martin McGranaghan, seconded by Richard D.W. Kneller.

### **3) Matters arising from the Minutes:**

John Child explained that the presentation of a display cabinet to the school from the O.C's was 'on hold' at present as the school is hoping to be given one of Astronaut Tim Peake's flying suits (upon his return from the Space Station in 2016) and this along with one of Mike Child's Red Arrows flying suits plus other Old Boys memorabilia would be housed in an appropriately sized cabinet.

Martin McGranaghan, organiser of the OCs Golf Day added the name of David Harris to the list of those who had attended, a regular attendee.

### **4) President's Annual Report:**

Colin Snook gave those present a few minutes to read his Annual Report. Colin was thanked for producing a very comprehensive report by John James. This was seconded by Richard D.W. Kneller.

### **5) Financial Report including Membership:**

All present received a copy of the O.C's Financial Statement for the year 2014-2015. John Child spoke to the statement and his overview sheet. He said that the finances continued to be healthy and there were appropriate funds to cover the cost of the display cabinet mentioned above if requested.

He commented upon the benefits that had been achieved by purchasing 1000 second class stamps in 2011-12. We still have 419 remaining and their value has risen by 9p each since their purchase. With regard to membership numbers, they are currently 127, one more than last year. It is good to note that new members continue to join us as a number of the 'elder statesmen' pass on. Colin Snook had produced a very informative 'CHSB Obituary Notice 2015' to celebrate the remarkable

achievements of six Old Boys who had died since the last AGM'. Newspaper obituary cuttings were on display to record the many successes of Peter Baldwin in the theatre and TV and the remarkable life of Prof. Barry (Bas) Cooper who had achieved exceptional success in sport, academia, jazz and in particular championing Alan Turing's posthumous pardon by the British Government.

Dr Patrick Flynn asked if with the combining of the two schools in the future girls would be allowed to join the O.C's. Discussion ensued regarding younger people and their different view on school life and their methods of keeping in touch. It was hoped that our website might in the future be able to assist as a conduit for them to communicate between themselves and inform others of their successes.

John Child informed the AGM of his visits and communications with members who no longer attend the AGM. Tony Deacock still living in Fareham but does not travel much. Doug Murgatroyd in a residential home in Emsworth since his strokes last February, still sharp and would like to see O.C's if they are in the area. George Ayling, lost his wife last year and recently had a fall but lives at home and happy for visitors if they phone first. John had been unable to make contact with Ron Martin but would continue trying. Maurice Hall thanked John for keeping in touch with those not able to attend.

Maurice Hall and Martin McGranaghan spoke of John Godwin and his family. One of his granddaughters had been a very successful gymnast. Richard D.W Kneller informed the meeting that Jimmy Hill who had been evacuated to CHSB during the war was not well. John James offered the sage advice "Don't leave it too late" to make contact. Richard D.W. Kneller reported on the number of O.C's to be found on Facebook. Martin McGranaghan and Ken Morrell had attended Ken Hoad's funeral, a very positive reflection on his life. Bill Allen thanked everyone for the 'updates'.

## **6) Aims of the Association:**

Bill Allen thought it was the final paragraph that encapsulated the situation the O.C's found themselves in. Discussion ensued but no clear proposals were forthcoming. It will, therefore, be for the Committee to propose possible future strategies and to present them to the members and the AGM.

## **7) Election of Officers for 2015/2016:**

The Committee roles and persons concerned were printed on the AGM Agenda. They were unanimously agreed and seconded. John Child hoped that with Richard D.W Kneller taking responsibility for the O.C website and Martin Daws-Chew undertaking the new role responsible for the O.Cs Archive/Memorabilia there was a great opportunity to celebrate and publicise the achievements of the school and its pupils/students.

## **8) Any other Business:**

John James asked that consideration be given in the future to the presentation of prizes to the school for student's achievement as had taken place in the past.

(17 Old Cicestrians present at AGM including Officers)

## **9) Date of next AGM:**

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2016**