

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Jesus Old Members Group held in the Ship Street Centre, Jesus College, Oxford on 2 April 2016

Those attending: Malcolm McIvor (Chairman), Paul Seward (Secretary), George Reah (Treasurer), Chris Hicks (Events Co-ordinator), Alan Shore (Newsletter Editor) and Norman Wright (Webmaster) from the Committee with 13 members and guests.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Richard Cosier (Membership Secretary) and 6 members.

Welcome

The Chairman opened the meeting by extending a warm welcome to all members of the group.

1. Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 11 April 2015 were presented to the meeting by the Secretary. Their acceptance was *proposed* by Stephen Walker, *seconded* by Clive Jenkins and unanimously **adopted**.

2. Chairman's Report

The Chairman introduced his report for the year 2015-16 which had been circulated prior to the meeting and in which the principal activities in the year had been set out. He thanked all of the Committee Members, and specifically Alan Shore who was stepping down due to other commitments. The report was **received**.

3. Treasurer's Report and Accounts

The Treasurer's Report, Membership Accounts and Financial Statement for the Awards Fund for the year ending 31st July 2015 were introduced by the Treasurer. The accounts and statement had been circulated prior to the meeting. The accounts showed a surplus of £390 from events, thanks to the College providing a free lunch on Old Members' Day to mark the 25th anniversary of the Group, and the Group had been able to donate £500 to the College Awards Fund. The **adoption** of the report and accounts was *proposed* by Alan Shore, *seconded* by Chris Butterfield and carried unanimously.

Summarising the awards, the Treasurer noted that the declared contributions from group members to College which are made available for the Old Members' awards totalled approximately £17,000 for the year. The Group's members are donating much more than this as they contribute to the many different appeals. The Treasurer continues to monitor the contributions with College to seek to ensure that those donations which are intended to fund Old Members' awards are correctly allocated. The Chairman and Treasurer had been sent copies of letters that the recipients of the awards had sent to the College thanking the Group for the awards, and the attendees had seen from the presentation prior to the meeting how much the awards mean to those who receive them, and how the Group is paid back through the enthusiasm and hard work of the students. The Chairman will seek to circulate the thank-you letters via the next Newsletter.

4. Election of members and officers of the Committee

Most existing members of the Committee: Malcolm McIvor (Chairman), Paul Seward (Secretary), George Reah (Treasurer), Chris Hicks (Events Co-ordinator), Norman Wright (Webmaster) and Richard Cosier (Membership Secretary) had agreed to continue. Peter May had volunteered to take on the role of Newsletter Editor to replace Alan Shore.

The meeting was therefore asked to support the re-election of the existing members and the election of Peter May. The motion to propose that these volunteers be elected to the Committee was *proposed* by Alan Shore, *seconded* by Chris Scrivener and **carried** unanimously.

5. Old Members' Day

Old Members' Day will be a special event this year on Friday 15th July. The event will be held in Abergavenny and will be centred around the unveiling of the plaque in St Mary's Church extolling David Lewis' role as the first principal of the College.

6. Future Events and Direction

The Group is visiting Shrewsbury on 5th and 6th May for an event hosted by the University of Chester and organised by Byron Grainger-Jones.

There are some ideas for events later in the year and it is hoped to finalise these soon. Ideas for future events are welcomed but it is vital that there is someone who is able to take that idea forward and manage the event.

The Events Co-ordinator reminded all members that the Group uses e-mail as its main means of communication and that it is vital that the Membership Secretary is notified of any change of e-mail address.

7. The College's 450th Anniversary

The College's 450th Anniversary will be in 2021 and the College is seeking to use that opportunity to secure the future of the College and its current method of education, especially the tutorial system. The College has asked the XL Network (and many other friends and alumni of the College) if it would consider providing an endowment as part of the 450th Anniversary. During the discussion on the item it was apparent that many of the Group's members, and almost certainly many of the College's alumni, are not aware of the threats posed by successive governments to the education system used by Oxford and Cambridge, nor of the intense competition from universities around the world for research funding, and consequently for high-calibre fellows and graduates.

The consensus within those attending was that the Group should take soundings from the members to see if there were sufficient people willing to donate to make an endowment possible. George Reah will work with the College and the alumni involved in the 450th Anniversary, and produce information for members on what the threats are to College, what we are trying to achieve and what it entails.

This initiative will not change the aims and objectives of the Group which is focussing on developing social contact between alumni and with the College; it will be run as a project with entirely voluntary participation.

8. Other business

No other business had been notified to the Secretary.

9. Next meeting

The provisional date of the next annual general meeting is the 1st April 2017.

PAS April 2016