

# ***The Old Pangbournian Society***

Minutes of the 77<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 at Pangbourne College

**Present:** R. Knight (President), M. Dumas (Chairman), R. Shuttleworth (Hon. Sec), L. Stephens (Hon. Vice President), I. Williams (Vice President), T. Garnier (Headmaster), C. Parry, K. Evans, A. Smith, M. Penny, B. Spender, S. Davies, B. Fidler, C. Williams, A. Clifford

**Apologies:** A. Fenwick-Wilson, P. Smitham, N. Kilgour, C. Reed, W. Shuttleworth, A. Adams, T. Duhalde (Hon. Treasurer), N. Hollebhone, R. Bates

## **1. Chairman's Welcome and Apologies for Absence**

The Chairman started by welcoming everyone to the AGM and noting the apologies for absence.

## **2. Minutes of the 76th AGM: 6<sup>th</sup> September 2009**

The Chairman signed the minutes of the 76<sup>th</sup> AGM as correct. There were no matters arising. The Chairs report and decisions were recorded on the OP website and in the last OP magazine.

## **3. Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman started by reviewing the Committee's objectives for the year. The first was to communicate with OP's which was spearheaded by the new style magazine called The Pangbournian, which Robin Knight kindly edited while we sought another editor. The magazine was deemed a great success in a larger A4 format, which was mailed to 3,500 people. The magazine goes hand in hand with the new website, where information on events, reports and obituaries can be updated on a more frequent basis. Paper copies of the obituaries were mailed to those without internet access. The website now has over 2,900 e-mail addresses of OP's, with a high degree of correct data. OP "pages" on Linked-In and Facebook were mentioned as growing areas of communication between OP's.

On the social front there was a very successful OP dinner at the College in April 2010 where Rear Admiral Niall Kilgour gave the address. There were drinks at The Turf club in London for any OP who had served in the Army, a drinks reception and presentation to Bart Simpson on HQS Wellington in recognition of his gold medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics, various lunches organised by Adrian Stow for the "1950's" generation of OP's, a 25<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of College leavers, and we are in contact with the Conway and Worcester.

With regards to sporting events, Charlie Parry has continued to lead the very successful OP golf society, with an event at Hankley Common in July and a match against the College at Goring & Streatley in October. Additionally an OP rugby team played a match against the College and they also won an Old Boy competition at

Richmond for the Cronk-Cunin Vase, the OP Ladies played a hockey match against the College and the cricket match on Founders Day between the OP's and College has become an annual event. Ian Williams is resurrecting OP sailing and interested participants should contact him.

From a governance viewpoint, the rules of The Old Pangbournian Society have been updated (more to follow on this) and attention will now turn to updating the Pangbourne Association Rules which didn't get completed. There were four OP committee meetings in London during the year and two Pangbourne Association meetings.

Going forwards into 2011, there will be a new Pangbournian magazine, edited by Barney Spender (1976 – 81), new initiatives to involve female OP's at events and communication with younger OP's, probably via Facebook. On the social front there is an OP dinner on HQS Wellington in April 2011, a lunch at the Turf club for the over 60's in January and the autumn, Founders day on 2<sup>nd</sup> July and 3 OP committee meetings at the Naval Club in Mayfair through the year. Gatherings of OP's in Singapore, South Africa and Australia are also planned. Apart from sailing, it is planned to re-introduce OP tennis events as well. The rules for the Pangbourne Association will be updated and new OP committee members will be sought.

In summary, the Chairman thought there had been good progress in a number of areas and also mentioned the sad loss of a number of OP's, particularly Trevor Turner and Michael Beale who had done so much for the OP Society. He thanked the Headmaster, the Governors and Lindsey Hughes for their continued support of OP's, the committee and particularly Tarka Duhalde and Richard Shuttleworth who were retiring as officers of the committee, and lastly OP's from around the world for their continued support.

#### **4. Hon Treasurer's Report – adoption of Accounts**

In the absence of the Hon Treasurer, the Chairman presented the accounts. The new process of the OP Committee budget being submitted to the Pangbourne Association was noted. L. Stephens commented that the Society was still receiving £3,146 a year from Members Contributions; due to OP's not cancelling their direct debit payments. The Chairman noted that it was likely the amount received would reduce each year, but was a welcome contribution to the accounts.

The accounts were adopted. Proposed: Ian Williams, Seconded: Steve Davies

#### **5. Hon Secretary Report**

The Hon. Secretary advised that he had secured the continuation of the OP Society committee meetings to be held at the Naval Club in Mayfair. He also advised he was liaising with HQS Wellington regarding the OP Dinner in April 2011.

As Ian Williams had kindly drafted the new rules of The Old Pangbournian Society he presented them to the AGM and advised of the changing nature of governance of the OP Society given the creation of the Pangbourne Association, and how the new rules reflected the new environment. As the committee had been fully consulted on the drafting and made constructive and useful contributions during the drafting process, he proposed that we adopt the new rules. L. Stephens raised a legal objection and

advised it was not constitutional to adopt the rules, as all members of the OP Society should be consulted before they are adopted and hence they couldn't be adopted. He also said that in his view the future of the Pangbourne Association was far from certain and their constitution should have been created first.

Ian Williams responded by quoting Rule 21 and that as far as he could see there was nothing illegal in the proceedings at all.

Following a discussion, Ian Williams proposed that the New Rules of the OP Society were posted in full on the OP website and adopted for a period of 12 months, to allow OP's to comment, before adopting them formally at the AGM in 2011.

Proposed: Ian Williams, Seconded: Chris Williams & Richard Shuttleworth

## **6. Headmaster's Report**

The Headmaster said the College was in good heart with 408 pupils and this was extremely pleasing in a tough economic environment. He said the Junior school, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and lower 6<sup>th</sup> forms were all full and they would transition through the College. With regards to staff there had been an exceptional 25% turnover in academic staff with 4 retirements in 2010, and this had resulted in a new energy and enthusiasm in the Common room. Academically, the school had beaten its benchmark and was value added positive, with 75% of the 6<sup>th</sup> form leavers gaining places at University (65% 1<sup>st</sup> choice / 10% 2<sup>nd</sup> choice) in a tough year for places. The International Baccalaureate was growing and was also challenging for the pupils and additionally the introduction of a timetable change would provide a new direction in the very busy existence of the pupils.

There was an ambitious sports program and notable achievements were had at the National School's regatta in rowing, Jack Hardy had represented England U19 at hockey and Pangbourne had its first female international representative in rowing. In the Arts, music and drama were flourishing, and a new head of drama last year has raised the standard significantly.

At a Governors meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> November, the go-ahead was given for a new girl's boarding house for completion by 2012, and for the new IT/Music block. The Headmaster thanked the generosity of the OP's and the Pangbourne Association to the appeal and lastly reassured the AGM that the Pangbourne Association was definitely here to stay and had the support of the Governors and College.

## **7. Election of Officers**

### To be Elected:

Hon Treasurer: Pip Smitham

Hon Secretary to the Committee: Anthony Clifford

Proposed: Mark Dumas, Seconded: Steve Davies

### To be Re-Elected:

President: Robin Knight

Chairman: Mark Dumas

Proposed: Ian Williams Seconded: Anthony Clifford

**8. Election of Committee**

To be re-elected:

Anthony Fenwick-Wilson, Keith Evans, Niall Kilgour, William Shuttleworth, Andrew Adams, Charlie Parry, Steve Davies and Alexander Smith.

Proposed: Ian Williams, Seconded: Robin Knight

The following have resigned: Tarka Duhalde

**Election of Vice President's**

Nigel Hollebone

Richard Shuttleworth

Proposed: Robin Knight, Seconded: Keith Evans

**9. Any other business**

Chris Williams had clarified his Hall of Fame nomination for Ice sailing with the sports master and Keith Evans mentioned an anniversary for HMS Hood on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2011 and that he had been in contact with the RN School at Haslemere. Lastly the Hon OP John Calver sends his regards to the committee.

There being no other business, the Annual General Meeting closed at 1210.