

## **Minutes of the OP Society Committee Meeting at the Naval Club** **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2011**

**Present:** R. Knight (President), M. Dumas (Chairman), A. Clifford (Secretary), I. Williams, R. Shuttleworth, W. Shuttleworth, T. Garnier, P. Smitham, C. Parry, K. Evans, A. Adams

**Apologies:** N. Hollebone, A. Smith, S. Davis, A. Fenwick-Wilson, N. Kilgour, P. Lawrence

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** 8<sup>th</sup> September 2010  
The Minutes were approved.

**Matters Arising:** None

### **Chairman's Report**

- The Chairman thought the OP AGM in Nov 2010 was an excellent day with approx 40 attendees with OP's watching the girl's hockey and boy's rugby and a reunion from the 60's meeting in the pub for lunch.
- "Draft" new Rules of OP Society to be posted immediately on the website so OP's can comment prior to 2011 OP day.
- A discussion ensued about which day was best for OP Day at the College. Saturday's were the preferred option.
- The Chairman explained that he thought each person on the OP Committee should have a distinct function. Three members will retire in November 2011. Potential new members to be considered included Jack Mugeridge, Lucy Hamblin Rooke, Andrew Michael and John Riley. He asked for other names to be submitted to him.
- A new OP Representative has been appointed in Vancouver, British Colombia. He is Roger Walker (45-48). The Committee placed on record its thanks to the previous Rep., Richard Swinburne, for his many years active work on behalf of the Society.
- The College has a Careers Fair for pupils on 11<sup>th</sup> March - the Chairman asked if OP's with Companies were represented and any wishing to be present should liaise with Joe Lewis, Head of Careers. Senior pupils at Pangbourne should be made aware of the OP LinkedIn page for support in their careers and Steve Davis is looking into the OP's having a stand.
- The Pangbourne Association next meets on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2011, and the Chairman will present to the Governors in July (postponed from November 2010).

### **Secretary to the Committee**

- The Secretary advised of the OP deaths which had been received from the Hon. Vice-President; Captain Dennis Scott-Masson CBE 44-46, Captain Jack Bitmead DSO 33-36, Patrick Penny 53-57, N.S. Milnes DFC 32-34. Further details are on the website.
- The President also mentioned that a memorial service for Dennis Scott-Masson will be held in the Falklands Chapel at 3pm on 6<sup>th</sup> May. Anyone interested in attending should advise Lindsey Hughes.
- It was suggested that an e-mail address of opsec@pangcoll.co.uk should be created on the OP website as a vehicle for OP's to communicate with the OP Society. E-mails should be automatically forwarded to the Secretary.

## Headmaster's Report

- A new Timetable is being devised at the College with lessons of one hour long.
- There are a number of noteworthy sport performances at the College with particular success in Hockey and Netball in the Lent term. There has also been success for the U14 rugby team winning the Berkshire Cup.
- In Drama, a production of the musical "Grease" is in rehearsal stage.
- An update on two new building projects - the new St. George is going to be built near Port Jackson / Illawara and will be ready for September 2012; the architecture plans for the Music/ICT building have been updated and will shortly go to tender for a builder.

## Hon. Treasurer's Report

- Current balance of £38,500 in funds and there has been no expenditure since the last meeting. Approximately £2,500 p.a. is still being paid into the OP Society from OP's who haven't cancelled their direct debits.
- Pip Smitham met with the Bursar, Ron Obbard and his team. They can provide reports of income and expenditure whenever it is requested; this will allow the OP Society budget to be monitored proactively.
- The Treasurer proposed the OP Society changed the annual accounting year-end to coincide with the College which will enhance the reporting of income and expenditure made by the PA on behalf of the OP Society. The motion was voted on and carried unanimously. The current accounting year will be extended from March to 31<sup>st</sup> August, with budgets required for this extended period.
- A sub-committee of PS, MD and AC has considered how the capital of the Society could be invested. Its proposal that the money be split three ways in funds managed by Troy Asset Management (Trojan Fund), Invesco (High Income Fund) and Ruffer LLP (Total Return Fund) was put to the committee and adopted. PS
- A proposal as to whether or not the Society should spend some of the capital led to a lengthy discussion. It was felt that although it was a comfort to have £38,500 in the bank there was no reason to increase it. Instead it was suggested (1) we offer a contribution to the overseas representatives of the OP Society to help fund Reunions. Australia and South Africa were singled out given their active OP reunions and (2) if the Headmaster identified small items needed by the College then he could bring these to our attention. HM and MD to discuss and report back.

## Social Committee Report

- OP Dinner on HQS Wellington on 20<sup>th</sup> April. Richard Shuttleworth has discussed seating plans, food and wine with Captain Stephen Taylor (OP). It was confirmed that the dress code will be Black Tie. The Guest of Honour will be Patrick Derham, OP 74-78. Invites will be sent from the College shortly.
- Thirty-four people attended the over 60's lunch at the Turf Club and it was considered a great success and an excellent format, and more events of this nature will follow.
- It was agreed that the OP Society consider having a tent at Henley in 2012. This was unanimously approved as a good idea. We will need advance planning to get this arranged.

## Sports Committee Report

- There will be two OP golf events in 2011, one at Hankley Common GC on 5<sup>th</sup> July and one against the College at The Berkshire GC in October.

- Charlie Parry contacted Terry Walden about resurrecting an OP tennis match against the College. It could take place on Founders day or, as a regular fixture on a Saturday afternoon.
- Alex Smith will be asked again to organise an OP cricket team to play against the College on Founders day. Charlie Parry will contact Jack Muggeridge to see if he can organise an OP rugby team to play against the College in December. CP

## Communication

### Website Sub-Committee Report

- Steve Davis and Lindsey Hughes met Discover IT on 24<sup>th</sup> January. They asked them for a quotation to make a number of improvements on the website and also create a direct link from the home page to the OP Society on LinkedIn – 91 members and growing. A quote is expected shortly.
- It was also suggested that we create a link on the OP website to the Naval Club in Hill Street as a way of thanking them for hosting our OP Society committees for free. Steve Davis to pursue.

### Magazine sub-Committee Report

- Issue 41 of “The Pangbournian” magazine is currently at the printers. It is 32 pages long and has a better feel because of improved pictures. It will be sent to OP’s in the next couple of weeks including to non-UK members by airmail.
- The Hon. Vice President had contacted the Chairman to say that the cost of distribution could be reduced by sending overseas copies by sea mail. It was pointed out that as part of the Society’s new relationship with the College, the Board of Governors had requested that all OP’s receive the magazine and, accordingly, that the cost of mailing a copy to all 3,200 OP’s on the mailing list had been budgeted.
- The search for a new Editor continues after Robin Knight kindly stepped-in to edit the magazine once again. A discussion ensued on alternative options including hiring a professional editor who might also help to edit College publications, with the cost split with the College. HM and MD to pursue
- The Chairman thanked Robin for taking on this role at short notice.
- Robin advised that not enough OP’s were adding information to the website and the uploading of information /photo’s might be easier with the proposed IT changes above.

### Any Other Business:

- **OP Yacht Club:** Ian Williams updated the committee on the latest status of creating the OP Yacht Club. Approximately 30 to 40 people are interested in being members and the rules and officers / committee of the club are being discussed. There was also a discussion on the burgee and ensign for the club and the discussion continued after the meeting finished.
- Keith Evans advised that there is the Annual Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for the Falklands War at the Falkland Islands Chapel on 12<sup>th</sup> June and the First Sea Lord is attending.
- Anyone can become “Friends of the Chapel” for £25.

### Dates for Committee Meetings in 2011

21<sup>st</sup> June  
3<sup>rd</sup> October