

Minutes of the Old Wymondhamians Committee Meeting
Held on Saturday 2nd February, 2013 in the Andy Boorman Room

Present: Julie Harding, Carole Arnold, Michael Brand, David Spinks, Melvyn Roffe, Karen Snook, Roger Garrard, Mike Herring, Phil Robinson, Bob Rowell, Jennie Foster, Steve Read, Caroline Hall

In attendance: Alice Hall (Year 13 students representing the OWs on the Principal's Council), Mary Lawson (Chair of PSA)

1. **Apologies:** Tim Howes, David Jackson, Colin Leaford, Jack Smith, Oliver Large.
JH informed the meeting that resignations had been received from Asha Simmons and Pat Howard, both of whom felt that they could no longer give the necessary time and commitment to the OWs. The Committee wished to record their grateful thanks to both for all the support they had given over their years as Committee members ; JH stated that she would be writing to both to thank them on behalf of the Committee.
2. **Minutes of the Meeting held Saturday 10th November 2012.**
The minutes were signed as a true record.
3. **Matters Arising and Actions:**
MR outlined that OWs have played a large part in the careers and internship drive that the College is doing; this is partly as a result of specifically contacting OWs to come in and support this project and partly that local business contacts are asked and they subsequently state that they are ex-pupils of the College. This accounts for about 30-40% of contacts so far. BR pointed out that a report about Speech Day 2012 and the visit by Digby Jones is not on the College website – MR promised he would look into this and get something put on there.
ACTION: MR to discuss and action with appropriate staff.

OW Christmas Newsletter: As a result of the College re-structure and lack of time the OW Christmas 2012 Newsletter had not gone out by email; there had been no comments back from OWs on this omission. Lengthy discussion took place as the options available for an OW Newsletter for the spring/summer. It was decided that in order to minimise costs and get the widest and most helpful circulation an OW insert would be produced, printed in-house, and circulated with the College Summer Newsletter. This insert would take the form of a double-sided A4 sheet and Alice Hall said she (and Oliver Large) would be happy to co-ordinate and produce a mock-up, with OWs submitting content to Julie Harding first for approval.

ACTION: KS to submit information about the Reunion she is organising at the Unthank Arms, Norwich in mid June 2013; DS to put together a short history of the OWs; PR to do a short report about the 100 Club with a pitch for more members; SR to do a short piece on the finances of the OWs; CH to contact Jordan Cadman-Rivers, recipient of OW Travel Award 2012, for a short piece on his experiences in South Africa.

ACTION: AH/OL to let JH know their deadline for the material to produce the mock-up with consideration to their workload for exams.

Bequests: As TH was not present at the meeting this matter was not discussed; will be forwarded to the next meeting.

Working Party Feedback: MH circulated the working paper (attached to minutes) on this matter and this was discussed in some detail. In summary, it was felt that there was merit in looking at trying to increase the number of people contributing to the 100 Club but that increasing the monthly subscription was likely to drive some people away. OW Membership Fees – this was thought to be a possibility if linked to the Privilege Card that the College is looking to introduce anyway – to keep in touch with progress through the College and MR. On-line OW shop – this was felt to be an area of high risk and probably not worth pursuing at present, particularly as it would need to be organised by one person with the time and resources to make a success of it and to ensure that revenue exceeds expenditure. MR informed the Committee that the Governors are looking at the option of a Community Shop, using the Tuck

Shop as the core business and building on that. MH stated that he was happy to assist in this project if that would be of some use. The Small Scale schemes will be investigated further and may have merit if the right people are found to take ownership. Contributions from sixth form parents – it was felt that this was definitely worthy of progressing and MR was asked to take a request from the Committee to Governors to ensure that this is included when discussions on sixth form fees take place shortly. Short term one off income – this will depend on individual OW members approaching known contacts to see if this can be successful. The Committee moved to thank MH and his group for the work they had put into this exercise and for coming up with so many useful suggestions.

(Alice Harvey left the meeting)

4. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the accounts (a copy held on minute book), having circulated them prior to the meeting. There were no questions appertaining to these accounts and they were adopted unanimously by the Committee. Thanks were recorded for all the hard work that SR does in keeping the accounts for the OWs.

5. Wymondham College Remembered Report

Copy of the report is held on the Minute Book. In summary, it had been a quiet period on WCR. A separate page has been created for the USAAF Hospital information and a page has been opened for the Heritage Room.

6. Reunion

KS is organising an OW Reunion which will take place at the Unthank Arms in Norwich on 22nd June 2013. The Unthank Arms is owned by Nick De'ath, an OW, and so far KS has received 20+ definite attendees for the event from the 1977-82 OW era. The Reunion is open to any OW and should be promoted as much as possible as an informal evening for anyone interested in meeting up with old friends. The 100 Club will be doing their Star Draw at the Reunion – PR/SR to organise and publicise. There will be a Raffle on the evening to raise funds. KS also suggested that she may be willing to have an Open House that weekend for those travelling a long distance and to involve perhaps some of the ex-staff members eg the Hoares, Michael Brand, Roger Garrard etc to come and have tea and a chat. MR/CH to look at the possibility of holding an open afternoon at the College on the Saturday afternoon for those interested in a tour of the site and a cup of tea.

ACTION: KS to look at publicising the Reunion on Facebook, WCR and through the 100 Club as well as perhaps looking at emailing out a flier to OWs through the database (CH to assist).

ACTION: MR/CH to put together a simple programme for an open afternoon at the College on the afternoon of 22nd June for any OWs interested in a tour of the site/Heritage Trail and refreshments.

Mary Lawson, Chair of PSA, speaking on behalf of the PSA said that, as there is no longer a Summer Fayre at the College, they wondered if they could combine with the OWs on the Reunion. However, as it is rather year specific this year that may not work but ML did say she would be happy to publicise the event through the PSA for that era as there are many Parents who are OWs and would be of that age group.

MH outlined that he is organising a reunion in Sydney, Australia, which will take place on Saturday 27th April. So far he has 20+ definite attendees from a range of year groups. MH/MR to produce a short video about the College today and MH/Members of the Film Club producing a short video of a walk around the site – this will give those attending the Reunion a better idea of how things have changed since they were students there.

OW Golf Day – to be held at Sprowston Manor on Friday 5th July. BR organising and would be grateful if the date etc could be circulated to all interested parties. **ACTION: JH to put up**

on WCR and Facebook site with request to contact Bob Rowell if interested in attending golf day and/or the dinner in the evening.

(Mary Lawson left the meeting)

7. Norfolk Show 2013

The dates for this are 26th and 27th June. MR outlined College plans to have a more spacious tent this year with some static displays as well as a programme of activities to take place on the Stand. On the evening of 26th there will be a Reception for those who are prospective 'Friends of Wymondham College' as well as those who are already heavily involved in supporting the College and its students. KS and SR both said they would be happy to help man the OW part of the Stand on 26th and JF would be happy to help on 27th. JH asked that anyone else willing to help let her know names and which date so that a rota can be drawn up.

8. Travel Award 2013

SR stated that funds were available to offer the annual OW Travel Award at the same level as in 2012 ie £750. PR and DS both stated an interest in sitting on the interview panel for this Award. **ACTION: CH to draw up email and form to circulate to year 13 students following consultation with MR and Ken Glover to finalise date for interview. Also, CH to ask OL/AH to assist in promoting this Award to other students.**

9. College Matters

MR gave a brief outline of other College matters, following discussion of some matters earlier in the meeting. The first matter raised was that 2013 is the 70th Anniversary of the opening of the American Hospital on the College site. It is felt that it would be an opportune time to re-vamp the Memorial Garden. This will be done through a competition for local architects and senior students to design the new memorial. This is to be erected on a new site which will be the lawn which backs on to the pond and faces flag poles; a very appropriate position as the water tower and the pond were both there during the time of the hospital. It is hoped that the new Memorial Garden will be ready for re-dedication in the autumn, ideally by Remembrance Sunday in mid November. The College will be looking for charitable donations in order to assist in the funding of this project.

As mentioned earlier, MR outlined that the College are looking increasingly to non-core ways to raise additional money for the College to fund projects and to this end there is a plan to recruit an experienced Fundraising Manager.

10. Any Other Business

11. Dates of next meetings

Committee Meeting Saturday 11th May 2013

Committee Meeting Saturday 16th November 2013

AGM and Committee Meeting Saturday 1st February 2014

CH asked to inform Bob Moorhouse of these dates to enable dates for Wymondham College Trust meetings to be organised.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 2.00pm

Signature: Date:
Chairman, Old Wymondhamians Committee