**OLD CRYPTIANS CLUB**

**Minutes of the Meeting held at the School on May 12th.**

Present:- Richard Briggs (President), Bob Timms (Vice President), Richard Browning, Mike Beard, John Mitchell, Peter Hobbs, Duncan Miller, Steve Mace,Eric Stephens, Phil Stanlake (Deputy Headmaster)

**1. Apologies for absence**:-

Nick Dyer (Headmaster), Ivor Smith, Nino Pelopida, Paul James

**2. Minutes of Meeting held on January 7th**.

Minutes as received were accepted and thanks recorded to Nino Pelopida

**3. Matters arising**:-

There were no specific matters arising.

**4. President’s Business**:-

The President gave the following update.

He had chaired the AGM at Kingsholm on March 12th in the presence of 22 Old Cryptians. This was followed by the Annual Reunion dinner which in total including the Ladies event attracted an attendance of approx. 100. It was encouraging to welcome a good number of Crypt school students.

The funeral of Gordon Hill was attended in March. Many will remember Gordon with pride for his many good works notably in connection with ‘The Cryptian’.

A meeting was called to discuss current paid OC membership. More follows later on this topic.

The President took the opportunity to present the school with a copy of The Times Comprehensive Atlas of the World. (P.M.N. The Headmaster thanked the OCC by letter for this contribution to the school library)

**5. Headmaster’s Report**

Phil Stanlake stood in for the absent Headmaster and provided his report of the latest school developments (attachment). One of the important features was the £I million grant from EFA for the redevelopment of the Sports Hall and the construction of a classroom teaching block,

Apart from sports achievements, considerable attention had focussed on Arts and Music. Creative elements of the school were strong despite initiatives from the Government to focus on core subjects.

Academically Crypt school is looking forward to a good summer term with teachers working tirelessly to support the students.

**6.Honorary Treasurer’s Report**

The Treasury Report was provided by Rich Brooks (Attached).

The main elements indicate the bank account is about £1500 higher than this time last year. 2016 Dinner costs were around £1000 less than for 2015 and carried a smaller loss of £345.

Despite lower income in the same period, the expenses have been lower which give results in a positive direction. A decision to be made is a contribution to the new planned school cricket pavilion.

**7.AGM and Reunion Dinner March 12th**

The President gave a short summary of each event.

Timekeeping was good for the AGM which enabled the business conducted to be completed by 7.20pm. 22 members including the Committee attended.

100 took Dinner made up of 61 Members, 21 Crypt students and 18 ladies for the parallel ladies event. The food and service was good and no complaints received. Jason Smith was commended on his speech as guest speaker.

Possibly numbers attending were affected by invitations being 3 weeks late and the fact that this year the event was early. There is a handicap that whilst Kingsholm as a venue is unique, it is not certain at an earlier date when Gloucester Rugby fixtures fall. It was recommended that a small committee of the President, Eric Stephens and Steve Mace deliberate to reach a judgement on where to hold the next Reunions taking into account logistic and budgetary considerations.

Steve Mace was applauded for organising this year’s event.

**8. The Cryptian**

 Editor Duncan Miller explained the various options aimed at cutting the size of the **Cryptian** and making it cheaper. Production of CDs,both black/ coloured as well as reduced copy were being considered. One proposal was to have 4 coloured pages in the middle. In this case, mixing of pages is a non starter. Size of the font and layout were being examined. Duncan mentioned that the OC section consisted of less articles. Date expected for completion suggested mid June. One question posed was how many electronic rather than printed versions could be expected. 50/50 was suggested on which to base costing. Another issue was the desirability of colour if this option could be afforded.

**9. Founders’ Day**

All arrangements have been made for Founders’ Day. Jacqui Searle, Archdeacon at the Cathedral will preach.

At the Supper in the Parliament Rooms, Year 13s are invited to help with serving and attending to guests. 6 guests are expected to be paid by the OCC. This year the cost of Supper will be £25.which should minimise loss.

The Golf tournament is in the capable hands of President Bob Timms.

**10. Cenotaph Parade**

Nino Pelopida will relinquish the Membership Secretary post and take up responsibility for organising Cenotaph Day arrangements for 13th Nov. Nino will liaise with the British Legion as they need to know the names of those attending well in advance. There appears to be a considerable step up this year in Security.

The London OC Dinner will be held on the 12th Nov. whilst school Commemoration is on 11th Nov.

**11.Discover DeCrypt Project /School History**

Since the last OCC Committee meeting in January, when it was reported that a postponement in the submission to HLF was necessary, much has happened.

Details are provided in the May report (attached)

**12. Centenary Bursary Fund**

A financial report for the year ending 31Dec.2015 shows a surplus of £3735 for the year.(attachment)

Based on the results, the Trustees recommended Bursary payments for 2016 of £2000 (8 students receiving £250 each).

The Bursaries will be presented during a luncheon ceremony at Crypt school in June.

**13. Membership**

Following an assessment of Members subscriptions received for 2015, a survey was conducted based on the returns in early 2016 to remind Members of their financial responsibility in this respect.

This took the form of no less than 88 letters being sent out as a reminder. To date only a disappointing 15 have been received back despite inclusion of a stamp addressed envelope.

It was reiterated that the subscription is a small token to ensure the Old Cryptians’ Club can function in providing full support for the school.

**14. Web site and Communications**

It was agreed following discussion that the website despite some improvement, is in need of a major overhaul. Notably the home page is in need of modernisation. In the section covering ‘Activities’ , recent additions have been made in the sub-headings, namely, Bursary report for 2015 and current e News publications from Discover DeCrypt.

Mention was made of the need for HTML programming skills to move forward. The current Word Press administration receives a fee of £75 per quarter ie £300 per year. There followed further technical explanations of Hyper Test mark-up language and access links elsewhere.

Duncan Miller is conversant with much of this and generously offered his services to assist with the administration. This was accepted with considerable appreciation.

**15. Any other business**

1. Several members expressed a wish that future raffle monies should benefit Club funds rather than the Bursary fund. This matter will be taken up at a future Committee meeting.

2. Serious attempts will be pursued to adopt a permanent OC Committee Minute Secretary.

**16. Date of next Meeting**

Oct. 10th at 6pm

**Attachments (4)**

Headmaster’s Report, Honorary Treasurer’s report, Discover De Crypt Report, Centenary Bursary Report. (RJB 09/09/16)