

Sternians' Association AGM 2016

Meeting Minutes

18th June 2016 at Lord Wandsworth College

Quorate present: Yes

1. Welcome and apologies

- Apologies from: Clive Butler, Hugh Podger and Bob Hunt.

2. Minutes of 2015 AGM (published in The Sternian 2015)

- Acceptance of 2015 AGM minutes proposed and seconded
 - o VOTE
 - o Result: Passed (17 for, 0 against)

3. Births, Deaths and Marriages

- List to be published (online/elsewhere)

4. Treasurer's Report

- Report presented by Chris Huffam
Sternians' Association Accounts - 16 months ending 31/12/16
- **Introduction**
 - o These accounts have followed the coding system from the previous period set up by Hugh Podger & Clive Butler. A Big Thanks to Ben Forman for examining the accounts and formatting them in a professional manner
 - o The accounts are for a 16 month period to fall in line with the approved future 12 months to the end of December for the on-going accounts. The Accounts will be more relevant at the AGM due to the period finishing only 5.5 months before.
 - o When comparing figures for this reported period remember that the comparison is for 16months vs 12 months.
 - o Set of Accounts were handed out and are featured on the website
- **Grant from LWC** - £17k for 12 months to 31/08/15 and 4 months of the Grant of £16.36k for the following 12 months. The Grant is directly in proportion to the number of students registered for the 2015/16 Academic Year.
- **Donations** - The Donations fluctuate from one year to another depending on Sternians.
- **Reunions**
 - o **Annual** – Income was on par with the previous year. Costs were up as we try and include all mailing with The Sternian posting but timing makes it difficult. Mailing and postage costs account for the main increase. If possible we will try and include the invitation with the issue of The Sternian in future.
 - o **Bournemouth** – Self-financing. Costs made up of LWC staff travelling to event
 - o **South West Reunion** – Not run in this period
 - o **Farmers Club / London Event** Ran twice during this period. Each event was subsidised to cover the costs. This will be minimised for future events.
- **Sports Events** - Period included two Rugby Sevens/Netball events
- **Regalia** - Sales up on previous year. To keep stocks down ahead of the New Regalia launch we have processed orders for out of stock clothing as the orders come in. Project this year to revise the Regalia.

- **President's Reception** - Held twice during this period
- **Photocopying and Printing** - Includes Stationery, cards and copying
- **Prizes** - Includes a £100.00 gift to Sutton House for the John Falconer Memorial (Family originally owned the LWC Estate)
- **General** - Includes Travel costs, Trust Meeting catering, AROPS subs, Sternians' Committee badges.
- **Website & Archive Projects** - These are special projects kept separate as they are not standard reoccurring costs.
 - o **New Website** came in under the budget approved at the last AGM.
 - o **Archiving - 1st Phase**. Came in on Budget.
- **Sternian Presentation Display** - This was agreed at the last AGM but was not followed through in this period - Estimated costs £2k.
- **Debtors** - Balance of Grant from LWC for the period
- **Creditors** - Website development cheque not banked until after 31/12/16

- **Approval:**
- Accounts proposed and seconded
 - o VOTE
 - o Result: Passed unanimously

5. Trust Fund Report

- Report presented by Paul Richings (trustee and treasurer of trust fund) on behalf of Hugh Podger.

- 1. I am pleased to report that Ben Forman has become a Trustee and that his position as Independent Examiner has been filled by Christian Bellairs, also a Sternian and a Chartered Accountant.

- 2. In 2015, assistance was given to 5 pupils, with grants totalling £12,400, against £11,500 in 2014. Of the 5, one was in the 5th form, whose father had had a stroke resulting in a fall in income available for paying school fees. Grants continued for two pupils in the 6th form and it was also decided to support two Foundationers entering the 6th form to make up for the withdrawal of grants from other charities that would not continue support for pupils in the 6th form. Since the end of 2015, two more applications for assistance for entry into the 6th form from September 2016 have been approved, bringing the forecast total of grants in 2016 to £17,300. There are some other possibilities in view, for grants for 6th form entrants in September. All cases are recommended by the Headmaster, on the grounds of academic and general merit and contribution to the life of the College. It is then up to the Trust Fund Trustees, working with the Bursar, to consider whether financial support is needed, and how much. There is a growing appreciation of the help that the Trust Fund can give, for the benefit of parents and the College.

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- 3. The Trust Fund is also in good shape financially. In 2015, the value of its investments and cash was £740,000, an increase of £62,000 on 2014. The largest contributor to the increase was the balance of £31,000 from a legacy, of which £13,000 had been received in 2014. The other main contributors were donations of nearly £17,000 (including tax recoveries) and £17,500 excess of investment income over grants made. Donations included a one-off gift from a Sternian, of nearly £9,000, including gift aid tax recovery. Regular donations, including tax recoveries, were maintained at £8,000, with the number of regular donors continuing at about 60. While we are (as ever) hoping that there will be more donors, we are at the present time concentrating on seeking to grow the resources of the Trust Fund through legacies and so a letter concerning legacies has been included with The Sternian.

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- 4. Finally, thanks to all supporting the Trust Fund, financially and otherwise. The Fund's role in the life of Lord Wandsworth College is growing in importance and it is a significant part of the whole purpose of The Sternians' Association.

6. Chairman's Report

- Report presented by Chris Gibbs
 - o AGM not necessarily indicative of entire Sternians demographic
 - o Many sports events still going on (cricket, tennis, rugby, etc.)
 - o Desire to integrate Sternians into more school events
 - o Bonfire given as example - to work with Friends of LWC
 - o Website looking much better but still needs work
 - o Bruce to help with this as an ongoing project
 - o More activity on Facebook page; more interaction
 - o Twitter also seeing more activity
 - o Most proud of archives project; very important for the school and the Sternians
 - o Encouraging everyone to look at the archives

- Archiving Project
 - o John Bacon
 - External archivists working on digitisation
 - For phase 1, The Sower and The Sternian picked for every 5 years as initial items
 - More to follow as digitisation continues
 - Seeking budget for completion of digitisation of Sowers and Sternians
 - £7,000 ex VAT cost for completion of this
 - Addition of other material to be considered after this: snippets
 - o Chris Huffam
 - Initial money put in to get up to date
 - Smaller fund each year going forward to keep archives up to date
 - o Vote suggested on this as an ongoing cost
 - o Proposed and seconded
 - VOTE
 - Passed unanimously
 - o Question from the floor:
 - How does our archive stand in relation to other schools?
 - o Answer from CG: Unknown exactly, suspect in middle range, some schools keep better records
 - o Peter Booth: suspect LWC in top 1/3 of schools
 - o John Bacon:
 - o Data protection an ongoing issue that takes care to handle

- Chris Gibbs:
 - o London drinks to be reintroduced, especially for younger Sternians, championed by Charlotte and Bruce
 - o Careers fair to be continued with and expanded
 - o War memorial project to be pushed forwards
 - o Help to be given on funding for memorial
 - o Further integration into school life to be sought
 - o Various events being considered
 - o Land's End to John O'Groats cycle?
 - o Santa Dash?

7. Officers for Election

- President:

- Very little precedent for procedure
- Honorary position
- Nobody stands for election
- Ideally avoid head-to-head election
- 3 year term to be reintroduced
- Committee drew up shortlist and criteria: choice then made based on these
- Seek for AGM to support committee's choice
- Peter Booth is committee's choice
- Other candidates have been suggested by members not present but none formally put forward
- Election of Peter Booth as President proposed and seconded
 - VOTE
 - Result: Passed unanimously

8. Election of Vice Presidents and other members

- Vice Chairman:
 - John Bacon proposed and seconded
 - VOTE
 - Result: Passed unanimously
- Members:
 - Bruce Buckland proposed and seconded
 - VOTE
 - Result: Passed unanimously
 - Charlotte Greer-Read proposed and seconded
 - VOTE
 - Result: Passed unanimously
 - Bill Preece proposed and seconded
 - VOTE
 - Result: Passed unanimously
- Treasurer:
 - Chris Huffam proposed and seconded
 - VOTE
 - Result: Passed unanimously

9. Proposed War Memorial presentation

- Part of Pupil Voice scheme
- Presented by Anna and Max
- £600 raised so far
- Max to continue running the project in his gap year
- Questions and brief discussion from the floor showed great enthusiasm for the project

10. Any other business

- No other business