

Sternians' Association
Executive Committee Meeting
11:00am Sunday, 14th October 2018

Present: John Bacon, Chairman
Chris Huffam, Treasurer
Charlotte Greer-Read
Bill Preece
Edward Walker
Gill Kelly

Apologies: Bruce Buckland

1. **Welcome and apologies** - John Bacon welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies from Bruce noted.
2. **Report back on AGM** - John distributed draft copies of the AGM minutes for perusal. **Constitution review** - There followed some discussion on the constitution. It was agreed that it needed updating to accommodate changing times. The current quorum for a meeting is 15 and this was only just achieved for the 2018 meeting. BP thought it should be left to the Committee to be able to handle the meeting and vote on necessary business as a quorum in its own right. It was decided that all committee members should suggest amendments to the Constitution so that they could be presented at the next AGM for approval.

New VPs - The addition of new vice presidents was discussed. These are usually LWC staff who help run the Sternian sporting events or are particularly involved with the Association. It was felt that girls' sports in particular were not represented and was agreed that Gill Neighbour, as head of girls' games, should be appointed. Sharon Allmark, Head of Careers and Higher Education, works closely with GK on careers day and mock interview morning and should be invited too.

Action: GK to send all a copy of the Constitution to all committee members for amendments - to be received by the end of December 2018. JB to liaise with Hugh Podger on prospective changes. GK to issue invites to President's Drinks to Gill and Sharon.

3. **Roles and responsibilities** - JB asked if specific jobs should be allocated to committee members to be more effective. BP thought it would be useful for specific projects but as general running of the Association was handled by GK on a daily basis it was not necessary to allocate similar roles to the committee. All agreed.
4. **Reunion 2019** - request for theme ideas. Should we hold it every other year? Should we have a much bigger, College wide event every five years similar to that held in 2012? No particular conclusions reached. Agreed that 2019 would go ahead. GK said that this academic year was the 30th anniversary of girls entering the College in the sixth form and could be celebrated. Graham Mobbs also wanted to celebrate the College's teams

who have entered the Devizes to Westminster canoe race. GK also had an idea to showcase the Saturday morning activities programme involving displays in the marquee/classrooms. EW suggested a Sternian Ladies hockey match and CGR suggested names of some Sternian girls to contact for ideas/support. Focussing on 3rd/4th girls at the reunion as it is held in exam season, possibly house based? EW to ponder and think on girl ambassadors. There followed a wider discussion on how to engage girls in all Sternian events. CGR suggested a London girls only event involving themes on women who work and mental health, or Sternians could come to College to talk to girls.

Regional – Bournemouth involves a core section of Sternians, all getting older but was another success as was the **Northern Reunion**, with two particular year groups getting together. JB wondered if there were clusters of Sternians in other regional areas that would warrant a reunion. **Action: GK to check database for distribution.** CH mentioned Phil Bates who had suggested the possibility of using Edinburgh Castle as a venue. **London Networking Drinks** was a success and would be repeated in May. There was some discussion on the costs involved in the **Over 60s lunch** at the Farmers Club and whether a different venue should be looked at for next year. **Action: GK/JB to discuss.** The SW Reunion would be repeated in 2019.

5. **AGM timing** – this item was in response to GK's request to JB to move the AGM to another date and not hold it on the reunion day. It tends to take up too much time and delays other items on the day. There was some sympathy amongst the committee but also the ongoing problem of achieving a quorum (see item 2). Any changes would have to be voted through by the AGM so for this year at least it seems we have little choice but to hold it on reunion day.
6. **Legacy** – Steve Pennington, who died in 2015, left a legacy of £10,000 to the Association, received last year following probate delays. Steve's interests lay with classic cars and DT in general so it was decided that DT should be asked if there was something Sternians could donate towards. Another idea was to create a competition for the 3rd/4th forms along the lines of the EPQ format. **Action: GK to liaise with Head of DT.**
7. **Sports** – EW confirmed that the golf tournament had been postponed due to a clash with the Ryder Cup. He was planning to change the venue to Alton and the Headmaster is keen for the wider school community to be involved. Date TBA. BP expressed his concern that the mountaineering meets would fizzle out due to age and support. GK reported that the Sternians Mountaineering Club had just held an AGM at their Autumn meet in Yorkshire. Quentin Sands (1978 School) had joined them to express his interest in reviving the club. They had agreed to hold one meet next Spring and Quentin would hope to bring some fellow Sternians to join the party and see how it went. CH asked if there was a list of those who had completed Duke of Edinburgh's Award who might be likely candidates to join. **Action: GK to check.**

GK said that there was to be an inaugural Sternian football match on 17th November against the LWC 1st XI on the new pitch. If successful, this would hopefully become an annual event. Tennis was not run this year because of injuries in the College team. Rugby and Netball matches have been moved to biennial dates because of lack of support. Hockey is still strong and well supported by Sternians. EW suggested opening up the LWC Colour Run in September to Sternians too.

8. **Roger Davies Memorial** – JB, EW and GK had attended this event which had attracted some 150 Sternians, former staff, friends and colleagues of Roger's. The service had been very well received.
9. **Remembrance Service** – to be held on Friday, 9th November and this would revert to the usual, short service around the war memorial. All Sternians welcome and JB, EW, GK and Peter Booth would attend.
10. **President's Drinks** – this will be held on Friday, 16th November. All new staff have been invited. It was hoped that all committee members would be able to attend.
11. **Date of next meeting** – it was agreed that Sunday mornings suited everyone and that meetings should be held once a term if possible. CGR would look at dates in Jan/Feb and suggest one. **Action: CGR via Doodle Poll**
12. **Any Other Business** – BP wondered how the committee were supporting events and that some committee visibility was important. JB agreed and said that there was usually at least one member at events. All accepted it was difficult for those working but every effort would be made to attend where possible. **Action: GK to create a list of major events that the committee could plan diaries.** JB reported that Sternian James Marshall A597 (1970 Sutton) had recently returned from teaching in the USA to live locally and had indicated his willingness to help with archiving. JB to pursue. Sternian Jon Worsley (1994 Hazelveare) was interested in joining the committee and is now a current parent. JB to pursue.

CH requested that a copy of the budget set by Sam Corfield and GK for the Bursar to be sent to CH and JB. **Action GK.**

CH mentioned that Director of Sport, Soma Singh, had talked to him about a sports blazer for the College. CH had looked into this and though in principle a good idea, these would be produced on a bespoke basis putting the costs well beyond the target price.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1.10pm.