



## MINUTES OF THE OP SOCIETY COMMITTEE MEETING

**Tuesday 16 May 2017**  
**Naval Club, Mayfair, London**

**Present:** R Shuttleworth (President), M Dumas (Vice-President), M Rayner (Chairman), T Garnier (Headmaster), R Meacher (Secretary), F van Niekerk, M Nicholson, L Howard, D Metcalfe, D Nicholson, R Paine, R Tanner, K Hartshorn (Director of Development)

**Apologies:** R Knight (Hon. Vice-President), I Williams (Vice-President), L Stephens (Hon. Vice-President), P Smitham (Treasurer), A Sterling, C Parry, J Fisher, W Donaldson, P Lawrence, J Greaves, A Wells

A vote of thanks to Anna Sterling was recorded for her very kind gesture in providing pre-meeting drinks.

### **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of Tuesday 15 March were deemed to be a true and correct record with one small amendment and were approved. (*Proposed: M Dumas / Seconded: R Shuttleworth*)

Amendment: The new OP Ladies' Brooches will retail at £20 each, not £15 as stated in the previous minutes.

### **Chairman's Report**

This report was previously circulated.

### **Hon Secretary's Report**

It was agreed that the Hon Sec obituaries report will include just names of OP deaths since the last meeting. Full obituaries will be available on the OP website.

### **Headmaster's Report**

This report was previously circulated.

### **Hon. Treasurer's Report**

Current reserves in the OP Society bank account stand at £46,413 as of 4 May 2017. This is not significantly different from the reserves of £48,213 in August 2016.

No additional grants or awards were given out.

### **Social Committee Report**

The OP West Country Lunch on 7 April at the Berry Head Hotel was a great success, with 70 people attending. Edward Bence and James Allenby did an excellent job in organising the event (and the stunning weather). The event was attended by Merrick Rayner, Robin Knight and Karen Hartshorn. OP Emma Draper spoke very well.

The OP Military Alumni Group inaugural meeting was also a success, with approximately 30 OPs (both currently active and retired) attending from a range of age groups. The aim is to grow the list of OPs and have events in the future. The event was kindly subsidised by the Nigel Hollebhone bequest (£288.85). Richard Shuttleworth offered to share an OP Navy List; he will scan and send to Karen Hartshorn.

The OP Dinner on 21 April was agreed to have been a huge success and was discussed in the Chairman's Report.

The Under-30s gathering on 4 May was not well attended, with Larry Howard estimating 'less than ten'. Whilst disappointing, it was agreed that these events often take time to gain momentum, and it may be worth trying again on a regular (if not frequent) basis.

### **Revised Memorandum of Understanding**

This has been agreed by the OP Committee and will be signed by both the Chairman of the OP Society and the Chairman of Governors (or another delegated Governor) by the AGM in October.

The Pangbourne Association terms of reference has now been agreed by the College, the OP Society, the PPA and POPs, and will begin to function from September 2017.

### **Centenary Update**

In addition to the events listed on the Centenary Update, the following can also be added:

19 May            *'Welcome to the OP Society' BBQ at College for current Upper Sixth*  
30 June           *OP Drinks at Henley Royal Regatta*  
28/29 October   *Possible US Reunion event in Chicago*

### **Sport Committee Report**

An OP Rugby team, organised by Alex Bancroft, will be entering the Brighton 7s tournament in a few weeks time. David Metcalfe reported that the OP Rugby kit ordered in 2016 is proving very useful for OP teams, as it has now been borrowed and used three times in the past year for OP rugby and hockey.

An OP Cricket Team for Founders' Day is in progress; currently 6 OPs are signed up, and a push will go out to others in the very near future. Chris Sutton and Ryan Cruwys

(Sportsman in Residence) are organising things from the College end. *Update: at least four more OPs have signed up to play since the Committee meeting on Tuesday.*

The OP Yacht Club expect to put together a team for the Arrow Trophy in October.

### **Communication**

It was agreed that OP Mike Mathews should be asked to maintain the existing OP website for 6 months, by which time work to create a new OP section on the College website should be complete. *Action: Robin Knight to contact Mike, Fergus will share existing website information with Mike and with the College when required.*

### **Proposals for Officers of the OP Society and New Committee members**

The Chairman, Hon Secretary and Treasurer will all be stepping down at the October AGM. David Nicholson has been proposed as a new Chairman, but the other two offices are yet to be filled. Committee members were asked to recommend OPs who might be able to take on either of these roles voluntary.

Fergus van Niekerk and Anna Sterling are due for re-election, and it is very much hoped by the committee that they will both stand again.

A few minor alterations to the OP Constitution were proposed. These will be circulated to the Committee and all OPs prior to the October AGM.

### **AOB**

Honorary OPs. The College proposed a total of eight new Honorary OPs to be invited and ratified by the Committee. Six of these are staff who have served 15+ years, and the other two are staff who have served 11 years but are leaving Pangbourne at the end of this academic year. They are:

#### *15+ Years' Service*

Philip Bates

Jacqui Waller (also retiring)

Vivienne Richardson

Jane Davies

Beth Reynaert

Clare Harraway

#### *Leaving Pangbourne*

Will Ogilvie-Jones

Robert Kirby

It was agreed that all eight will be invited to become Honorary OPs. The OP Society will pay for each individual to receive an OP tie or Ladies' Brooch, and those individuals will be invited to the October AGM to receive them. The three members of staff leaving or retiring before October can be presented their tie/brooch at Founders' Day. *Action: Merrick to write to all eight members of staff.*

Miles Eden Smith. After many years, Miles Eden-Smith has written to say he will retire from representing the OP Society at the Merchant Navy Association Commemorative Service. Richard Shuttleworth will attend the service on 3 September as President of the OP Society, and/or an OP with a merchant navy background (to be discussed and confirmed).

After some 15 years, Miles will also be stepping back from ushering duty at the Annual National Seafarers Service. He would very much like an OP to volunteer to replace him. The 2017 service will be on 11 October at St Paul's Cathedral. Any interested OPs should contact Miles on his email ([medensmith@hotmail.com](mailto:medensmith@hotmail.com)).

Peter Points. Merrick Rayner reported that he has now moved into a nursing home, and that he would be visiting Peter later this week.

Turf Club Lunch. Mark Dumas reported that the annual Turf Club Over-60s lunch is scheduled for November 21, £40 per ticket.

Patrick Roberts. Merrick Rayner reported that OP Patrick Roberts, currently Bursar of Cranleigh School, has joined the Governing Board of the College.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

AGM and Committee Meeting: Tuesday 17 October 2017, 18.00 at the Naval Club, to be followed by a drinks reception.