



## OLD RIPONIANS' ASSOCIATION

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

21st December 2013  
12.00pm Ripon Grammar School

#### Present:

Jenny Bellamy, Anne Harrison, Greta Hills Claire Green, Helen Mackenzie, Nicky Woolfenden, George Oram, Euan Raffel, Martin Pearman, Kevin Auger, Chris Charlton, Derek Crookes, Emil Brown, Tony Ellender, Tom Cavell-Taylor, Toby Kinread, Colin Smith, Ian Pringle

#### Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the two previous meetings (2012 AGM & 2013 EGM) were presented, accepted and accepted as a true record.

#### Matters arising

It was noted that all the 'lapsed' members have been contacted to ask if they wish to renew their subscriptions.

#### President's report

The President reported that the Association's activities during 2013 were very well supported and were a credit to the thorough organisation of the many volunteers.

The key issues of the year were reviewed

i) ORA Reunions.

The winter reunion was blessed by good weather and a good turn out allowing all to enjoy the sports organised on the day.

The summer reunion was focused around the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the swimming pool in July 1913. The various fund raising ventures by the ORA Committee succeeded in collecting just over £6000

enabling the school to install a shower & the purchase of various sports equipment. We again benefited from sunny weather, but unfortunately the turnout was low.

- ii) The Lease of the ORA Memorial Field to NYCC.

This year we finally completed the renegotiation of the lease on the Memorial Field. Although NYCC had initially promised to pay the legal fees, its final position was that the fees should be paid by the School. The ORA committee saw this as unfair and agreed to pay the fees from the monies paid to the ORA by the NYCC.

The ORA's ownership of the Field was also completed at the Land Registry.

In conclusion, the President thanked all the ORA committee members for their proactive support during the year and confirmed that she would be retiring from the post as president at the end of 2013.

## **Secretary's report**

The Secretary reported on his key activities during 2013

- i) The use of email coupled with regular maintenance of the Old Riponians website has greatly enhanced our ease of communication with the members.
- ii) Efforts are continuing to keep our membership details (especially email addresses) up to date.

### *Membership:*

Total: 516 (Members: 435 & ORA School Leavers: 81)

Euan confirmed that he would be retiring from the post as secretary at the end of 2013 due to his work commitments.

On behalf of the ORA, the President thanked Euan for his commitment and support to the ORA, especially his drive and expertise in developing the ORA website and E-communications.

## **Treasurer's report**

The Accounts were presented to the meeting. (See appendix 1)

In summary, the ORA balance of income over expenditure during 2013 was £462.50, leading to the overall balance in the ORA capital account of £12137.23.

The significant items in the accounts were:-

Expenditure:

£1494 to pay the legal fees covering the Lease of the Memorial Field  
£828 donation to the Centenary Swimming Pool Fund

Income:

£3101 Two years' rent for the Memorial Field from the NYCC to cover 2013 & 2014

£527 remaining from the donations to the Centenary Swimming Pool Fund.  
This money to be transferred to the School in January 2014.

The Treasurer thanked Fred Metcalfe for his assistance (given at no cost to the ORA) in certifying the accounts.

In the discussions, it was noted:-

The NYCC has significantly reduced the School budget for 2014, raising the importance that the ORA should make every effort to use its rental funds for the benefit of the school.

The ORA should again focus on lowering its expenditure by enhanced use of electronic communications.

## **ORA Membership**

### ***Proposal to amend the ORA constitution to offer Three Years of Free Membership to School Leavers***

Proposer Nicky Woolfenden, Secunder Derek Crookes

**Background:** The percentage of school leavers joining the ORA continues to be very low, so over time that both the ORA and the School has lost contact with the majority of the alumni.

**Proposal:** The ORA to offer school leavers **free** membership for 3 years by simply providing their email address to the ORA. Our communications with these members will be maintained **only** by email so will have no impact on the ORA funds.

The ORA committee ran an assessment of this proposal in May 2013 resulting in ca 80% of the 2013 school leavers agreeing to join the ORA.

To progress the implementation of this recruiting strategy, the ORA committee is seeking approval from the AGM to add an amendment to the current description of Honorary Membership to include:-

By signing up to join the Association emailing list, **all students** leaving the school are eligible for Honorary Membership of the Association for a period of **three years** from their leaving date. Honorary members shall be entitled to all the privileges of the Association, but shall not pay a subscription or claim any share of the property of the Association in the event of its dissolution.

The proposal was carried unanimously.

In the discussions, it was noted:-

Proposals as the cost of membership after the first 3 years need to be drawn up for discussion at the 2014 AGM.

Depending on the proposals above; the OAR committee must review the impact on the recent members have paid their membership fees in full.

## Election of Committee and Officers

These members were elected unanimously to fill the following roles.

		Proposer	Seconder
<b>Committee members</b>	<b>Helen Mackenzie</b>	J. Bellamy	D Crookes
	<b>Claire Green</b>	J. Bellamy	N. Woolfenden
	<b>Greta Hills</b>	D Crookes	J. Bellamy

<b>President</b>	<b>Nicky Woolfenden</b>	J. Bellamy	D Crookes
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Derek Crookes</b>	J. Bellamy	N. Woolfenden
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>George Oworm</b>	N. Woolfenden	J. Bellamy
<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Jenny Bellamy</b>	George Oworm	Euan Raffel

## AOB

Flowers were presented to two recent retirees, Greta Hills and Chris Charlton. The committee & members gave a vote of thanks to them both for their many years of productive work supporting the ORA and the school.

On her retirement as president of the ORA, the committee presented Jenny with flowers and an engraved pen and thanked her again for the years of effort in supporting and moving the ORA forward.

## Date of next AGM

The following date for the next AGM was proposed as Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December. With no further business, the meeting was closed at 1pm.

## Appendix 1

### OLD RIPONIANS' ASSOCIATION

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2013

<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
<b>Capital Account</b>	
11,263 Balance as at 1st October 2012	11,389.89
308 add: Life Membership	284.84
0 Excess of Income over Expenditure	462.50
181 less: Excess of Expenditure over Income	0.00
11,390	£ 12,137.23
<b>Current Assets</b>	
National Westminster Bank PLC	
11,341 Current Account	12,137.23
49 Stocks of ties and scarves at cost	0.00
11,390	£ 12,137.23

OLD RIPONIANS' ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2013

<b>Expenditure</b>	
240 RGS News	240.00
354 Postages and Stationery	160.00
0 Database Expenses	0.00
20 Officers' expenses	0.00
216 Post Match Catering	300.00
0 Rugby Insurance	0.00
0 Hockey Insurance	0.00
0 Staff Retirement Presentations	0.00
0 Ties and scarves stock written off in year	48.50
12 Website	0.00
650 House of Commons Dinner	0.00
0 Legal Fees for lease memorial field	1,494.00
0 Donation to swimming pool refurbishment	828.00
0 Plaque for observatory	155.00
0 Old Deanery Dinner	40.00
1,492	3,265.50
 <b>Income</b>	
346 Annual Subscriptions & Donations	60.00
965 Rent of Field (N.Y.C.C.)	3,101.00
0 Tie Sales	0.00
0 Paypal security checks	0.00
0 Donations to swimming pool refurbishment	527.00
0 Old Deanery Dinner	40.00
 <b>Interest</b>	
0 National Westminster Bank PLC	0.00
1,311	3,728.00
0 Balance being Excess of Income over Expenditure	462.50
181 Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income	0.00

The above Accounts are certified to be in accordance with the books, bank statements and vouchers examined



F.M. Metcalfe F.C.C.A.  
Hon Auditor

30th November 2013