



OLD RIPONIANS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

30th December 2017
Ripon Grammar School

Present

Nicola Woolfenden, George Oworm, Derek Crookes, Greta Hills, Toby Kinread, Euan Raffel, Marita Murray, Zach Mudge, Nick Edwards, Hannah Hale, John Rawson, Simon Walmsley.

Apologies: Claire Green, Jonathan Webb, Anne Harrison,

Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the previous AGM were presented, and accepted as a true record and saved into the RGS Electronic archives.

Matters arising: None.

President's Report

The Association's activities during 2017 were very well supported and thanks go all the members of the committee and the volunteers involved.

The Association's aims continue to be:-

- 1. To make the Old Riponians' Association inclusive and welcoming to former students and staff.***

Through 2017 the membership has grown by over 200 and as in previous years the majority of the new school leavers do now join the Association.

- 2. To facilitate reunions to allow members old & young to remain in contact with old friends and with the School.***

Winter Reunion: Traditionally, this reunion has focused on sport allowing the young and not so young to rekindle their sporting rivalries. In December 2016, “skills” in four sports were evident and we again had a very good turnout of both players and spectators. The rugby match at the School was enjoyed by all. We thank Jonny Frank and Nicky for organizing this event.

2017 July Reunion: The reunion was originally requested as a 1980s reunion. The interest from the group waned but fortunately an open invitation to all former students and staff resulted in an excellent turnout.

The committee is committed to providing proactive support to the July reunions, but for the days to be successful we do need these reunions to be driven by the year groups.

3G All Weather Pitch

After over 2 years of discussions, *Planning permission has now been granted.* Tendering for the 3G project has commenced with a target start date for the construction in February 2018.

The final survey of the membership in April 2017 returned no votes against the proposed use of part of the Memorial Field for the 3G facility. The major concerns were as to the potential noise nuisance for the boarders in Johnson House. Options are being considered to provide screening of the pitch by a soil bank with hedging.

A proposal to install a mobile phone mast on the field was not followed up after gathering feedback across the School’s community.

Support to the School

We have continued with our objective to use our annual income from the Memorial Field to support School activities. The list of our expenditures is itemised in the treasurer’s report below.

Looking Forward to 2018

Clocktower magazine: *The amazing quality of our Clocktower magazine reflects both the skills and tremendous hard work of Ruth Savage. Sadly, Ruth will be stepping down as our editor in the summer of 2018 so the future of the magazine is under review.*

The publication strategies for the School are to be reviewed by Jonathan and the Governors. The format and role of an alumni magazine will be one of the outputs from this review.

Career Mentors: *The potential of tapping into the experience & expertise of our Old Riponians has been highlighted.*

Agreement has been reached with the School to invite to all Old Riponians to share their experiences and lessons learnt from a wide range of career pathways whether via further education or by entering the workplace at 18 years old.

We will asking the members to supply a one page CV to the 6th Form leadership team and then be willing to answer questions by email from the students.

7th July Reunion: Currently we are planning for a 1978 and 1950s focused reunion for Saturday 7th July 2018.

Secretary's Report

Membership Records

The annual update to the combined ORA membership and the RGS database was completed in December.

Membership:	2017	2016
Members with confirmed email addresses:	1160	915
Members with confirmed postal addresses:	25	26
Total	1185	941

This year, for the first time we met the 2017 leavers at their final social event in May and 100 new members joined. This event offered us a friendly and less formal way to approach the students.

During 2018 we, together with the School, will try to contact the ca 900 school leavers from 2005 to 2012 as to their wish to join the Old Riponians.

Action: In discussions, it was noted that the alumni recruitment page on the RGS web page is unclear so requires an update.

ORA Website

The day to day management of the Alumni web pages is now carried out by the School IT team. We again thank Jon Slater and Chantal Lancaster for their input and support to keep our pages current.

ORA Social Media

Our "pages" on Facebook and Twitter are maintained and are used to publicise our events & news. All our communications are also sent out by email, so members do not need to join Facebook or Twitter to stay in touch.

Facebook Pages www.facebook.com/rgsoldrips
Twitter account @OldRips

RGS Electronic Archive

Derek's archiving of the School's current & historical documents is still moving forward (ca 24,000 documents & photos) with still 10,000 documents to go! We again must thank Jon Slater and the IT department for their input & support.

Action: Derek to ask if the archive could be used as the long term storage option for current School photos etc.

Treasurer's Summary Report

The accounts were presented to the meeting (see appendix 1), in summary, the balance sheet as at 30th September 2017 states:

2016		2017
	Capital Account	
£9,547.33	Balance as at 1 st October 2017	£11,175.33
£1628.00	Excess of Income over Expenditure	£371.33
£0.00	Excess of Expenditure over Income	£0.00
£11,175.33		£11,546.66

Membership of the Association is now free so our principal source of income is that received from the rent of the Memorial Field. The index-linked rent of £1400 pa is more than sufficient to fund the Association's activities and allows us to use the major part of these monies to support the School.

Our expenditures up to October 2017 include:-

- £600 Sponsorship of the girls' Cross Country Cup teams.
- £134 Battery to control the RGS Telescope.
- £378 Association's spending (postage, catering, thankyou gifts)

Expenditures from October 2017 which will be added to next year's accounts include some minor payments for catering and

- £995 for a new electronic notice board in the School entrance.

In discussions it was noted that our support over the years has been focused on Sporting activities.

Action. To seek brief proposals from the departmental heads for their priority requirements for projects costing up to £1200.

Election of Committee and Officers

These members accepted for the following roles.

Election to the Committee

	Proposer	Seconder
<i>Nick Edwards</i>	N. Woolfenden	Derek Crookes
<i>Nicky Woolfenden</i>	<i>George Oworm</i>	Derek Crookes

Election of Officers

		Proposer	Second
<i>President</i>	<i>Derek Crookes</i>	Greta Hills	N. Woolfenden
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>N. Woolfenden</i>	George Oworm	Derek Crookes
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>George Oworm</i>	N. Woolfenden	Derek Crookes

AOB

None

Vote of Thanks

Nicky Woolfenden, Ruth Savage, for the level of commitment which they have given to the Association and the School over many years.

George Oworm, for his role as Treasurer of the ORA.

Greta Hills & Claire Green, for their much appreciated help at all our events. Greta continues to support the electronic archive and our links to the city on Ripon Heritage days.

Tom Cavell -Taylor, a school governor, attends our meeting and provides useful links with the School Governors.

Jenny Bellamy and the other Trustees for their support with the negotiations for the proposed 3G pitch.

And finally, thanks to Jonathan, Martin, Marita, Helen & Kevin and the staff at RGS for another excellent year where the School continues to build on its successes in so many different areas.

On behalf of the committee, Greta thanked Derek for his work over the past year. As well as preparing paperwork for all our meetings he puts in a tremendous amount of effort extending the School archives and assisting the organisation of our reunions.

Date of next AGM

The date for the next AGM was proposed as Saturday 22nd December 2018.

With no further business, the meeting closed at 12.40pm.

Appendix 1

OLD RIPONIANS' ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2017

<u>2016</u>		<u>2017</u>
	Capital Account	
9,547	Balance as at 1st October 2017	11,175.33
0.00	add: Life Membership	0.00
1,628	Excess of Income over Expenditure	371.33
0.00	less: Excess of Expenditure over Income	0.00
£	<u>11,175</u>	£ <u>11,546.66</u>
	Current Assets	
	National Westminster Bank PLC	
11,175	Current Account	11,546.66
£	<u>11,175</u>	£ <u>11,546.66</u>

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2016

	Expenditure	
0	RGS Cross Country Sponsorship	600.00
0	Telescope	134.00
0	Officers' expenses (post match catering, retirement gifts, postage, thank you presents)	377.78
900	Summer Reunion Catering	0.00
	<u>900</u>	<u>1,111.78</u>
	Income	
33	Annual Subscriptions & Donations	83.11
1,400	Rent of Field (N.Y.C.C.)	1,400.00
1,095	Summer reunion tickets	0.00
	Interest	
0	National Westminster Bank PLC	0.00
	<u>2,528</u>	<u>1,483.11</u>
<u>1,628</u>	Balance being Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>371.33</u>
<u>0</u>	Balance being Excess of Expenditure over Income	<u>0.00</u>

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

12th December 2017

George Ogram
Old Riponians Treasurer