



THE MARLBURIAN CLUB

Minutes of the 117th Annual General Meeting of the Marlburian Club held on Saturday 5th October 2013 at 10.15 am in the Ellis Theatre of the Henry Honey Centre

The President, Steven Bishop, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 117th Annual General Meeting and to the 2013 Club Day. He was delighted to see so many present and expected more to arrive later. He paid his respects to the memory of Christopher Martin Jenkins, who should have been President for the past twelve months and would have been President for the next year had his life not been cut so cruelly short. He had the great honour to attend the memorial service at St Paul's on behalf of the Club, which was also attended by a huge number of OMs, where Christopher's life was justly celebrated. Sadly he went on to record the deaths of a number of other OMs; Alex Moulton, Denys Hodson, Justin de Blank, Ernie Money and Malcolm Harper and of Jack Asbury, who served as Bursar for eight years, and Angela Dancy, wife of the former Master, JCD.

1. To approve the Minutes of the 116th AGM held on 6th October 2012.

The President proposed that the Minutes be approved as an accurate record of proceedings. This was seconded by Alan Gillett, passed *nem con* and they were duly signed.

2. To Adopt the Accounts to 31 March 2013.

The Treasurer, Ian McKichan, spoke briefly about the Club Accounts, these having been previously circulated. Advertising revenue was the largest contributor in terms of difference in income this year. Jane Pendry had done a good job in recruiting new advertisers to the Magazine. Subscriptions are being increased from this year and that will add to revenue going forward. Magazine distribution has been reduced to one copy per household and more will be distributed online, which will also help control costs.

The value of Investments grew from £88,000 in 2012 to £102,000 at 31st March, and as a result of further rises in the stock market are now closer to £106,000 – £107,000 The money is invested in M & G's Charitable Fund.

More is being spent on Affiliate grants, providing subsidies to younger OMs for functions and, as there are a significant number of network groups, subsidies for Club functions and affiliate groups will continue to rise.

The President asked if there were any questions for The Treasurer. There being none, the Treasurer proposed the adoption of the Club accounts, this was seconded by Nigel Grieve and they were agreed *nem con*.

The President invited James Abell, Treasurer of The Charitable Funds, to report on The Marlburian Club Charitable Fund Accounts.

James Abell reported that The Marlburian Club Charitable Funds consist of three charities that are managed by trustees appointed by the Club Committee.

The objects of these charities include

- Helping OMs and their dependents in difficulty;
- Funding bursaries and scholarships tenable at the College and for OMs undergoing professional or further education;
- Making grants for the general benefit of the College.

The Charities' net assets at 31 March 2013 were £5.2 million compared to £4.4 million the previous year. The capital return on investments was 16.2% (compared to 10.8% for the FTSE 100 and 20.7% for the FTSE 250) and the income yield was 3.4%. The fund's investments are in units of M&G Charifund which is a UK equity fund and CCLA's charities investment fund which is a global equity fund. The funds' net asset value has increased by £200,000 to £5.4 million since March 31 2013.

Income for the year was £145,000, while administration costs were just under £5,000 (this mostly related to audit and publication of the accounts). The funds made grants of £25,000, including £12,000 for scholarships and bursaries, and smaller amounts for GAP year grants and grants towards further and professional education. The Trustees are working with the College to step up grant activity, with the main focus being on the College's charitable activities and engagement with the wider community. Two examples in recent months are:

- A contribution of 75% of the cost of a full fee bursary for a member of the lower sixth, who was introduced to the College by the "Springboard" charity.
- A grant of £2,000 to a student from St John's, who is a member of the College CCF, so that she could take up a place she had won on an army sponsored expedition.

There was a net surplus for the year of £144,000 compared to a deficit of £94,000 last year, which included a £200,000 grant towards the refurbishment of Ivy House.

The President thanked James Abell for his work on behalf of the Club.

The adoption of the Charitable Accounts was proposed by The President and was seconded by Robert Smith and these were agreed *nem con*.

3. To re-elect the Hon. Treasurer.

The President proposed that Ian MacKichan (PR 1974-79) be re-elected as Treasurer, Colin Cooke Priest seconded. The Members unanimously agreed.

4. To appoint the Auditors.

Haysmacintyre had continued to serve the Club well and the President thanked Adam Halsey, the MC audit partner, for the very thorough job his team do. He asked the Treasurer to propose that they continue as Auditors, which he did and was seconded by Michael Canon. The Members unanimously agreed.

6. President's Report.

The President said it had been an honour to have served for a second year, notwithstanding the tragic circumstances that gave rise to it. He had been blessed by the backing of an imaginative and energetic committee who continue to focus on increasing the engagement of OMs and providing support for younger OMs in their careers, an area of interest identified in the online survey undertaken last year,

He had attended many, but not all, of the very full programme of Club Events in the past year, particular highlights being the Brassier reunion at Club Day last year, the reception at the House of Lords kindly hosted by Lord Goodlad, the annual dinner at the RAC and the first Industry Group reception for those working in Banking and Finance.

The Club's overseas affiliates continue to flourish as do the Sporting Affiliates where the footballers once again took the honours gaining promotion in the Arthurian League for the second successive season. He congratulated John Uzielli on his appointment as President of the Seniors Golfing Society.

The development of the Club's Industry Groups continues to gather momentum. In addition to the Banking and Finance group the TV, Film and Theatre Group held its first reception at which not only were OMs present but also current pupils and parents. Groups covering Insurance, Medicine, Engineering, Art and Small Business have been established and in January next year the Insurance Group has arranged an afternoon at Lloyds for both current pupils and young OMs who are interested in a possible career in insurance. He expressed his gratitude to Andrew Barnes and Roger Backhouse for the organisation of this event and said he believed that providing advice, experience, mentoring and networking opportunities such as this is an important role for the Club with the added benefit of demonstrating to current parents the value of paying the Club subscription when it appears on their fee bill!

He introduced Rachael Henshilwood, the new Director of Development, who would be speaking shortly and said that he represented the Club in her appointment. He is confident that they will work well together for the benefit of both the Club and the College. He noted that he had been appointed a trustee of the Marlborough College Foundation and in his continuing role of Club Chairman he would play an active part in ensuring that an Independent Club works closely with, but not for, the Development department.

Finally, he commended the dedication, hard work and commitment of the Club office at the College. The focus of the day was rightly on Martin Evans as he retires as Club Secretary. However, the architect of today has been our Alumni Relations Manager, Jane Pendry, and he recorded his personal thanks to her for all the work she has put in over the past twelve months.

He commended the 45 years of huge and loyal service Martin has given to Marlborough culminating in the last twelve years as Secretary of the Club, which has been fortunate to benefit from his enthusiasm, remarkable memory for people, particularly OMs, along with his knowledge of Burke's Peerage and Debrett's Correct Form. A full tribute would be made at the Reception but it was only right and proper that it be recorded in the minutes that his enormous contribution to the Club was recognised by a thunderous round of applause, duly given by those present.

The Committee had decided that it would not rush into appointing a Secretary but it recognised the importance of having a member of Common Room amongst its number and Niall Hamilton had accepted the invitation to co-opt him onto the committee. The committee is currently clarifying the role of the Secretary which has developed over the years before identifying possible candidates. If any OM would like to suggest someone, he would be delighted to hear from you.

The President finished his address by saying it had been an enormous privilege and also great fun and would like to thank the Club for having him and for the kindness and support that had been given to him and it is a

great comfort to know that he was passing the role on to an exceptional successor. It is his view that the role of the Club is to protect the ethos of the College and to preserve and nurture the affection of Marlburians for the College, to promote the friendships developed at and after Marlborough by facilitating communication and comradeship. He was pleased to report that the Club continues to be successful in pursuit of these aims.

7. To elect the President

The President proposed that Robin Janvrin (B1 1960 -64) be elected as the next President of the Club. Robin served for 20 years in the Royal Household culminating in the position of the Queen's Private Secretary. On retirement he was made a life peer and now divides his time between working as a cross bencher in the Lords, Deputy Chairman of HSBC Private Bank and as Chairman of the Trustees of the Royal Foundation of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry. He also serves on the Boards of the National Portrait Gallery and Ghurkha Welfare Trust. The motion was seconded by Colin Cooke Priest and Robin Janvrin was elected President with acclaim.

Robin thanked the Members for their endorsement although it was tinged with sadness for the loss of Christopher Martin Jenkins. He was a contemporary and he shared a study with Robin's brother during his time at the College. He gave his thanks to Steven Bishop, a hard act to follow, and welcomed him to the new role of Chairman which would bring a degree of continuity to the Club, being particularly important with the elevation of Martin Evans to the 1843 Society. He said many people could wax more eloquently about Martin's outstanding contribution to the College and Club and his persuasiveness in the cause of the Marlburian Club, it was he who bought 'this lost soul' back into the Marlborough College Community. He finds a great institution in great shape and particularly interesting and re-invigorating times were ahead, he would serve the Club with great pleasure.

8. To Nominate the President (2014-15)

The President moved to propose the Committee's nominee Richard Fleck (B3 1962 - 67) as the President for 2014- 15. Richard was in B3 under Percy Chapman and Jake Seamer, where he played most sports but excelled at Rackets. Richard has international honours in squash and sailing, studied Law at Southampton and went on to join Herbert Smith where he enjoyed a hugely successful career focussing on international corporate transactions, dispute resolution and competition and regulation. He retired in 2009 after 29 years as a partner but remains as a consultant. He founded the Auditing Practices Board and at the end of this year will step down as chairman of the Financial Reporting Council's conduct committee. Richard has also, somehow, found time to be a member of the College Council, a trustee of the Foundation and was Chairman of the 150th Anniversary Appeal, a trustee of the Club Charitable Funds and an active member of the Club committee, and now, a governor of Marlborough Malaysia. The President said there can be few people who have given as much to the College and it was his great pleasure to propose that Richard should succeed Robin Janvrin as President Elect. This was seconded by Andrew Beresford and the appointment warmly endorsed by those present.

Richard thanked the Club Members saying it would be a great privilege and honour and he hoped to do as good a job as his predecessors had and will do.

9. To elect four new Members to the Committee.

The President thanked the three retiring committee members, Colin Cooke Priest, immediate Past President and a source of great strength and sage wisdom to him during his extended term of office, and Andrew Grant

and Jack Naylor who had completed their three-year term as elected members of the committee. Their contributions had been invaluable and he hoped that they would continue to play a part in Club Affairs. He then proposed that four new members be elected to the Committee:

Nick Denny (SU 1965 – 69)
Lis Priday (Darwin) (B2 1972-74).
Christopher (Billy) Buxton (C1 1986 – 91)
Lucinda Greasley (MM 1996 – 91).

The President proposed that a single vote for all four members be made which was seconded by William Stirling and the Members unanimously voted in the new committee members.

10. Rachael Henshilwood, Director of Development

The President introduced Rachael Henshilwood, who gave a presentation to the AGM. The President thanked Rachael for her words.

(Subsequent to the meeting RH left and Jon Copp has been appointed as Development Director.)

11. Any Other Business:

Of which there was none from the floor. The President made mention that the newest edition of The Marlburian would be available later at The Marlburian Social Club and thanked all those involved for bringing the edition out in time for Club Day. The next Club Day and AGM date is Sunday 28th September 2014 (subsequently changed to Sunday 12th October) and will be a reunion for all those who attend MC 50 years ago and would also reflect on the College's involvement in the Great War.

12. The Master.

The Chairman introduced the Master and threw the meeting open to the floor inviting questions:

There followed a short Question and Answer session.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 11.05 am.