

Annual General Meeting 2021

The 125th Marlburian Club AGM took place on Saturday 9th October at 10.45 am in Adderley.

Agenda

1. The President, Catherine Stewart (LI 1974 – 76), opened the meeting by welcoming all to the AGM. She remembered those who we had lost in the two years since the last in person AGM, including Past Presidents John Worlidge (C2 1942-46), Colin Cooke-Priest (LI 1952-57) and John Dancy, Master 1961 – 72.
2. To approve the minutes of the 124th AGM held on 20th October 2020. There were no questions on the minutes and the President asked that the Minutes be approved as an accurate record of proceedings. Proposer, Imran Tayabali (LI 1989 – 94) and Seconder Robert Chase (LI 1961 – 66). The minutes were approved nem con.
3. To elect the Hon. Treasurer, James Spender (EL/C2 1987-92). The President noted that this was the first change of treasurer for 11 years and asked that thanks to Ian MacKichan (PR 1974 -79) for all his work as Treasurer be recorded. She informed those present that Ian had stepped down earlier in the year and James had been co-opted by the Committee to the role. His appointment was proposed by Nick Cooke Priest (LI 1983-85), seconded by Jonathan Neil-Smith (1973 – 77) and approved by the members.
4. To adopt the Accounts to the 31st March 2021
The accounts had been previously circulated.
 - Club Accounts; James Spender reported that as events had been unable to take place and expenditure reduced, the income from the subscriptions did not fall so the accounts show a surplus at the end of the financial year. This along with the realisation of some investment funds and a healthy growth in the investments mean that funds are available to the Club to run a busier schedule next year.

The value of the Investment Funds has doubled, mainly due to one that has been held for 20+ years. Fund management is being transferred to Rathbones and the Finance sub-group will work with them to manage the funds in the best interest of Club Members. The investments will be diversified, some funds released for the benefit of Club Members and some reinvested in income-generating funds to provide additional income to maintain projects in the future.

The Treasurer asked for questions from the floor, Charles Hope (BI 1954 – 58) asked what the Club spends the funds on? JS replied that the main costs were for the Magazine, design, print and postage, wages for the staff, though these were shared with the College and subsidies for events and sports societies.

Ian Macfadyen (C2 1955 – 60) proposed the accounts be adopted and Clifford Allison (SU 1966 – 70) seconded the motion, which was approved by all present.

Ian also asked that thanks to Ian Mackichan be recorded.

- MCCF Accounts; Treasurer, Imran Tayabali, reported that the value of the funds had recovered from their lowest at 6.2 million to 7.4 million as the market bounced back. During the year there were very few grant requests due to travel restrictions. In addition, having made large commitments in the prior year, MCCF was not approached to provide additional bursarial support in the year to 31st March 2021. As the school reduced fees during Covid-19 MCCF's grant commitments also reduced and these funds reinvested. MCCF are currently supporting ten pupils throughout the school with grants ranging from 10% to 110% of fees and have £400K committed over the next ten years. He ended by saying the Trust is in good shape and asked the floor if there were any questions.

David Neil Smith (CI 1970 – 74) asked for an update on scholarships for Children of Clergy, if they still existed, given the origins of the College.

Steven Bishop (PR 1969 – 73), Chair of MCCF, explained that this falls under the remit of the College although MCCF do help with these funds on occasions. Simon Lerwill, Foundation Director, said that the College held a separate fund for the Children of Clergy and these were still awarded.

James Spender asked that given the aspirations of the College and Marlburian Club to grow the bursary provision, how is MCCF placed to assist with this.

IT responded that MCCF investments were well placed to continue to provide ten Bursaries going forward and that a 'bit of headroom' was there to be able to assist with hardship requests and capital projects, should the College ask for assistance. The investments are in accumulation units and income units and the proportion can be altered if needed.

James Spender proposed the accounts be adopted, seconded by Robert Chase and approved by the meeting.

5. To re-appoint the auditors, HaysMcIntyre, The President asked for a proposer to re-appoint the auditors, HaysMcIntyre. Proposer, Steven Bishop, seconder Tim Martin-Jenkins (B3 1961 – 65) and was approved by the members.
6. To approve amendments to the Club Constitution
Clause 3 (ii) Membership. The President explained this would allow those from the MCM junior school, which extends to the 100's, to join the Club. Clifford Allison asked about subscription payments and Kate Goodwin explained that subscriptions would be paid by all those who join from MCM, either on leaving MCM or at the time of application.

Clause 10. Annual General Meeting Clause 10. (i) (ii) (iii) (iv)

This amendment allows for the Annual General Meeting to be held virtually or at any other time and place, so it could be held on a separate day to Club Day.

The President asked that the motion be passed to amend these clauses to the Constitution, George Browning (B2 1963 – 66) proposed, was seconded by Clifford Allison and adopted by the members present unanimously.

7. To elect the President. The President said she was delighted that Nick Cooke-Priest (LI 1983-85) would become President. He had been involved with Club activities for the past year so the hand over would be smooth. Proposer, Imran Tayabali Seconder Jeremy Hall-Smith (C3 1953 – 58). The Members unanimously agreed.

NCP said it was a huge honour and privilege and he was excited to be starting his year as President. Since his sons joined Marlborough College he has been re-immersing himself in both College and Club. He thanked the President and Committee for the past year and allowing him to join the Core meetings which should ensure a smooth transition. The President Elect thanked the President for all her work presiding over a year of transition for the Club and for the virtual programme, he proposed a vote of thanks which was endorsed by the members present with a round of applause.

8. The President nominate Harriett Baldwin (LI 1975-77) as the President for 2022 – 2023, She was unable to attend the AGM as she was in Lisbon at a NATO meeting, but was honoured to be proposed for the role.

Harriett is the Member of Parliament for West Worcestershire. She is on the Treasury Select Committee and she also chairs the British Group Inter-Parliamentary Union, co-chairs the International Parliamentary Network for Education and in 2020, she re-joined the UK delegation of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. Before entering Parliament, she had a career in banking and has a particular interest in education and access to all, particularly for girls, which will fit well as her Presidency will coincide with the proposed launch of the Bursary campaign.

Proposer Philip Cayford (PR 1965–70), seconder, Bill Buxton (CI 1953 – 57) and approved by the members.

9. The Chair's report; Karen Hill (B2/MM 1988 – 90) reported that it had been a busy year despite the challenges of Covid. We had successfully introduced online events which reached new audiences and enabled more people to attend. There had been nine Marlburian Mondays along with several virtual events including a Business in Asia event which involved our members in Asia and MCM. OMs also spoke at careers events to support College pupils. She extended a huge thanks to all those who volunteered their time to assist with or speak at all these events. Both the Marlborough Blues and the OMSA had been able to take part in some fixtures.

The Professional Groups underwent a restructure with new heads and sponsors put in place and the Chair will work with the Group Heads to provide a calendar of events. Mentoring would become a bigger part in the Club's offering. A project group had been tasked with looking at and engaging with those not actively engaging with the Club and to bring more people into the fold. The Committee and Club Office will be embarking on a project to recognise what makes OMs engage with the Club and the barriers that prevent others doing so. A series of personas will be developed to help us understand what our members want and how best to engage with them, so we can send communications and deliver a programme relevant to all our members.

The Chair thanked those in the Development Office and introduced Chris Propper, Associate Director, Operations, who will lead on Club Business. She recorded thanks to Kate Goodwin, Alumni Engagement Manager, and Fiona Cottrill, Events Manager, for all their work this year.

10. To elect 5 new Committee Members.

- i. Philip Cayford (PR 1965–70)
- ii. Mayoor Patel (PR 1973-77)
- iii. Piers Dibben (B2 1981- 85)
- iv. Miranda Lindsay-Fynn (NC 1991 –96)
- v. Henry Langdon (TU 2001-06)

The Chair was delighted that they had agreed to join the Committee, each would add their own skills to the Committee, which was now well balanced by age and gender. Philip Cayford was present at the AGM and was introduced to the members.

Their election was proposed by Clifford Allison and seconded by Miranda Wells (B3 1987 – 89) and approved by the members.

11. Any other Business

Robert Chase asked who won the cricket match against Rugby? Tim Martin-Jenkins said although there was a strong XI this year many had not been able to play due to having to isolate, so a second XI team was fielded and we lost to Rugby.

Robert also offered congratulations to the College on the recent Tatler Award for Public School of the Year.

The President paid tribute to the Master and College staff for all their work over the last eighteen months. The results had been really impressive. She also restated her thanks to the Development Office for their work over tough times and said that the Club was in a great place.

The meeting closed at 11.40am