



The Old Southendian Association

www.oldsouthendianassociation.org

Sustaining Friendships...

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Southendian Association
held via Google Meet
on Wednesday, 11th November 2020 commencing at 7.47 pm.**

Those Present:

Clive Shiret (Chair)	Mike Bambrook	Tony Barrett	Ken Carter
Alex Cass	Kate Cooper	Andy Crow	Daniel Garside
Rick Gill	Graham Glover	Norman Holden	Russ Johnson
Trevor Johnson	Geoffrey Kittle	Kevin Leigh	Richard Maddison
Geoffrey May	Keith Spenceley	Martin Stansfield	David Townend
Joseph Zammit			

Item	Minute
1.0	Apologies for Absence had been received from Robin Bevan, John Goodman, Ian Grimes, Claire Kirkland, James Masson, Richard Medcalf, Chris Sorrell, David Tanton and Graham Winckless.
2.0	Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6th November 2019 : The Minutes were approved on a proposal by Joseph Zammit, seconded by Graham Glover and signed by the Chairman.
3.0	Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 6th November 2019: There were none.
4.0	Chairman's Report:
4.1	Clive Shiret commented that no-one could have imagined the worldwide turmoil caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Not surprisingly, Association business had taken a back seat.
4.2	The circumstances had however led to technological advances in the membership system thanks to Joseph Zammit and had enabled members around the world to participate in the online "Chin Wags" thanks to Andy Crow.
4.3	Since Chris Sorrell had now retired, it was to be hoped that plans could be put in place to publish the Magazine again on a regular basis.
4.4	The Association had maintained several funding commitments to the School, including the annual sponsorship of the majority of prizes awarded at the Senior Prizegiving.
4.5	Clive was pleased to see many members making a difference to their communities, not least at Garon Park where the community has been able to take part in volunteering, sports and wellbeing activities even during these unsettled times.
5.0	Treasurer's Report and Presentation of the Audited Accounts to 31st March 2020:
5.1	Dan Garside reported on the financial position of the Association and noted that the Accounts to 31 st March 2020 had not been impacted by the effects of the pandemic. They showed a small surplus of £128, mainly due to the absence of the Magazine. The Association was still carrying some £33,000 of reserve funds, principally in National Income Bonds. All in all, the Association's funds were in good shape.
5.2	Whereas there had not been any grants to individual School departments this year, there were costs in the accounts relating to professional fees for the proposed 125 th Anniversary Wellbeing Garden. This project would be the focus of the Association's resources for the next two years.
5.3	Dan confirmed that a tie or a scarf was given to each new member and this was a cost to the Association.
5.4	The Accounts for the year ended 31 st March 2020 were adopted on a proposal by Joseph Zammit, seconded by Geoffrey May.

*"Sustaining friendships formed through the School and the Association
for the benefit of past, present and future Southendians"*

Item	Minute
6.0	Report of Sub Committees, the School, the Clubs and the Affiliated Organisations:
6.1	The Reports had all been circulated and were available on the website. The following additional matters were reported.
6.2	<i>Membership Database:</i> Geoffrey May reported that the total membership remained static with some new members joining and others passing away. Once such recently deceased member was Geoff Bromley who had been very active in the Bowls Circle.
6.3	<i>Organ Society:</i> Joseph Zammit advised that the only “live” event in the year was the very successful <i>Cantare</i> concert in December 2019. All other events had had to be postponed. The AGM was held remotely and was attended by several members from overseas. Students were continuing to learn the organ and Warren Symes had made a series of live recordings that were being released via social media. The latest of these was Elgar’s <i>Nimrod</i> released on this Remembrance Day. Joseph thanked the School for its support with such endeavours.
6.4	<i>Cricket:</i> Chris Sorrell had asked that a piece be added to his report highlighting the work of the Club’s Executive Committee in getting some cricket played, especially Henry Williams and Sam Hodgson, who planned and ran the Covid-secure net sessions that were allowed before the truncated season started.
7.0	A Proposal to approve revised Rules of the Association and revised Standing Orders of the Executive Committee and Sub-Committees:
7.1	Kevin Leigh explained that this proposal was not in any way controversial but was brought about by a need to update the Rules and Standing Orders to enable the Association to take payments by more modern methods and to deal with some of the oddities thrown up by the pandemic. In making these changes, Kevin had taken the opportunity to tidy up the documents into a more consistent form.
7.2	The changes to the Rules were as follows: Rule 4. The addition of the words “or such other period as the AGM shall agree”. Rule 7 c) The addition of the words “or any such other suitable bank transfer or payment as from time to time deemed acceptable by the Executive Committee”. Rule 12. The addition of the words “The AGM can be held remotely and any voting can also be done remotely.”
7.3	David Townend asked whether the word “brethren” in Rule 2e remained an appropriate term and suggested the term “member”. Geoffrey May stated that the Association had helped non-members in the past and Kevin suggested that “brethren” be replaced with “people” which would cover all eventualities. However, this would need to be the subject of another proposal at a future date and Clive suggested it be “kicked back” to the 2021 AGM.
7.4	The changes to the Standing Orders were as follows: SO 1. A recasting of the Order for clarity to include the Membership of the Executive Committee, “namely the Chairman, President, Headteacher of the School, Immediate Past President, President Designate, Treasurer, Secretary, Registrar, Legal Adviser and Publications Officer, and not more than 12 elected members, two of whom shall preferably have left School in the previous year.” SO 3 c) The addition of the words, “Any business of the Executive Committee may be conducted remotely including by email.” SO 3 d) The addition of the words, “In the case of any business conducted remotely including by email voting can also be by email.”
7.4	The revisions were carried on a proposal by David Townend, seconded by Geoffrey May.
8.0	A Proposal that the terms of office of the current President, Immediate Past President and President Designate shall continue for a further year from 1st January 2021:
8.1	Clive confirmed that the three people that this affected were supportive of this proposal due to the circumstances of the Covid 19 pandemic.
8.2	The proposal was carried on a proposal by Kate Cooper, seconded by Graham Glover.

