

THE OLD CROYDONIANS' ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Saturday 29th July 2017 at 3pm at The BRIT School

1. Welcome, Attendance, One Minute's Silence and Apologies for Absence

(a) **Welcome:** The Acting Chairman (Roger Hill) welcomed all 36 members present to the AGM. Five decades were represented.

(b) **RIP:** The names of those members who had died since the 2016 AGM were read out and one minute's silence was observed in their memory:

Peter **Heartfield**, Roger **Eburne**, Patrick **Gorman**, Eric **Lucas**, Roy **Setter**, Colin **Davies**, Thomas **Pharoah**, Peter **Follett**, Brian **Wildsmith**, Leslie **Olive**, John **Pile**, Peter **Langford**, Peter **Knight**, Beryl **Johnson**, Paul **Nutt**, Charles **Lynch**, Norman **Wood**, Donald **Elkin** and Enid **Gura**.

(c) **Apologies for Absence** were received from 36 members.

(d) The names of those attending and of those who had sent apologies were circulated at the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Previous AGM and Matters Arising

The minutes of the AGM held on 30th July 2016 were accepted without amendment and there were no matters arising which were not addressed under other agenda items.

3. Reports from the Acting Co-Chairs – Roger Hill and Valerie Heathorn

Ian Herbertson, who had generously taken on the roles of Chair, Magazine Editor and Treasurer at the 2016 AGM, had had to stand down through acute health problems. Valerie and Roger had taken over these roles in acting capacities, but their tenure ended at this AGM. There was an immediate need for new Committee members. *See Item 8.*

4. Report from the Acting Treasurer – Roger Hill

(a) Balance sheet:

- **Income:** 2016 saw a number of multiple-year subscriptions, which made the 2017 figure lower. The number of donations was steady but one very large one in 2016 again skewed the figures.
- **Expenditure:** The 2016 magazine cost less than that of 2015.
- **Balance:** Our end year balance was up from £2,799 to £3,141. We were now solvent, thanks to 'sustaining' Members.

(b) **Auditor:** Ian Park continued to audit the OCA accounts *pro bono*. The Committee would consider offering a small honorarium.

John Ashe proposed and Tony Teal seconded adoption of the accounts. Adopted unanimously.

5. Report from the Membership Secretary – Roger Hill

(a) There were now 490 members, of whom 274 were 'sustaining' members, having paid the new subscription agreed at the 2016 AGM. 216 were 'life' members with reduced benefits. We still sought new members.

Brian Self proposed and Tony Teal seconded adoption of the report. Adopted unanimously.

6. Report from the Acting Magazine Editors – Valerie Heathorn and Roger Hill

(a) **Magazine:** It had been a challenging year and producing the magazine was extremely tough but the result – the first in colour - was pleasing. We could limp on into the next year but needed new editors. All members were encouraged to submit copy (deadline 31st December 2017). Tony Teal offered thanks from the floor for the best magazine yet, to general applause.

(b) **Website:** The Acting Honorary Secretary, Cortland Fransella, explained the plan to take over as Webmaster from Steve Palmer and to move web hosting to ChurchEdit. He was already Webmaster for two sites using this company. Final decisions had to be made by the committee but the move offered good value and reliable technical support. Members were asked to be patient during the transition period.

7. Adoption of Reports.

This was done report by report, as shown.

8. Election and Re-election of Committee and Honorary Auditor

(a) Roger Hill explained that the committee was in a critical situation, which could not be allowed to continue. Unless people came forward to serve on the committee and to exercise discrete portfolios, it would not be possible to sustain current levels of activity and the OCA might cease to function. The committee might have to co-opt assistance to survive. The roles were as follows:

- **Chair** (currently Valerie Heathorn and Roger Hill acting co-chairs)
- **Treasurer** (currently Roger Hill acting Treasurer)
- **Membership Secretary** (currently Roger Hill)
- **Magazine Editor** (currently Valerie Heathorn and Roger Hill acting editors)
- **Honorary Secretary** (Cortland Fransella continuing)
- **Webmaster** (Cortland Fransella taking over)
- **Events** (Bob Smith)
- **Remembrance events** (Margaret Ziolk)
- **Posting correspondence** (Richard Chatterjee)

No particular expertise for committee membership was required, although a knowledge of EXCEL would help to maintain Membership Lists and some other tasks. **Brian Young had agreed to join the committee.**

Re-election of the committee was proposed by Caroline Stoneman and seconded by Mike Keitch. Accepted unanimously.

(b) John Ashe proposed and Ann Moffatt seconded the proposal to renew the appointment of Ian Park as Honorary Auditor. Accepted unanimously.

9. Any Other Business

(a) **Tuck Shop:** Cortland Fransella (newly appointed Hon Sec) noted that expressions of interest in the suggested Tuck Shop items included with the 2017 Magazine had been minimal (less than 20 individual items in all). For that reason, no new stock could be ordered.

(b) **Visit to the Tower of London on 23rd October 2017.** Cortland Fransella (Hon Sec) noted that there were still plenty of places available for this visit. Participants did not have to be members of the OCA but could be family members or friends.

The AGM ended at 3.30pm.