



Old Silhillians Association

**OLD SILHILLIANS ASSOCIATION LIMITED**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT 8:00 pm**  
**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023**  
**At the Clubhouse**

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting**

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Charles Fillingham (Headmaster), Mike Betteridge, Peter Thomas, Rupert Young, Christopher Allen, Ed Baker and Stuart Jenkins.

**2. Approval of Minutes of AGM held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022.**

The minutes of the previous meeting had been posted on the website. The Chairman invited any comments from those who were there and then present. The minutes were approved.

**3. President's Report.**

Steve Urry outlined his year as President which he described as very enjoyable. Aside from regular committee meetings, he had attended 23 events. The various sports clubs dinners showed that the sports clubs were in good shape particularly the Hockey and Rugby Club Dinners which were very well supported. Both are putting out large team numbers as well.

Attendance at the various School events was notable, especially in view of the arrival of the new Headmaster, Charles Fillingham. Steve reported that Mr Fillingham is very supportive of the OSA.

He also reported on the success of the London Dinner in May with a significant number of younger members attending. The main OSA Dinner in November was both enjoyable and well-attended. He particularly mentioned the guest speaker, Giles Slaughter, past Headmaster, whose speech was extraordinarily good and quite emotional for those who remembered him as Headmaster.

The Chairman congratulated Steve on a good year with so many events attended, particularly as he had combined the role with that of Treasurer. He also commented that the relationship with the School was better than it had been for some time.

4. **Presentation of accounts and Report of the Auditors**

Steve Urry presented the accounts for the OSA for the year ended 31st July 2023 which have been published on the website. They had been audited by BSM. Whilst there were no significant changes during the year, there was a deterioration in the profit. This was due to the unavoidable rise in costs, particularly in utilities, which we have all had to get used to. Cash generation is still good and has continued through to the latest month. Total assets stand at £1.2M.

The Chairman invited questions from the floor. A member asked about how much the replacement Astro will cost. Exact figures are not available yet, but likely to be in the region of £200K. We currently have provision of £140K, so it is possible we may have to fund-raise.

In answer to another question, the Treasurer outlined what measures are being taken to bring the accounts back into balance. These include the contributions of the sports clubs, staffing and bar profits.

5. **Election of Auditors.**

Steve Urry proposed the re-election of BSM as auditors for the OSA accounts for the forthcoming year. This was seconded by Peter Davies, the Chairman, and was carried unanimously by the meeting.

6. **Headmaster's Report.**

This was deferred due to the unavoidable absence of the Headmaster. The Chairman referred members to the Headmaster's Report in the Silhillian.

7. **The Trust**

The Chairman referred to the Trust and, in the absence of Peter Thomas, asked Malcolm Laurie, as a Trustee, to make any observations. Malcolm also referred members to the report in the Silhillian.

The Chairman then invited the Treasurer to report on the Trust Accounts. Again, the accounts have been published on the website. The most significant change had been the transfer of the investments to the School Development Fund. This effectively took out almost all the assets. The Trustees took the view that there was no longer any need to have the accounts independently audited as the transaction volumes had reduced dramatically.

In answer to a question from the floor as to the long-term viability of the Trust, The Chairman explained that there is now no income going to the

Trust. Aside from a few modest donations to pupils, no scholarships are paid from the Trust. In the absence of any fund-raising activity, the Trust will eventually run out of money.

8. **Election of Officers and Committee for 2024**

The Chairman stated that Peter Earl wished to stand down as a member of the committee and thanked him for his contribution over the last seven years, including two spells as President. The Chairman observed that no new nominations had been received, then read out the nominations for the forthcoming year as follows;

President:	Simon Westwood
Immediate Past President	Steve Urry
Chairman	Peter Davies
Treasurer	Steve Urry
Secretary	Simon Westwood
Facilities Director	Max Levenger
Communications Director	Vacant
General members	Rupert Young John Harrison Graham Loader Jonny Dugdale

The secretary suggested that the election of the officers should be taken collectively. This was agreed by the meeting and the above list unanimously approved.

9. **Election of OSA Trust Trustees.**

The Chairman suggested that we move to the election of the Trustees of the OS Trust. Malcolm Lawrie has had to retire as a Trustee in view of the necessary rotation but has, happily, put himself forward for re-election. He was proposed by the Chairman and the meeting unanimously agreed.

10. **Assumption of Office by the new President**

The Chairman proposed Simon Westwood as the next President and the Treasurer seconded. The meeting agreed unanimously. The retiring President, Steve Urry, presented Simon with the President's Collar and Jewel and wished him well for the forthcoming year. The President thanked Peter and the members present for the honour bestowed on him. He stated that it was his intention to build on the great work of his predecessor in continuing to improve the relationship with the School. He would be in the chair at the bar following the AGM proceedings.

11. **Closure and date of the next AGM.**

The Chairman closed the meeting having thanked those present. The date of the next AGM is Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Signed (Chairman)

Date 21 October 2024