THE SOCIETY OF OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANS

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society, held at 6-15 pm on Saturday March 23rd 2013 at The RAF Club, 128, Piccadilly, London W1J 7PY.

Present: Simon Dougherty (President –in the Chair); Ed Binder; Jenny Binder; Richard Binder; Bill Cooper; Hugh Curle; John Ellerby; Chris Essex; Ian Foster; Andrew Gooderham; John Gooderham; Chris Keeble; Andrew Lillie; David Mason; Mimi O'Neill; Richard Overend; Norman Porter (Hon Sec); John Rankin; Michael Smy; Brian Smith; Clive Smith; Kirsty Wybar.

1. **Apologies:** Andrew Baker; David Carr; Bill Collard; Antony Cowan**;** Mike Craddock; Jon Ford; Peter Golding; Ted Harrington; Peter Howard-Dobson; ; Tony Lawrence; Tony Martin; Tim Mitchell**;** Brian Rosen; Chris Sneath; David Turnbull; John Waugh; Andrew Wright;

2. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 24th March 2012.**
   The Minutes were approved and signed by the President as a correct record of proceedings

3. **Matters arising.**
   There were none.

4. **Accounts for the year ending December 31st 2012.**
   In the absence of the Treasurer, the accounts were presented by David Mason, Chairman of Trustees. He thanked James Ruddock-Broyd for having audited these accounts, and for having picked up on various points. The College had taken on the Society's Insurance commitments, and this had been instrumental in producing a turn-around, which had resulted in a surplus. Both the Yearbook and the Newsletter had come out cheaper.
   The President thanked David and the Trustees for their valuable work. James Ruddock-Broyd commented that subscriptions had been paid in guineas until 1970, and made historical comparisons, recalling that the subscription in 1972 had been just £5.
   The Accounts were accepted by the meeting.
   The full Review is appended to these Minutes.

5. **President's Report.**

Officers: The President, Simon Dougherty, was grateful for the stability provided by long-serving Officers of the Society and paid particular tribute to the work of David Mason and his fellow Trustees, Chris Essex and his work with OFs Overseas, David Carr, Treasurer, and Norman Porter, the Hon Sec of the Society.

Relationships with the College. These continued to be warm, and mutually supportive.

College Appeal Campaign. He had been proud to present a cheque to the College for £100,000, and this sum had been supported by individual donations from OFs. Furthermore two OFs were central to the appeal: John Edwards, as Chairman of the Appeal Committee, and John Kerr, as Patron. A group of Australian OFs had generously supported the College appeal.

150th anniversary of the founding of the College.
A planning meeting had taken place recently, and it was good to report that an appropriate and exciting programme was being drawn up, in which the Society would play a full part.

Books:
a/ 150th anniversary book. He referred to the Flyer promoting the book at a reduced rate. This offer would remain open until February 2014
b/ Other books: Sales of Richard Sayer's *Master Sportsman* and of John Maulden's *Into the Third Millennium* were ongoing.

The Website.: This continued to flourish and evolve, thanks to the work of the dedicated website team.

The Society's Publications – The Yearbook, and the Newsletter: He congratulated the Editor and Designer, Norman Porter and Chris Keeble on two excellent publications. He noted that the 2013 Newsletter would be sent digitally to all members with an email address. The only printed versions would go to those who had signed up for these with the Hon Sec. Tim Mitchell and Chris Keeble had plans for a good electronic version of the publication.

Sport: A huge number of sports reports had appeared on the website.

The Arts Section: James Ruddock-Broyd was organizing a visit to Madresfield Court, near Malvern, on July 20th.

Suppers. In the past year he had attended 8 suppers in 7 different locations. He was personally grateful to organizers and members who had made him and his wife, Maggie very welcome.

Deaths of OFs. A large number of eminent OFs and Hon OFs had passed away, including: Angus Hindley (aged 47), Jim Crosbie (hockey international and golfer), Brian Underwood (who took over hockey from NF Borrett and was a Housemaster, and Head of English), Nigel King, (shooter) Wendy Pemberton, (wife of John –BH),Tom O'Donald, (Australia – a regular correspondent), Pam Rogers, (First Head of Girls Sport at the College), Paul Gooderham brother of John –Chefyns –there had been close on 1000 people at his memorial service in Saffron Walden), Guy Dawson, (a fine sportsman, Arthur Staniforth, (Agriculturalist and author), Peter Lloyd-Bostock (Naval commander), Laurie Rimmer (Former Headmaster).

Moreau Scholarships: This year's winners had been Mimi O'Neill and Lewis Myers-Allen.

OF achievements: these included Laura Wright, (Singing – Twickenham etc) Jim Paice, (knighted) Christina Johnson (Singer -Prague –National Opera), Ben Simpson (flying helicopters for Attenborough's Africa), Oli Boon (finalist of Masterchef), Andy Ridley-Thomas – (founder of Earth Hour – to be celebrated at 8-00 pm on that very evening).

The Future of the SOF – significant plans were in the pipeline

Challenges and Aspirations: He had set himself the objectives of improving communications, of increasing participation and putting the Society on a firmer financial footing, and hoped that there was evidence of success in those particular areas.

Conclusions: In conclusion the President declared that he had been proud and honoured to have been President of the Society over his 2 years of office. He had seen himself very much as a custodian, likening himself to the Fat Controller looking after the train set and ensuring that at the very least it had enjoyed a fresh lick of paint. He was grateful for the huge support that he had received from members, and was of the view that the Society was in a strong position to face the future. He was delighted that he had a very distinguished successor lined up, in the shape of Richard Sayer.

6. Election of Officers of the Society for 2013: :

(Trustees - Confirmation only): DE Mason, T Mitchell; C Essex; J Ellerby

President: R Sayer
The incoming President assured the meeting that it was a real honour for him to be leading this great Society and he looked forward to the next two years in office.
At this point the Hon Sec paid tribute to the outgoing President for all his hard work on behalf of the Society. A full version appears as an Appendix to these Minutes and will appear in the 2013 Newsletter.

Vice Presidents: Current VPs en bloc plus J Ellerby, A Baker, Prof N Marsh

Honorary Secretary: NH Porter

Honorary Treasurer: D Carr

Finance Committee: Officers plus M Smy N Burnip, C Keeble, J Mehta

Independent examiner: J Ruddock-Broyd - for just one more year. He paid tribute to David Mason for his meticulous accounts.

3 elected Council Members -3 year term (no nominations)

Honorary OFs (Elected): Keith Bridges (Accounts Dept), Lucy Bryanton (Brandeston PA to the Headmaster), plus service of 10 years (Automatic) Anna de Luis Alas, Helen Russell, Catherine Gassmann – to be invited by formal letter from the Hon Sec.

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All elections were duly proposed and seconded and agreed unanimously or by acclamation.

7. Any other business.

There was none and the President closed the meeting at 7-00pm.

Signed: **President** **Date**

N.H.Porter, (Hon. General Secretary)

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Appendix 1:

SOCIETY OF OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANS

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31st December 2012 (continued)

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

The General Account, see page 7, shows a surplus of £3,780 for the year as opposed to a deficit of £1,907 for 2011. The number of leavers joining the Society was lower this year, thus decreasing the income from Life Subscriptions from £12,474 to £11,236. Ninety per cent of this sum is invested in the Life Membership Fund to cover future costs. The net income from this fund increased in the year from £12,093 to £12,568. Likewise Donations to the Yearbook fund increased from £4,496 to £7,875. The Yearbook and Newsletter costs remain steady at £12,917. Renewed efforts have been made to persuade older members, who only paid £5 many years ago to join the Society, to contribute to the Yearbook fund. On-going discussions are taking place with the College to ascertain whether we can share more of our costs. During the year they agreed to pay our insurance costs saving us some £1,450. The balance on the account at the year-end was £9,584 (2011: £5,804).

Dividends, rent and interest, which includes the Life Membership above, decreased from £32,368 to £28,719. This was due to lower interest rates generally and the effect of the £100,000 gift to the Framlingham College 150th Anniversary Appeal. The income from the restricted funds was distributed as scholarships and awards. £4,800 was paid to the continuing successful Moreau scholarship scheme. Cabinets for the Chapel Well cost £1,460. Details of the History of Brandeston Book, the SOF socks, the Norman Borrett book and Into the Third Millennium publication are given in Notes 7 to 10 in the accounts.

CAPITAL

The Trustees are advised in their investment decisions for the Life Membership Fund, Endowment Fund, Wallace Scholarship Fund, Moreau Bequest and the Framlingham College Improvement Fund by Investec Wealth Management Ltd., who work within the framework of an agreed Investment Policy which is

reviewed annually. They report to the Trustees quarterly and at other times as they deem necessary. The Trustees are satisfied with the service that they receive. The Trustees pay them a portfolio management fee that is reviewed annually.
The remaining funds' investments, amounting to 3% of the total funds, are deemed too small to be managed by Investec and are held in the Trustees names. They are invested in gilt edged stock or UK collectives.

The Trust Capital Accounts now stand at £693,380 as opposed to £770,208 last year. Despite the £100,000 gift to the 150th Anniversary Appeal they are valued at £883,105 (2011: £896,511), an adjusted increase of 9.08% as opposed to a 5.80% increase in the APCIMS Balanced Income index.

Appendix 2

TRIBUTE PAID TO OUT-GOING PRESIDENT, SIMON DOUGHERTY,
by HON SEC, Norman PORTER

This is an appropriate time to pay all due tribute to our out-going President. Forgive me if I read this, but it is very difficult to speak and minute myself at the same time.
I've now been secretarial consort to six Presidents, including a rather incestuous 2 year relationship with myself, so I do have some idea of perspective.
My perspective of Simon's presidency is of a period of office which has been an illustrious one. We have been lucky to have enjoyed his full commitment in a period closely following on his retirement from a highly distinguished career in the Royal Air Force, and to have witnessed at first hand the qualities that took him to the top.
In thanking Simon for all that he has achieved I would like to pay particular tribute to four strands of that achievement:
1/ His clarity of strategic vision, coming as it does at a time when the future of the SOF is under discussion.
2/ His recognition of the importance of a close and constructive relationship with the College and with the staff there.
3/ His support for the College appeal in putting the weight of the Society behind it, together with his close interest in plans for celebrating the 150th anniversary
4/ His efficiency and sense of duty: he has attended virtually every function held by the SOF over his two years of office, and letters of thanks, condolence and congratulation have been written as if a matter of routine, but in a way that reflects well on the Society. His focused use of all sorts of digital gadgetry for the benefit of the OF cause puts me to shame! All of this he has done with the natural authority that emanates from his services background and which has so often been symbolized by his imperious wielding of the presidential gavel.

I would also like to thank Simon's wife, Maggie, who has loyally supported him on again, virtually every occasion, and to express my thanks to them both for their help and friendship to both Virginia and myself over this time.

Happily this is not a farewell. Simon will continue to be a Governor. He will continue to hold the challenging portfolio of Governor responsible for Health and Safety, and will continue to be a Moreau Selector. He has also undertaken to continue to organize Annual Dinners. Thank you, Simon, for introducing many of us to this splendid RAF Club.
We thank him for all he has done in the past two years as President and look forward to continued input in other capacities.

Happily too, we have an experienced successor, and committed OF in Richard Sayer, who is already closely involved in much of the work that we have been undertaking. I very much look forward to working with Richard.
I voice just one concern: that this, Richard's second term of office, comes to an end in March 2015, just 3 months before the culmination of our 150th celebrations in June 2015. We need to identify his successor sooner rather than later.
So congratulations to our outgoing President on a job well done, and a warm welcome to our incoming President, a worthy successor.