



# Old THE SOCIETY OF Framlinghamians

## MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY OF OLD FRAMLINGHAMIANS HELD AT THE RAF CLUB, PICCADILLY, LONDON ON TUESDAY 29 JANUARY 2019 AT 17-30

**Present:** John Ellerby (President – in the chair), Rene Bahar, Nigel Burnip, Simon Dougherty, Chris Essex, Abid Hamid, Chris Keeble, Peter Howard-Dobson, Nick Jacob, Tim Mitchell, Norman Porter, Luke Quartermaine, James Ruddock-Broyd, Richard Sayer, Brian Smith, Clive Smith, Michael Smy, David Turnbull, Andrew Wright, Archie Winter

### 1. Apologies

Andrew Baker, Richard Binder, David Carr, Andrew Cobbold, Bill Collard, Peter Coomber, John Edwards, Ruth Elwood, Andrew Fane, Jon Ford, Ian Foster, Richard Graves, Paul Langham, Barry Lorkin, JoJo Maberly, Ken Mayhew, Norman Mayhew, David Mitchell, Martin Myers-Allen, Richard Overend, David Pinney, Michael Powesland, John Rankin, Chris Sneath, Paul Taylor, Douglas Thomson, John Thurlow, Bob Williams, Colin Wigg

### 2. Minutes of the meeting of 20 October 2018 – these were approved.

### 3. Matters arising

- a. Heads of agreement on the use and ownership of OF data for a shared database with the College. This is still being worked on and is work in progress.
- b. Leavers data

Tim Mitchell has uploaded leavers data for both 2017 and 2018 so the website database is now up to date.

### 4. Yearbook

**The electronic yearbook.** Headmaster emailed on the 7<sup>th</sup> December to start the debate on whether the yearbook should be exclusively electronic with no printed version due to cost restraints. JE has followed this up with a view of received responses from the members to gauge what members felt. A total of 45 responses were received with a clear majority in favour of moving to an electronic version provided the option to request a hard copy remained. However, a number of very active OFs had voiced the opinion that several matters had not been clearly considered and that council members had not appreciated. (E.g. not enough emails from the data base were set to get a proper consensus, less tech savvy members not responding at all). It was therefore appropriate to debate the issue at Council. The discussion was opened to the Council for comments. **Brian S**; wanted to know when does it become uneconomical to print? Would people pay for it, with overseas leavers increasing, 710 since 1980s is this a factor to take into consideration as the postage is a substantial cost? **Luke Q** suggested that the Online version needs



# Old THE SOCIETY OF Framlinghamians

to be more appealing but prefers the printed version. **Peter HD** suggested that a digital specific version would be required over and above the online representation of a printed version and that two separate versions would be required **Simon D** confirmed that the technology already existed to do this. **Nigel B** commented that the college has already decided to go with the electronic version, so we should get some statistical information in terms of who reads it, and perhaps have an opt out option in place. **Norman**; what is the decision driven by? Cost if so would the Society look at a potential contribution? Postage costs are at £14K, £7k for overseas postage, which is a significant amount. Also a suggestion was made on a RSVP principle to see who is still interested in receiving it? **Chris E** suggested that if there was no response we could consider stopping the delivery. **Simon D**, suggested a UK wide flyer to acknowledge receipt by email or post so we have some statistics to understand the demand and receive some feedback from members.

A decision has already been taken with regard to overseas OFs. Those who left from 1980 onwards will receive an electronic copy by default unless they ask for a printed version. Those who left prior to 1980 will receive a hard copy by default though they can opt for an electronic version instead if they so choose.

In summary the President proposed that he approach the College to establish what their plans were for the development of a digital specific version of the yearbook with the view that if this were developed Council would look more favourably on a formal move to an electronic yearbook with an opt-in to a paper version for those OFs who still wished to receive one. This was agreed by Council.

## 5. Honorary OF rules

**Some background**; the society rules make a provision for teachers and members of the common room who have a minimum of 10 years' service to be eligible to qualify for membership of the society. The discussion was held around broadening the inclusion to all staff who have contributed to the college. It seemed to be highly discriminatory towards non common room staff, who may have worked at the college and contributed over 20 to 40 years who were not eligible to be members. JE received 14 responses to his question to members, with 11 in favour of expanding the remit, with 3 votes against.

**Norman**: we should receive recommendations for them the college, otherwise this would be difficult, as they should register any objections and not us. **Otherwise** suggested that we retain the Associated members option. **Richard S**; pointed out however that it is the gift of the Society and not the college. Several other members made comment including an objection to the proposal from Michael Smy. A vote was taken and barring 3 objections all others agreed to extending the eligibility to other members of the college staff.

## 6. Website/database



# Old THE SOCIETY OF Framlinghamians

The College have agreed a contract with the new providers of MIS – called Raiser's Edge, liaising with Peter Howard-Dobson and Tim Mitchell re implications for merging College and SOF databases.

PHD and TM continue to focus on ensuring the Society's requirements are fully accounted for. This is a welcome addition for the OF database and provides more flexibility in terms of how we can use the database. Comment was made on the merging of the database and how if required there is assurance that we can exit the combined database as well as ownership of that data. See also 3a.

With a significant focus in 2019 on the production of an enhanced electronic version of the yearbook it is unlikely that much progress will be made on merging the College and SOF websites this year.

## 7. Liaison

Kate Jackson apologised for being unable to attend but sent the following update:

### **Framlingham College Business Club Meeting**

Moray MacLennan, CEO of M&C Saatchi Worldwide hosting this event in London on 30th January and the College is hosting the next meeting on 15th February (8:30-10.00am). Richard Anscombe, CEO of Fram Farmers, is the guest speaker.

**1864 Club Lunch** - This will be held at Framlingham College on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019.

**SOF Annual Dinner and AGM** - On 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019 the SOF Annual Dinner will be held at Framlingham College. The arrangements have been organised by SD and KJ who had a meeting on 11/10/18 to discuss the Annual Dinner and clarify roles and responsibilities. TM sent out the first emails to OFs on the 05/01/19. OFs are starting to reply and KJ is recording all responses and replying to all guests.

**Suffolk Show** – this 2 day event will take place on the 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> May.

**OF Sports Day – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June** – the Saturday will be the normal sports day for OFs, hopefully cricket, tennis and hockey and perhaps with a barbecue or lunch in the Fowler Pavilion. There will be no marquee in order to save cost. RJS suggested the OFs could do their bit towards saving cost by making an entirely voluntary donation on the day towards the cost of the event. RJS would help find volunteers to collect say £10 from each attendee.

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June - Farewell to Paul Taylor for the College** – Paul Taylor has advised arrangements for the OF weekend in June. The day will be reserved for staff, both academic and support, (and families) from FC and FCPS to bid farewell to PBT with a barbecue and some cricket. Not an OF event.



# Old THE SOCIETY OF Framlinghamians

## ***SOF Merchandise:***

The SOF badges, designed by Chris Keeble have arrived safely at the College on 15/01/19.

Bella Singleton has been in touch with an update from her suppliers that scarves (silk twill, 67 x 67cm) have all been printed and are now being hemmed and pressed for delivery in February, in time for Spring!

## ***Marketing, promotion, publications of the SOF:***

The 2018 Framlinghamian Magazine is available online. Email and letters being sent to all overseas OFs to put them in the picture regarding the future of the Mag and to get an idea as to whether they would be happy with an online copy. KJ recording their views

## **8. Trustees' Report**

We had an annual review meeting with our investment managers Investec. Our investment returns over the last 12 months were -4.5% (net of fees) compared to -4.4% (gross of fees) benchmark. Therefore outperformed against benchmark even though drop in value. Significant restructure mid-year. Current value of combined portfolio is around £1.2m.

Investment strategy is medium risk with balance between income and growth. Any additional income needs will come from surpluses or asset sales. We agree our income requirements for 2019 would be met by income produced by Investec and use of surpluses.

We approved a further loan repayment of £50k from the SOF Charitable Trust.

We had carried out a review of OF multi-year prizes as those given in 2015 had now run full cycle. In consultation with senior OFs, Moreau Scholars & the College we decided that they should revert to single award. They had not proved effective in building greater involvement and were bureaucratic to administer. New initiatives have come along since their introduction e.g. young OF committee, OF sports weekend and decade reunions.

We were delighted to approved £500 each to support 2 students for a choir trip to Sorrento at the request of the Headmaster. We also agreed to provide Kit Hollingsworth and Kat Twentyman with £500 each to support projects they were planning to do in India and Tibet respectively.

We continue to discuss a number of longer-term initiatives with the College.

In terms of Trustees, John Ellerby was due to retire at the end of his second 4 year term on 31 March 2019. The Trustees approved him being reappointed for a further term, but he will be stepping down when he takes over as chair of FinOp at the College. Under AGM arrangements later on the agenda we will be asking for Council's approval for 2 new trustees to be appointed at the AGM.

## **9. President's business**



# Old THE SOCIETY OF Framlinghamians

The president welcomed everyone to his last Council meeting as President and advised that he was wearing one of the new SOF badges. These are available for purchase (via Kate Jackson) at a cost of £6.25. The new scarves will be available in February (£32).

Two main issues covered off already (Yearbook and Hon OFs). Chris has mentioned potential changes in Trustees. Other changes afoot. Ruth Elwood has volunteered to take on the role of Deputy Secretary for meetings outside London though we continue to look for someone to take over from Abid as Gen Sec and to cover off the London. He will continue in this role in the meantime.

The president has been in touch with the College with regard to the signage (in tribute to Derek and Yela Fowler) in the new Fowler Room at the Prep School. Andrew Payn is progressing this and they are comfortable they can do without the volunteered services of Chris Keeble. Proposal expected shortly.

Clive Smith intends to stand down as Sports Coordinator at the AGM and we are looking for a successor for him. Anyone interested please speak to Clive this evening.

CCF. Concerns were raised in the last minutes about CCF participation and the potential impact on the shooting fraternity at the College and potentially the Society. Martin Myers-Allen (MMA) responded to this note in the minutes and asked for his views to be shared with Council because he knows how much the CCF means to the alumni and they need to know that he is doing all that he can. He pointed out a number of changes in recent years: new units in the state sector, additional charges to Independent schools. In addition, commissions have been watered down, workloads massively increased, paid training days halved and many schools (not the College) have employed admin staff to cope with the bureaucracy. Many Heads are now questioning its worth and there is a shift to new youth organisations that keep the same traits - leadership, camaraderie and challenge - without the huge and increasing expense and bureaucracy that the CCF is burdened with today. This is one of the reasons for the set up of a comparable organisation at the College, Framlingham Rangers, which offers everything the CCF does without drill, military uniform and weapons and the parents seem far more at ease with this. Many just don't seem to see the relevance of the CCF today and new teachers often feel same. The CCF continues to be run by MMA (since 1996) and a handful of seasoned and loyal veterans and he is determined to modernise and keep it going. They may only be 150 strong, but still do some wonderful things against a huge headwind.

SOF/FC agreement. Council members will recall the historic agreement signed by the Society and the College which led to the Financial arrangement we have with them today. As stipulated in the agreement both parties undertook a review of the agreement after 4 years of operation and recently signed an Addendum confirming that the review had taken place, that both sides were happy with the arrangement and noting the agreement of a few minor procedural changes.



# Old THE SOCIETY OF Framlinghamians

OF Lodge. Brian Smith requested that an email be sent to all male OFs to raise the awareness of the Lodge and to encourage new members. The president is of the opinion that, if done at all, it is best done as a news digest item and sought Council approval. There was already an article and appeal in the 2018 yearbook.

The president noted a few 100 year OF birthdays coming up this year. Cmdr John Simpson (31 March), Jimmie Mayhew 22 November and Anthony Thornton on 9 December. John Simpson was not only an OF, but he was also a past -president of the Society and school governor in the early 80s. The College have agreed to host a party for family members at the school on his actual birthday. OF invitees to be determined though president unable to attend. There has been a member of the Simpson family at the College for each generation since George Simpson the opening in 1865 (family tree on the website).

Additionally, John Pemberton (Hon OF) and a master at Brandeston will be 100 later in the year.

The recent deaths of two OFs and one Hon OF was noted. Anthony Church (R51-57) died on 14 December at the age of 78. Richard Overend, a contemporary and close friend, Brian Evans and Kate Jackson, a friend of Anthony's daughter Suzannah, the current school nurse, attended the funeral.

Kenneth MacKenzie (K45-53), died on 23 October in Western Australia.

Shirley Robinson (Hon OF), a teacher at Brandeston for over 30 years died in December. As well as being the widow of Michael, a chemistry teacher at the College, she was the mother of OFs Nigel (G64-75), Martin (G67-77) and Jane (P78-79).

## **10. OF Activities**

### **Golf**

Full details including fixtures on the website.

### **Halford Hewitt 2019**

We have been drawn to play against Eastbourne (for the second year running!) at Royal Cinque Ports Golf Club, Deal on Thursday, 11th April at 3.20pm. Supporters are most welcome.

### **Spring Meeting 2019**

This will take place at Frinton Golf Club on Thursday, 9th May.

### **Grafton Morrish 2019**



# Old THE SOCIETY OF Framlinghamians

We are due to play in the qualifying stages of the tournament at Gog Magog Golf Club near Cambridge on Sunday, 12th May. The draw has yet to be made, but details will be published on the SOF website as soon as they are known. Support again would be most welcome.

## **Finances**

The Society, which is most grateful for the grant of £1700 from SOF, made a loss of £66 in 2018 compared with a loss of £82 in 2017. If we qualify for the Grafton Morrish knockout stages in 2019 this would add approximately £400 - 450 to our outgoings. The Accumulated Fund now stands at £3565.

The Young Persons' Fund, which gratefully received a grant of £500 from SOF, shows a balance of £2342. The Spring Meeting Auction raised £80 and the hoped for increase in donations in 2018 materialised with income rising by £190 to £720. Expenditure during the year amounted to £628, being costs incurred by two Young Persons at the Halford Hewitt, and there was a surplus of £674. Expenditure for 2019 is expected to be higher as two more talented leavers have joined the Society and are likely to feature in the Halford Hewitt, Grafton Morrish and other events.

## **SOF Refund**

It is pleasing to report that a sum of £1,775 has recently been repaid to SOF. This related to a generous payment made by SOF to OFGS in 2007 to make good funds of £1600 misappropriated by David Metcalf (OFGS Secretary at the time) and legal costs of £175 incurred by Jim Crosbie, OFGS Reporting Accountant, in trying to recover the money.

This repayment by Kingston County Court was most unexpected after a period of nearly 12 years and we are most grateful to the late Jim Crosbie's sister for arranging the cheque to be sent to us.

## **Shooting**

Both Sandy Walker and James Mehta have been selected for GB teams to compete in the World Long Range Championships in New Zealand.

## **11. Governors' Report**

“ SOF President John Ellerby takes over the role of Chair of FinOp this year, and Simon Dougherty becomes chair of the important Welfare sub-group. A new sub-group has now been formed – Marketing, with specialist marketing governor Sue Ashurst closely involved.

The average age of the governing body just got younger with the appointment of David Mallett and Claire Torrens (nee Bush). They are both OFs which brings the OF representation on the board close to its constitutional maximum.

Marketing activity has been considerable, with Katie Tassell making four overseas trips in the last few months and Deputy Head (Pastoral) travelling to HK, where he will liaise with resident OFs including Moira Theulier and Ian Howard.



# Old THE SOCIETY OF Framlinghamians

Incoming Head Louise North has made a number of visits to FC and to FCPS, meeting with staff and last week with parents at the PS. Changes are already being made to the FC website at Louise's suggestion.

## 12. AGM and forthcoming elections

Nominations to be submitted to the AGM –

**Trustees – for confirmation only:** Chris Essex, Peter Howard-Dobson and Michael Smy all continue to stand. John Ellerby to stand down. New Trustees: Alex Henney, Hetta O'Connor

**President:** Simon Dougherty

**Vice Presidents:** None proposed.

**Hon Sec:** Ruth Elwood for non-London meetings. Replacement sought for Abid Hamid who continues to stand until then

**Hon Treasurer:** Jenny Binder

**Finance Committee:** President, Trustees, Hon Sec, Hon Treasurer, Golf & Shooting organisers, supper and sport supremos, OF coordinator at the College, Chair and Vice Chair of Young OFs Committee.

**Independent examiner:** Ensors – as appointed by the College.

**Elected Council Members -3 year term:** Ele Williamson

**New Hon OFs:** Clare Collins (13 years), Constantinos Constanti (17 years) who had been missed before plus 10 year qualifiers Keely Ball (Year 4 teacher and Netball Coach at FCPS), Julia Tye (College Maths Teacher), Mark Lavery (House Master of Rendlesham House, Biology Teacher), Michelle Hewitt (Teaching Assistant at the College). Ruth Steggles declined follow up invitation having not responded before.

Deryck Cox (music master 1959-1974) proposed by Douglas Thomson

Martin Myers-Allen proposed Peter Hein (Cleaner/caretaker and part time Chauffeur since 1996 until 2016) and Gerry Grady (taxi driver at College, but not employed, for many years).

## 13. Future Meetings 2019



# Old THE SOCIETY OF Framlinghamians

Mon 18 Feb	Hong Kong supper (record turnout + 10 U30s)
Fri 10 May	Newmarket supper and Council meeting
Sat 6 April	AGM and Annual Dinner at the College
Tue 16 July	London supper and Council meeting, Farmers Club
Sat 19 October	Suffolk supper and Council meeting, College

## 14. AOB

Brian Smith made an appeal for new members for the OF lodge. He pointed out that the lodge would welcome none-male members, as when it was set up there were no females at the school and the communication between the lodge and the college has been negligible. He would like to improve this and encourage new members.

**Signed:**

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019

**President:**

**Name:** Simon RC Dougherty

**Ruth Elwood (Hon. General Secretary)**

**Email:** [honsec@oldframlinghamian.com](mailto:honsec@oldframlinghamian.com)