

**Minutes of the meeting of Council of the The Cathedralians Society held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 7.30 pm at the Newman Hall, Westbury-on-Trym.**

**PRESENT:**

David Baker, Eric Hopton (Chairman), David Langford, Richard McPhail, John Muse, Jimmy Newport, Roger Sharp, Ron Sims, Hugh Smith-Marriott, Peter Templar and Geoff Williams

**1. APOLOGIES:**

Apologies had been received from Neil Blundell, Martin Goodway, Roger Maggs and Hugo Pike,.

**2. IN MEMORIAM**

The Chairman reported the death on 18<sup>th</sup> September of Roger Britton (1950-1955). The Society was well represented at Roger's funeral on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at South Bristol Crematorium and at the reception afterwards at Brislington Football Club.

Those present stood and observed a minute's silence.

**3. SICK VISITING**

David Langford had nothing to report. Ron Sims advised that Philip Tolley (1941-1946) and Don James were both unwell and that he was hoping to visit them. Trevor George's wife had died in a boating accident.

**4. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON**

The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 3<sup>rd</sup> AUGUST**

Geoff Williams commented that he had made contact with Tim Rice and Don Black as possible speakers at the School's Prize Giving but when he had informed the School a speaker had already been engaged.

John Muse commented on the disposal of drinks which were not sold at the Cricket Day on 28<sup>th</sup> June. He had bought some surplus white wine and had paid the Treasurer for it. He enquired what had happened to the other drinks. Geoff Williams advised that the wine had been sold and orange juice and water had been given away. The Treasurer reported that the Society had recovered £15 of the £40 spent on drinks.

**6. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

In the absence of the Principal or a representative from the School no report was available.

**7. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS**

The selection of Officers for the coming year would be dealt with under Item 12.

**8. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer presented the Society's Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> August 2009 which would be submitted to the AGM on 13<sup>th</sup> October. The Treasurer advised that he was now seeking financial planning advice on the reinvestment of some of the Society's assets as agreed at the August Council meeting. He suggested that a proportion of the investments, particularly the money at the Building Society, could be put into long-term, higher interest investments, while leaving sufficient liquid funds to meet the Society's normal annual expenditure. Members asked the Treasurer to report back on his findings.

Members commented on the Henry Pyne legacy of £1000 which had not yet been passed on to the School. The Secretary agreed to contact the School to clarify the situation.

Eric Hopton enquired whether membership revenue had been affected by the change to Academy. The Treasurer responded that there had been no effect.

Members then approved the Society Accounts for presentation to the AGM

## 9. SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary reported that the mailing of The Cathedralian was scheduled to take place on 12<sup>th</sup> November. With it would be posted the President's message and Dinner Invitation and a copy of the revised Society Constitution and Rules. Society Members would be invited to approve the Constitution and Rules which would then be ratified at an Extraordinary General Meeting planned to precede a Council Meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> January. This mailing would also provide the opportunity to ask members to advise the Membership Secretary of changes to their details, particularly e-mail addresses.

## 10. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT

### Membership Secretary Report 05/10/09

Honorary Members	26	(27)	Death Trevor White (1982-2000)
Life Members	11	(11)	
Annual Members	259	(259)	New Geoffrey Boulton (1967-1972) Death Roger Britton (1950-1956)
25 Year Members	873	(873)	
10 Year Members	18	(18)	
Donors	<u>7</u>	<u>(7)</u>	
Total	<u>1194</u>	<u>(1195)</u>	

Deaths of two members, Trevor White (1982-2000) and Roger Britton (1950-1956) One new member.

A death of a non-member Richard William Harris (1959-1966) was reported.

280 e-mail addresses are on record and there are 180 members for whom we have no postal address. During the last two months I have received six updated e-mail addresses, three from non-members, and four new postal addresses. I wrote and sent an application form to the non-members and asked two of the other contacts for further information – one has replied!

This year 54 25Year Members come to the end of their membership. We have the contact addresses of 34. I have printed these out for Roger so that he can send reminders.

As yet there has been no response from the School regarding my request in July for the names, addresses and other details that would allow me to complete the database of 25 Year Members who have left School during the last academic year (2008-2009). We will need to send a welcome letter and copies of the Cathedralian and Directory to the new members when their details are known..

August 1<sup>st</sup> was a busy day contacting Society members and school staff on behalf of Zena to report the death of Trevor White. In fact Ron Sims had told me the news on the previous day. How the ex-Dean of Bristol and the Bishop's office got hold of my address to enquire after funeral arrangements remains a mystery. However I am glad to report that at least sixteen staff members, six of whom are Honorary Members, and eight Society members attended the very full St Nicholas Church at Portishead. I would like to read this short extract from a letter I received from Zena White.

Dear Peter,

Reflecting quietly on the service for Trevor I am wondering how I can express the family's appreciation for the love and support shown by so many Cathedralians, by their cards and letters and by the presence of so many on Tuesday. I was just amazed to see Roger Maggs and others (Hilary's face when she thought the Mayor had arrived!) but it was special to me to be surrounded by the staff for whom Trevor felt the greatest of affection.

Following up on the late news of the last meeting it has been confirmed that Tom Dascombe (1986-1989) will be taking his successful race horse training business at Lambourne north to the Manor House Stables in Cheshire owned by Michael Owen the Manchester United footballer in 2010.

Peter Templar

(Membership Secretary)

05/10/09

During discussion of Peter's report the Secretary advised that he had asked Martin Goodway to include a reference to Zena White's appreciation of the support she had received on Trevor's death in the President's letter to be included with the mailing of The Cathedralian.

## **11. REVISION OF THE SOCIETY'S CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

A final version of the revised Constitution and Rules (Constitution&Rules 180809.doc) was distributed to members. This version will be put to the AGM for approval and then circulated to the membership on 12<sup>th</sup> November, with 21 days notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting at which the new rules could be approved.

Discussion of Appendices 1 and 2 also took place. Members were advised that some detailed work was still needed on Appendix 1. John Muse offered to contact Martin Goodway to assist in finalising the text of Appendix 1 so that it can be endorsed by the Trustees and appended to the Constitution and Rules.

Appendix 2 could not be drafted until the terms of the new 15 year membership Scheme were known. To date 17 positive responses had been received from parents in favour of participating in a new scheme on behalf of their sons and daughters. The Secretary agreed to contact the Principal to find out what progress had been made.

## **12. PREPARATIONS FOR THE AGM TUESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

The Secretary reviewed the draft Agenda, highlighting the reports that were to be presented by members of Council. Re Item 4. as the Principal had sent his apologies the hope was expressed that the AGM would nevertheless receive a report from the School. The Secretary undertook to confirm this. Re Item 11. Martin Bracey would be presenting the Cricket Club Report. Re Item 12. Geoff Williams reminded members that Martin Milsom had not been formally granted Honorary Membership and that this should be done at the AGM. Geoff Williams proposed and Eric Hopton seconded the proposition that David Baker should be made an Honorary Member of the Society in recognition of his work over the past three years in support of the Society. The Secretary expressed surprise and sincere gratitude that he should be given such an honour..

Re Item 13. Election of Officers members discussed a number of possible candidates for the position of Incoming President for the year 2011-2012, the Society's Centenary Year. Members suggested that

Council's oldest member, Jimmy Newport should hold the office of President for that year. It was suggested that he could then hand over to the youngest President that the Society could find. This concept met with approval and Eric Hopton agreed to act as an alternative to Jimmy Newport if the need arose.

The Secretary suggested that future members of Council should be allocated to one of the sub-committees reporting back to Council.

### **13. THE WAY FORWARD - PROGRESS REPORT**

The meeting scheduled to take place at the School on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September had unfortunately been postponed as James Cowell was unable to prepare the multi-tiered strategy to address the objectives of the Way Forward as planned.

### **13. SOCIETY WEBSITE**

The Secretary reported that there was no one available to update the Society Website. The website was now registered with the Society. Richard McPhail offered to use his skills to update the site in conjunction with the Secretary.

### **14. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

a) Annual Reunion Dinner, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010

After discussion it was agreed that the price of tickets should be £30 for members and guests, £20 for recent leavers and £15 for members of the 6<sup>th</sup> Form. The cost of the dinner will be £30. Tickets for Top Table guests would be paid for by the Society. If champagne were to be offered as an incentive to members to form a table of ten then the cost would be borne by the President.

e) President's Skittles, Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2009

The location for the Skittles or Karaoke Evening was not known...

### **16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

a) The Secretary noted that there might be the possibility of a tour of the School on the night of the AGM,

### **17. DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting would be the Society AGM at the School on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30 pm in Room 23 of the Deanery. The next Council meeting would be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 pm at Newman Hall.

**There being no further business the Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and closed the meeting at 10.00 pm.**

**Signed.                      Chairman**

**Date .....**