

The Old Dy'vorian Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Wednesday, 6th March 2013 at 7-30pm in the Main Lecture Theatre at SMU Dynevor Campus

1) Present:

Iori Mort, Prof Dudley Sinnett, Peter Samuel, Ken Sharpe, Bill Gibbs, Phillip Davies, Steve Way, Keith Evans, Alun Griffiths, Noel Blows, Jim Waygood, David Dickinson, Graham Hanford, Brian Willis, George Sambrook, John S Thomas, Rob Cowley, Robert Craven, Godfrey Jones, Peter Macpherson

2) Apologies for Absence:

Keith Ferguson, Clem Williams, A Davies, Robert Barnes, Alan Sampson, Ednyfed Hudson Davies, Edgar McCarthy, Keith Morris, Dave Tovey, Colin Wood, Lionel Hopkins, Roger Beynon, Darrall Cozens, David Thomas, David Mendus, Phillip Gavey

3) Minutes of the 2012 AGM:

Accepted as read.

4) Matters Arising:

None.

5) Officers' Reports:

a) President:

Please find President's Report attached.

b) Secretary:

Please find Secretary's Report attached.

c) Treasurer:

Steve Way stated that about 55% of members had changed their subscriptions so far. The Annual Dinner surplus was down, and there was a slight increase in the cost of the Dinner. There was a Ties surplus because of the selling off of the old ties. The October Lecture expenses were down. The website expenses listed were from the cost of the old website. There were seven payments left to BSS, which would be met mainly out of the accounts. The accounts were accepted unanimously: proposed by Iori Mort, seconded by Peter Macpherson.

d) Webmaster:

In the absence of Dave Tovey, the report was presented by Keith Evans. Keith paid tribute to Dave Tovey's work in setting up the ODA website. The new site needed further work after being set up, and some issues were still being resolved. There was a requirement for volunteers, together with a new webmaster. Younger volunteers would be preferable, as there was a need to attract younger members. Regarding site activity, there had been over 1000 hits in three months from the inauguration of the new site, double the rate of the previous site, but only 82 hits had been confirmed as hits from members. Most of the site visitors were from the UK, but some were from overseas.

e) Editor of the Journal:

Peter Macpherson, who is stepping down as Editor after the publication of TOD 22 in March 2013, took the opportunity to recall some of the milestones of the Journal since its launch in September, 2002. He thanked all those who had given him support during his tenure as Editor, and made particular mention of Jim Waygood who had provided unstinting technical assistance. Peter extended his best wishes to his successor, Jeff Humphries, and looked forward to reading the electronic version of TOD on the Website in the future.

f) Membership and Recruitment:

Noel Blows reported that membership had increased by 35 to 617 to the end of 2012.

Geographically, members are widely spread with just over half living in Swansea; however, the age distribution of members shows a disappointingly low number of members from the Facebook and Twitter generation. He suggested that the Website might include a forum for the latter cohort to encourage social inter-action amongst them.

During the past year a number of Old Dy'vorians passed away, including Herbie Williams, Gareth Walters, Billy Hullin and Brian Kerlake; and our condolences go to their families and friends.

Noel retires at this AGM after 4 happy years trawling for new members and he took the opportunity to thank all those who had helped him in his efforts to recruit new members.

6) To Confirm Robert Howells as the Auditor to the Association:

Proposed by Steve Way, seconded by Jim Waygood. Unanimously accepted.

7) Proposal to Amend the Constitution:

In the absence of Edgar McCarthy, proposed by Phil Stone, seconded by David Dickinson. Bill Gibbs suggested that the Membership Secretary be an Officer not just a Committee member. There would be a quorum of six; Noel Blows suggested that the Secretary needed to ensure that a quorum was available before a meeting was held. There was consensus over the quorum: the Secretary, Treasurer, President or Vice-President needed to be present. It was agreed by the meeting to amend the Constitution.

8) Election of Officers:

President – Kevin Johns

Vice-President – Prof Dudley Sinnett

Secretary – Phillip Davies

Treasurer – Steve Way

Editor of the Journal – Jeff Humphries

Webmaster – to be decided at a later date

Membership and Recruitment – to be decided at a later date

All passed unanimously

9) Annual Dinner 2013:

Graham Hanford gave information about the Dinner. The Dinner application form was on the website. There was some discussion about the widows of members attending: Noel Blows suggested a common sense approach. The bar would close at midnight. The guest speaker would be Prof Peter Stead, historian, together with Kevin Johns.

10) Annual Lectures 2013:

The Spring Lecture would probably be held on 25 April, with Prof Garel Rees as the speaker. The October Lecture would have Gerald Gabb as speaker.

11) AOB:

Peter Macpherson stated that the chaplain of Swansea University had asked him to remind members of the lecture by Lord Griffiths on "Christianity and the Financial Crisis"

The Meeting closed at 9pm.
