**Minutes of the 123rd AGM of the Old Cliftonian Society**

**and the**

**Old Cliftonian Society Endowment Fund Trustees,**

**held online on Friday 13th November 2020, at 3.00pm**

**Present**: Members of the OC Executive, Lucy Nash, Jo Greenbury, Richard Clarke, Nick Greene, Robert Durie, John Rolfe, Karen Pickles, James Richards, Alex Polyakov, James Fox

**Apologies**: Charlie Newington-Bridges, Jeremy Walters, Tamsin Robertson, Locks Farmer

**Confirmation** **and approval of the minutes of the 122nd AGM 2019**: These were approved and will be signed at the earliest opportunity.

**Confirmation and adoption of the 122nd Annual Financial Report and Accounts 2019:** These were adopted and will be signed at the earliest opportunity. They have been published in the Magazine [OC Edition] 2020.

**The President’s remarks**:

Mark Eldridge reported that Covid had imposed a great deal of strain on the College, both in terms of delivering education and financially. The OC Society had been able to provide some financial support to parents in distressed circumstances, and also helped Jeremy Pickles to raise funds from OCs for PPE for local care homes and businesses.

He noted that a Memorandum of Understanding had been drawn up with the College which outlines the relationship between the Society and the College, highlighting the significant contribution made by the OCS to the overall ‘health’ of the school.

ME welcomed John Rolfe, the new Director of Development, who will overlap with Jeremy Pickles until he retires in 2021. He thanked all members of the Executive Committee, with special mentions for Myles Watkins [who had stepped up as Treasurer] and Ali Cole. He closed by thanking Lucy Nash and Jo Greenbury for all their efforts.

**The Chairman’s review of the year:**

Ali Cole reflected on a very strange year, and the dreadful impact of Covid in particular. OCs had obviously not been immune from the awful consequences of the pandemic. The Society had managed to continue to provide a service to the community, with a virtual reunion, virtual Careers Fair, virtual Remembrance Service and a predominantly online Magazine. Jeremy Pickles’ PPE initiative during lockdown had raised a huge amount from OCs, to everyone’s credit. Thanks were due to Matt Howard-Cairns and Charlie Newington-Bridges for handling the investment managers so effectively, meaning that the CCEF was in decent shape given the vicissitudes of 2020.

AC reported that the CCEF was currently supporting 10 scholarships and 8 bursaries; and that the emergency OCS fund of £100k had been applied to a further 8 bursaries for 2020/21.

The Chairman paid a special tribute to Bob Acheson, who retires as Editor of the OC Magazine after 12 magnificent editions. He will be sorely missed.

He thanked Jeremy Pickles and Laura Adams in the Development Office, and Mark Eldridge for his unstinting support and patience. Finally, he thanked Jo Greenbury and Lucy Nash for all their efforts, particularly in these virtual times.

The Society had managed to adapt and change in these strange and difficult times. It had shown resilience, done its duty and done ‘what is good’.

AC thanked the OCS for all it does, and was pleased and honoured to have been involved.

**Elections of officers**:

Ali Cole felt compelled to resign the Chairmanship due to a conflict of interest with his current commercial activities. He was duly thanked for his considerable service to the OCS, as a member of the committee, Treasurer and Chairman.

AC proposed Kate Holland-Smith to be the next Chair of the Society, seconded by Myles Watkins, to start on January 1st, 2021.

ME proposed Matt Howard-Cairns to be Vice-President, seconded by James Isaacs; and Seb Hoyle proposed Locks Farmer to be Vice-President, seconded by KH-S.

Myles Watkins proposed Alan Bailey to be a member of the Committee, seconded by MH-C.

All these elections were passed unanimously.

**Appointment of auditors:**

The proposal to re-appoint Bishop Fleming as auditors was unanimously agreed.

**AOB**

1. It was agreed that the date of the next AGM in 2021 would be agreed and posted on the website before Christmas.
2. Richard Clarke thanked Ali Cole for all the sterling work he had done for the Society over many years.