



THE RUSKIN COLLEGE FELLOWSHIP

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2013 AT RUSKIN COLLEGE, HEADINGTON, OXFORD

1. **PRESENT:** Pauline Hamilton (Chair), Richard Maher, Reg Andrews, Jill Watts, Rod Havercroft, Bob Anderton, Frank Simkins, Chris Bussell, Debbie Hollingsworth, Jenny New, John Hurlston, Elcena Jeffers, Peter Twaites, Ruth Twaites, Roger Dyas-Elliott, Angela Potts, Shaun Green, Monica Clarke, Art Wright, Joan Brodie, John Inglis, Nigel Smith, Michael Rogers, Alan Shepherd (sec).
2. **APOLOGIES:** Carol Raine, Muriel Sawbridge, Van Coulter, Mary Spreadbury, Kath Oakley, Maggie Dunn, Sally Courtney, William Patience, Joy Kirenga, Owen Murphy, Rosie Gardener, Ken Fuller, Brian Smith, Angie Jeffrey, Karen Ridley, Teresa Lefort, Anne Sieve, Prof Audrey Mullender, Larry Giles.
3. The President welcomed all members and said what a good day the first day of the Reunion weekend had been.
4. **TO AGREE THE MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 28 OCTOBER 2012:** It was pointed out that, under item 2 'Apologies received', the name 'Wendy Moorehouse Jones' should read 'Wendy Moorehouse *Johns*'. With this amendment the minutes were **AGREED** a correct record.
5. **MATTERS ARISING:**
 - i. Treasurer's Report (min 4iii refers): The secretary stated that this year's Treasurer's Report could be compared to figures for the last four years when considering the Officers' Reports later in the meeting. NOTED
 - ii. Code of Ethics (min 5i refers): It was reported that this had been implemented during the year but EC meetings had not required its use. NOTED
 - iii. "Working Together" (min 5ii refers): It was reported that this task had not been completed and that the task would be carried over to next year. NOTED
 - iv. Sharing work on the EC (min 5iii refers): It was reported that this resolution had been partly successful. NOTED
 - v. Moving the Reunion to another time of the year (min 7i refers): This issue was discussed but there was no proposal for change forthcoming from the 2013 AGM.
 - vi. College Records(min 7ii refers): Jenny New asked for an update on this issue. It was reported that the College Governing Executive had discussed this issue at length at its meeting in November 2012. A policy document on the management of College records had

been developed and was under discussion. It was **AGREED** that the Fellowship write to members of the Governing Executive of the College stating the Fellowship position, noting that a policy is being prepared and expressing the hope that similar circumstances cannot arise in the future. The resolution was passed unanimously.

6. **OFFICERS' REPORTS:**

- i. The President gave a verbal report. NOTED
- ii. The Deputy President gave a verbal report. NOTED
- iii. A written Officers' Report was tabled. Issues arising from the report were as follows:
- A brief discussion took place on point 1, which considered the Fellowships Constitutional Aims. It was **AGREED** that the EC consider the Aims and report back to next year's AGM with amendments as appropriate.
 - The Treasurer's Report was received as part of the Officer's Report. The current balance stood at £7,165.
 - It was reported that there had been 15 new members recruited over the year.
 - Angela Potts developed the report on the College Council.
 - A minute's silence was held for absent friends:

Absent Friends

Harold Dunning, b Oct 1919, Ruskin 1954-56, d March 2013
Margaret Powell, b February 1928, Ruskin 1970-72, d 2013
Catherine Law, b Oct 1928, Ruskin 1960-62, d July 2013
John Goode, b Feb 1939, Ruskin 1972-74, d 2011
Norman Robson, Ruskin 1966-68, d March 2013
Derek Sawbridge, b 1935, Ruskin 1963-64, d 2011
Jim Mortimer, b 1921, Ruskin 1945-46, d April 2013
Bill (Lord) McCarthy, b July 1925, Ruskin 1953-55, d Nov 2012
Stephen Newman (Vice Chair, Ransackers' Association), b Feb 1939, Ruskin 2005, d Jan 2013
Brian Kelly, b. Jan 1956, Ruskin 1989-91, d. April 2013. Member of College Council and BECTU

- The Fellowship wished to record its thanks to Stuart Maidment, Kieron Winters, Angela Auberoy, Carol Newbury, Ed Hart.

REPORT RECEIVED

7. **RESOLUTIONS AND ANY PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION:** Debbie Hollingsworth raised her concerns at the low number of attendees at this year's Reunion. She proposed that the EC took action to develop activity at local level in the Regions. Such activity should be of a "social and engaging nature" and not based on formal meetings.

It was resolved to identify a single region and organise a 'social and engaging' event to test the strength of local participation in the Fellowship. If successful the event would provide a model for other local groups. **AGREED**

8. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

i. **President:** There were two nominees:

Richard Maher nominated by Bob Anderton; seconded by Reg Andrews
Elcena Jeffers nominated by Pauline Hamilton; seconded by Frank Simkins

Both candidates gave a brief presentation. A secret ballot was held. The result was:
R. Maher 14 votes; E Jeffers 8 votes
Richard Maher was duly elected President for the year 2013/2014.

ii. **Vice President:** Chris Bussell was nominated by Debbie Hollingsworth and seconded by Richard Maher. There being no other candidate, Chris was returned un-opposed.

iii. **Secretary:** Alan Shepherd was nominated by Debbie Hollingsworth and seconded by Bob Anderton. There being no other candidate, Alan was re-elected.

iv. **Membership Secretary:** Elcena Jeffers was nominated by Richard Maher and seconded by Angela Potts. There being no other candidate, Elcena was re-elected.

v. **Treasurer:** It was confirmed that Sally Courtney, the College's Director of Finance, would continue as Treasurer.

vi. **Newsletter Co-ordinator:** A brief discussion took place around this post and, as the two jobs were closely aligned, it was AGREED that newsletter co-ordination be carried out by the Secretary.

vii. **Ordinary members (maximum 11 members):**

- 1 Pauline Hamilton: Nominated by Angela Potts, seconded by Elcena Jeffers
- 2 Debbie Hollingsworth: Nominated by Chris Bussell, seconded by Alan Shepherd
- 3 Jill Watts: Nominated by Alan Shepherd, seconded by Debbie Hollingsworth
- 4 Roger Dyas-Elliott: Nominated by Frank Simkins, seconded by Alan Shepherd
- 5 Karen Ridley: Nominated Debbie Hollingsworth, seconded by Chris Bussell
- 6 Frank Simkins: Nominated by Art Wright, seconded by Richard Maher
- 7 Bob Anderton: Nominated by Alan Shepherd, seconded by Richard Maher
- 8 Jenny New/Teresa Lefort (Ransackers 'job share'): Self nom. Seconded by Alan Shepherd

There being no further nominations, the above named members were elected to the E.C. for the coming year.

viii. **Vice Presidents for Life:** There were no new nominations.

ix. **Staff Members:** To be chosen by College staff. It was reported that there were no current nominations

x. **Student Members:** To be chosen by the Ruskin College Students Union (RCSU). It was reported that there were no current nominations.

xi. **Any other specific task officers:** It was reported that there were no nominations for this category of E.C. member.

9. **DATE OF 2014 AGM:** Consideration was given to the date of the 2014 AGM and Reunion. The lower numbers attending this year's event was commented on, along with the fact that this year's Reunion had been held earlier in September than in previous years. It was **AGREED** to hold the 2014 Reunion on the weekend of 19/20/21 September assuming that the College was available to the Fellowship. If those dates were problematic, then the weekend of 12/13/14 September would be requested.

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

i. The AGM was requested to give the Executive Committee a 'steer' in terms of the content of the 2014 Reunion. Three possible topics had been raised over the weekend; a commemoration of the 1984/85 Miners' Strike on the 30th anniversary of this major event in labour history; the major current issue of the environment and climate change; a commemoration of the start of World War 1, the centenary of which would be in 2014. The 'steer' provided by the AGM was as follows:

- The Miners' Strike: To discuss with Ian Manborde the development of an exhibition that would highlight the key events during the strike.
- The Environment: That this would be the main topic for discussion on the Saturday afternoon.
- World War 1: The AGM expressed its wish to commemorate rather than celebrate the events of the war. It was proposed that, as part of the Saturday evening social, a session of readings of the War Poets would be organised.

NOTED

ii. Roger Dyas-Elliott raised the point that there was no public telephone on site at Headington, which made things difficult for those people who did not have a mobile telephone. It was **AGREED** to take this up with the College.

iii. It was noted that easy access to telephone numbers for taxi companies was not available in the College. It was reported that numbers had been accessed from the Headington Community Centre, which is opposite the College on Dunstan Road. It was **AGREED** to look into this with the College.

11. There being no further business the AGM closed at 12.25pm.

President

Date