

JOHN FISHER OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

AGM 27th October 2016

At Purley John Fisher Sports Club.

Present: S Drury M Drury B Whicher D Ponikwer A Meade R Cebreiro, J Dobby, R Whicher, P Bermingham, G Woodham, Jas Weir, C de'Ath, N Hamilton, J Bennett, P Liddiard, P Edwards, S Neale, N Kenny, S O'Reilly, Neil Ockenden plus 7 proxies.

1 The Chairman welcomed the members to a very important meeting in the Association's history

2 Apologies for Absence M Thelwell, Tony Hazeldine, P Richards, Fr A Lovegrove, P Watson, M Salmon, P Buttress, A. McHugh, K. Ockenden, Tony Ockenden.

3 Minutes of previous AGM were agreed.

4 There were no matters arising

5 Chairman's report: Please see attached.

6 Treasurer's Report: Sadly, our treasurer Mike Farrin died last year and we had not so far found a replacement. Michael Drury had produced the accounts up to September 2015. Lloyds Bank were being very difficult with regard to changing signatories on the bank account in spite of our best endeavours. A problem for the new committee to sort out. The accounts were approved.

7 The following officers resigned: S Drury as Chairman and M Drury as Secretary and from the committee.

8 Election of Officers

Chairman: R Cebreiro was elected unopposed.

Secretary: There were no candidates

Treasurer: Richard (Cebreiro) suggested Tom Pacey and would ask him.

Membership Secretary: No candidates.

The meeting agreed that R Cebreiro could choose the officers but they would have to be approved by the Trustees.

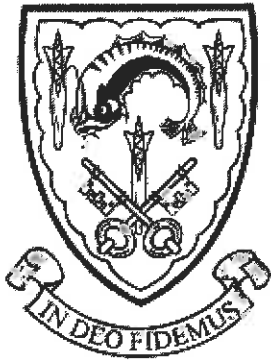
Richard then proposed a vote of thanks to Simon & Michael Drury and to Mike Thelwell for all their work over many years.

9 Motions for the AGM.

- i) To Authorise the committee and Trustees to enter substantive negotiations with the proposed development company for the joint development on the existing grounds at Hamsey Green and transfer of the Clubhouse and grounds to connected plot. Bryan Whicher then gave a summary of the possibilities for this proposal. (See copy attached). The meeting then gave formal approval for negotiations to begin and it was stated the Countywide Developments would deposit £30,000 into our bank account to cover legal and planning costs.
- ii) To close the 30 section and absorb it back into the association.

Both motions were approved without dissent.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.55pm



The John Fisher School Old Boys Association

AGM 27th October 2016

Chairman's Report

27th October 2017

I have been chair of the old boy's association for just about 10 years, only 7 more than envisioned under the constitution.

This year Richard Cebreiro is standing as candidate to take on that mantle and I am sure he will have everyone's support.

Subsequent to special General meetings in November 2001 and January 2003, the current structure of the Association and Sports club evolved with the Sports Club being responsible for Sporting activities at the clubhouse in Limpsfield road and the Association being responsible for Whole association matters, including the letting of the clubhouse to the sports club as well as association events such as the Mass of remembrance and Annual Dinners.

The various clubs / sections run with varying levels of autonomy but come together under the overall umbrella of the Association.

Those clubs / sections being: The 30 Section, The John Fisher Sports Club, Purley John Fisher RFC and the Golf section.

The mission statement laid out and adopted subsequent to the 2003 Special general meeting was:

John Fisher Old Boys Association Mission Statement

The Association's primary objective is to foster a strong spirit of union amongst past pupils and friends of the John Fisher School.

To provide a point of contact for old school friends through our newsletter and to organize social functions.

To promote the welfare of the school

To carry on the religious ethos of the school through Eucharistic celebrations such as the annual mass of remembrance and the mass for the feast of St John Fisher.

I have attempted, with variable levels of success, to foster these intentions and I hope that the association can, going forward, be more successful in managing each area.

My belief is that the Association and its sections are part of the wider community of the school and it is important that we are able to contribute to the wellbeing and success of the school and vice versa.

I am pleased to say that Andrew Dean who is part of the school leadership team, is keen to work with the old boys and with the blessing and enthusiasm of Philip McCullagh (headmaster) to help improve connections with the Alumni, something that must surely be beneficial for the whole community.

In addition to seeking to follow the mission statement, it also falls to the committee to manage the assets of the old boys both tangible and intangible.

It is through the efforts of many old boys, past and present, that we own our own ground and clubhouse in Hamsey Green, we have a possible opportunity to make changes there to provide improved facilities for future generations of John Fisher Old Boys and we will debate that tonight but, we must also appreciate and honour the legacy left us and the efforts made on behalf of the association by so many past pupils.

It has become very clear this year that we need to keep a much closer eye on what happens at the clubhouse and become far more involved and I hope there are resources within the membership to help us do that.

This year will very much represent a changing of the guard with Mike Thelwell and Michael Drury (Dad) retiring from the committee. They have been stalwarts of the committee since that special general meeting in 2001 but also invaluable contributors to the association for more than 50 years. I thank them and we should all thank them for everything they have done for the Old Boy's.

Last year we sadly lost our great friend and trusted treasurer Mike Farrin when he lost his battle with Cancer, I doubt there was anyone in the association who didn't know Mike and that was demonstrated by the huge number of Old Boy's at his Funeral Mass in the School Chapel.

I am keen to give Richard whatever support he needs and I urge anyone who can, to stand up and take on some responsibility within the association, the more hands there are to help, the easier it is for everyone and the more varied the opinions and input to discussion.

It would be fantastic if, at this AGM, we could fill the vacant positions of Secretary, Treasurer and Membership, we should also be looking for a vice chair. None of the roles are onerous unless left to one or two people, but even if you don't want to take an office, please think about simply joining the committee to help where you can be that communications and database, legal advice, property advice everyone has something to contribute.

To conclude let me re-iterate my thanks to Mike and Dad for all their hard work. Let me also thank Bryan Whicher who has put in a huge amount of work in looking after the clubhouse and acting as Trustee. Thank you to Duncan Ponikwer, Tony Meade and Richard Cebreiro who have not only helped on the committee but have this year taken on the roles as Trustee of the Association alongside Bryan. My thanks also to John Albertini who retired as Trustee this year due to ill health, another member who has given incredible service over many years. Our posthumous thanks and prayers are with John Dodwell, previous trustee, who we lost just a matter of weeks ago.

It has been my honour to be the Chair for the past 10 years and it has afforded me first-hand validation of what a great community of Old Boys we have and how important that community is to so many, especially those spread across the globe who are always keen to hear news. It is for all former John Fisher Boys to shape and participate in the future of the association, can I urge everyone to contribute as they can and to give Richard their full support.

Kind regards,

Simon Drury – 27th October 2016

The Quorum for the AGM is 20 Members and the Details of the Motions are:

- i. **To authorise the committee and trustees to enter substantive negotiations with the proposed development company for the joint development on the existing grounds at Hamsey Green and transfer of the Clubhouse and grounds to connected plot.**

In the midst of a completely separate discussion, Bryan discovered and further explored a potential opportunity for a residential development on the club grounds and premises in Hamsey green and brought it to the committee.

Because of changes by central government and the requirement for additional housing, councils are able, under certain conditions, to give development permission on Green Belt land. The opportunity has arisen for a potential land swap to enable us to take over a larger plot of land to the rear of the existing premises and move the clubhouse and grounds to there.

Despite the considerable efforts of the Sports Club to maintain the existing clubhouse and grounds, the truth is it needs substantial funds (which we don't have) spent upon it and the size of the field means and the drainage on a large portion of it, means that we can only have three pitches, they are frequently unavailable due to water logging, we cannot maintain a decent cricket square and we cannot afford to install all weather facilities.

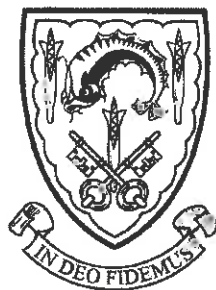
There are still a number of hurdles but, if permission was granted, the facilities that we could create on the new land with our share of the development proceeds, would enable a far more sustainable model for the Association clubhouse and grounds. There would be the realistic prospect of bringing the sporting sections back together on the one site with sufficient facilities for everyone, there is potential for all weather pitch(es) and a clubhouse with new and larger facilities making it far more attractive for private hires and sustainable use of all the facilities, throughout the week by the local community, whilst providing full required use for training and matches for all the sports sections. We could re-energise this as the home of the 'John Fisher School Old Boys Association' and it could be a venue where we could hold our annual events and regular meetings for all sections.

There is still a long way to go but we have established an agreement with a potential development partner and we are now looking for the approval of the association membership to move to a more substantive negotiation.

- ii. **To close the 30 section and absorb back into the association.**

As I understand it, The 30 Section was formed because the Association was generally considered to be a union of the sporting sections and there was little activity within the association once members had stopped playing sports.

The 30 section was so named as it was formed for those members who had left the school over 30 years previously. That probably constitutes the bulk of the current registered members and both the 30 section and association committees believe we can achieve more collectively and that there is no benefit to the 30 section being a separate section.



JOHN FISHER SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

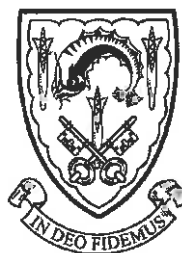
7.00 p.m. Thursday 27th October 2016

at

The Purley John Fisher Sports Club,
Parsons Pightle, Coulsdon Rd, Old Coulsdon CR5 1EE.

AGENDA

1. Opening Remarks / Welcome by the Chairman
2. Apologies for Absence.
3. Minutes of previous AGM
4. Matters Arising.
5. Chairman's Report
6. Treasurer's Report
 - i) Adoption of accounts
7. Resignation of Officers.
8. Election of Officers:
 - a) Chairman
 - b) Secretary
 - c) Treasurer
 - d) Membership secretary
9. Motions for the AGM
 - i) To authorise the committee and trustees to enter substantive negotiations with the proposed development company for the joint development on the existing grounds at Hamsey Green and transfer of the Clubhouse and grounds to connected plot.
 - ii) To close the 30 section and absorb back into the association.
10. Any other business



John Fisher Old Boys' Association

Income & Expenditure Account

Year ended 30th September 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Subscriptions	698	711
Rent	1200	975
Other Income	1520	10
	<u>3418</u>	<u>1696</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Printing, Advertising & stationery	114	20
Postage		173
Web Site		
Catering for Annual Dinner	1,356	
Sundries	19	90
	<u>1,489</u>	<u>283</u>
	1,929	1,413
Add Balance b/fwd	12,358	10,945
	<u><u>£14,287</u></u>	<u><u>£12,358</u></u>
represented by:		
Bank balance at 30th September	<u><u>£14,287</u></u>	<u><u>£12,358</u></u>