

**Committee Minutes**

Wed 12th January 2011

1. **Call to Order**

**Neil Bichard** called to order the regular meeting of the **Old Bournemouthians’ Association Committee** at 19:30 on Wed 12th January 2011 at the West Hants Club.

1. **Register**  
   **Present:**

Neil Bichard (NB)

Simon Hird (SH)

David Sidwick (DJS)

John Underwood (JU)

Ian Underwood (IU)

Amir Sadeh (AJS)

Patrick Stokes (PS)

Graham Jones (GJ)

Phil Brightwell (PB)

Alan Carver (AC)

Keith Bichard (KB)

**Apologies:**Dorian Lewis, John Davis, Eric Sidwick, Malick Kudmani

1. Approval of previous minutes:
   * 1. Committee meeting – 4th Sept 2010
     2. AGM – 6th Oct 2010
     3. EGM – 25th Nov 2010

All minutes were approved by those present

1. **Matters Arising**
   * 1. Committee meeting – 8th Sept 2010

From 10th Sept 2009:

Action: **NB** to contact **AS** regarding June 2010 minutes

Result: Given the time elapsed, this will no longer be pursued

Action: **Stephen Viney** to source commemorative plaque within cost budget of £50.00 and arrange opening ceremony, etc.  
Result: Ongoing

Action: **Lewis Wedgewood** to brief meeting re: Yearbook proposal  
Result: **LW** has since left the School – **SH** noted that this was discussed at the EGM and that in the absence of an approach from the Yearbook committee the Association should open discussion. **JU** to email **DL** to suggest similar terms to last year (full sponsorship in exchange for 30 new OBA members).

From 25th November 2009:

Action: **AJS** and **Ross Parker** to discuss the need for and content of a privacy policy for the website.  
Result: a policy is not currently required of us

Action: **DJS** to liaise with **DL** and **BJS** concerning the updating of the memorial.  
Result: **DJS** to follow up with **DL** about principle

From 8th Sept 2010:

Action: **SH** to refund non-members differential to **John Hawkins**’party in respect of 2009 Annual Dinner.  
Result: Done.

Action: **SH** to redouble efforts re: advertising 2010 Annual Dinner on Facebook.  
Result: No longer relevant.

Action: **NB** to provide **DL** with text for OBA promotional flyer by 14th September 2010.  
Result: Done

Action: **DL**/**NB** to raise prospect of guided tours of the School for OBs in their speeches at 2010 Annual Dinner.  
Result: Bears further consideration; carried forward

* + 1. AGM – 6th Oct 2010

No matters arising

* + 1. EGM – 25th Nov 2010

Action: **SV** and **DL** to consider ways that the OBA could increase its visibility in the school through sports and academic sponsorship.  
Result: Ongoing

Action: **Mike Owen** to liaise with **DJS** re: approaching **James Balfour** to speak at Annual Dinner 2011  
Result: **DJS** now has **James Balfour**’s email address

Action: **SH** to speak with **RP**  to investigate ways to make it easier for members to post articles on the OBA website.  
Result: **SH** reported that posting privileges are available on request, although articles can still be sent to **RP** for publication.

Action: **Jack Cutler** to be made an administrator for the OB Faceboook group to grow the concept of year group and area champions for the wider OB community.  
Result: Done

Action: **SV** to contact local football team with 90% OB membership to establish whether they could form the core of a new OBA team  
Result: Ongoing – **SV** not present

Action: Vote at next Committee meeting on whether **DJS** should act as Vice-Chairman for 2010-11 pending the next AGM  
Result: In the absence of any other candidate, **DJS** was confirmed as Vice-Chairman

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Report from **SH** as follows:

Since the start of the financial year:

1. We have paid £173.01 to cover the cost of the printing, stationary and postage of the letter sent to the membership about the EGM, and
2. £35.50 to the West Hants Club for refreshments at the EGM.
3. We have received £251 in subscriptions.

Unfortunately I have still not had time to investigate a suitable, safe investment for a proportion of the Associations funds as requested at the previous committee meeting on 7th April. Consequently they remain in our usual Barclays bank accounts. As of 24th December 2010, the balance of these accounts stands at:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| * Barclays Business Premium Account | £7,432.67 |
| * Barclays Community Account | £1,656.64 |
| * **Total** | **£9,089.31** |

The Association remains in a healthy financial position.

1. **Membership Report**

**GJ** reported that membership continues to gradually increase, with a current total of 462 active/semi-active members (compare 453 as of September 2010). **AC** suggested that potential Tennis players could be sourced by using the membership database to find members with local postcodes, although younger OBs may well have recently left for university and kept their home address. Action: **GJ** to investigate.

1. **Newsletter**

There has been no new edition of the Bournemouthian since the last meeting, and **GJ** reported that contributions remain few and far between – **PS** volunteered to contribute an article for the next edition.

1. **New Media**

The Committee noted that **Jack Cutler**, who was co-opted onto the Committee at the EGM, does not appear to have taken any action in this area

1. **Sports Activities**
   * 1. **Golf** – given the time of year, there was little to report.
     2. **Cricket** – **Mike Owen** (Treasurer and acting Chairman) was insistent at the EGM that the Club was capable of being self-sufficient. However, in the absence of the promised revised playing budget and given the fact that no subs were returned during the last financial year, **SH** has no remit to provide the Club with any funding until after the next Committee meeting. NB Since the meeting, Malick Kudmani has apologised for the lack of Cricket Club representation and confirmed that he will be returning to the UK in April and will attend all Committee meetings from then on.
     3. **Tennis** – **AC** reported that OBA Tennis is currently in a Catch-22 situation given the difficulty of attracting players without having courts booked on specific dates, but the risk involved in booking courts before players have committed.
2. **Memorial Foundation**

The **OBA Memorial Foundation** exists to provide small grants to worthy causes connected to the school, eg. to buy textbooks etc for alumni in financial difficulties. The Foundation’s funds are estimated to stand at c.£18,000-20,000 (estimate – **GJ**) but are not accessible since none of the former trustees remain involved with the Association. It is believed that the three Trustee positions were originally held by the Headmaster and two members of the Committee including the Chair.

**Action:** **DJS** to contact former Committee member **Jim Green** with aim of discovering the identity of the current Trustees

1. **Annual Dinner**

**DJS** mooted the possibility of the Dinner moving from the Queens Hotel - although the committee were reasonably happy with the Queens Hotel however it was felt that other alternatives could be explored which fit the Association’s criteria (cabaret style seating for 160 with top table, microphone and separate rooms available for pre-dinner socialising). Suggestions:

Carrington House Hotel

Wessex Hotel Action – **KB**, **IU** (Dinner Secretary shadows) to enquire

BIC Pavilion

**Action**: DJS to hold Queens Hotel in the meantime.

Suggestions for speaker included James Balfour (Fitness First scion; see above), Alex James (musician) and Christian Bale (Batman). The Committee noted that VAT increases would erode the event’s profitability for the Association, but **GJ** pointed out that the Dinner has not always been required or even expected to make a profit. The prospect of a biennial price increase was discussed but not confirmed.

Action: **DJS** to continue his research and report at next meeting.

1. **Any Other Business**
   * 1. **JU** asked the Committee whether it would greatly inconvenience any members to move future meetings from Wednesday to Thursday evenings, to facilitate his commute from London on the requisite dates. The Committee agreed to make this change and future meeting dates were adjusted accordingly.
2. **Dates of forthcoming meetings**

**17th March**

**9th June**

**8th September**

(All to be held at 19:30 at the West Hants Club, subject to management’s continued willingness to provide the meeting room free of charge.)

**Minutes submitted by:** John Underwood

**Minutes approved by:** David Sidwick