

TRINITY HALL ASSOCIATION

96th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 24th September 2011

Held in the Graham Storey Room, Trinity Hall, at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

In the Chair: Ms Sarah Webbe, retiring President

1. Some forty members were in attendance. Apologies had been received from Mr Martin Ansley-Young, Ms Katerina Biliouri, Mr Andrew Burr and Mr Michael Womack.
2. Election of President: as her last action as retiring President, Ms Sarah Webbe proposed Dr Nigel Chancellor as her successor in the role. Dr Chancellor was seen to blanch at the words 'I have his CV here'. She commented on one unusual aspect of it in that a military career had been followed by a commercial career, both prior to studying for a first degree in History followed by a PhD, concluding with the statement that she could not think of anyone as well connected to the Hall or as committed to it. Her proposal was seconded by Mr Richard Wright and Dr Chancellor was elected *nem con*.

At this juncture Dr Chancellor assumed the chair. Sarah Webbe stepped down from the Committee after fourteen years and after five years as THA President.

3. Election of Officers:
 - (a) Secretary: Dr Chancellor proposed that Dr Chris Angus should succeed Mr Colin Hayes as Secretary of the Association. Dr Angus was elected *nem con*.
 - (b) Vice President: Dr Chancellor referred to the increased workload of the committee and proposed that Mr Colin Hayes should be appointed as Vice President of the Association. This proposal was seconded by Mr Bob Ely and Mr Hayes was elected *nem con*.
4. Election of Committee Member: in proposing Mrs Juliet Day for election to the Committee, Dr Chancellor referred to the fact that she was a resident of Cambridge and Development Director of the University Botanical Gardens and that she would bring youth and enthusiasm to the Committee. The proposal was seconded by Ms Webbe and Mrs Day was elected *nem con*.
5. The Minutes of the 95th Annual General Meeting held on 25th September 2010, having been circulated in the College Newsletter, were duly approved and signed by the President. There were no matters arising.
6. Secretary's Report: Mr Colin Hayes, as outgoing Secretary, spoke briefly to the main points of his report which had been published in the Newsletter and made available with the Agenda. He indicated that the Association was working harder to reach alumni

around the UK, and indeed further afield, choosing regional venues that are interesting in their own right to increase the attractiveness of the event and in alternate years holding a London event in a 'sensational venue' – a pattern that the Committee wished to continue. He gave thanks to the endowment from Dennis Avery which has also allowed us to institute the THA Awards and the Careers Seminar – found increasingly interesting and useful by current students.

Mr Hayes was asked to give some idea of the support for regional events [the numbers attending were included in the accounts that had been circulated].

7. In the absence of the Financial Officer Mr Colin Hayes spoke briefly to the Statement of Account for the year ending June 2011 which had been circulated prior to the start of the meeting. He stated that the Association was blessed with an exceedingly able treasurer and indicated that there had been a deliberate overspend in 2010/11, in part compensating for previous underspend and in part because 'London years' are expensive years. He indicated that in future budgets would be set over a two year period and stated that the Association's finances were very sound.

In answer to a question on the high level of subsidy for the 2010 Cambridge Dinner Mr Hayes stated that a substantial part of the of that subsidy resulted from the cost of mailing the whole body of alumni – a cost which had been borne by the Association. The size of the mailshot was seen as a mistake and in future maximum use would be made of email. In answer to a supplementary question it was stated that the alumni office have email addresses for somewhat over 60% of the alumni body.

A question was raised about whether, in the current financial situation, the Association should be overspending. In answer it was stated that the intention was to balance the books over a two to four year period. It was also pointed out that, although the current world situation is very worrying, our endowment is held by the College and managed as a part of their endowment – which had outperformed all other Colleges, rising in recent years from about £70 million to over £100 million.

8. There being no other business, the President closed the meeting at 7:00 pm.