TRINITY HALL ASSOCIATION

101st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 24th September 2016

Held in the Lecture Theatre, Trinity Hall, at 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

In the Chair: Mr Colin Hayes, President

1. Some twenty six members were in attendance. Prior to the commencement of formal business the three THA Volunteer Award recipients for 2016, Kathryn Batchelor, Luke Sawyer and James Grimwood gave members a brief presentation on their work and took part in a very well received question and answer session.

   Apologies had been received from Mr Roy Warden, Ms Juliet Day and Dr Emma Bailey.

2. The minutes of the 100th Annual General Meeting held on 26th September 2015 had been circulated and were duly approved nem con and signed by the President. There were no matters arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

3. Election of President: the Vice President took the chair at this juncture in order to propose the re-election of Mr Colin Hayes as President for a third year; this was seconded by Dr Nigel Chancellor (1990) and carried nem con. Mr Hayes resumed the chair and reminded members that this was the third year of his presidency and that under the rules of the Association it would be necessary to elect a new President at the next AGM. He stated that the Committee, who had met earlier in the day, were unanimous in their support for Mr Hayes being succeeded by Mr Roger McKinlay (1979) who he described as “younger, more energetic, full of ideas and highly committed”. There was considerable support from the floor for this proposal.

4. Financial Officer

   a. The President reported that Mr Martin Ansley-Young had filled the role of Financial Officer for eight years and that he had done an absolutely first class job for the Association bringing great clarity and accuracy to our accounts for which we owe him a great debt of thanks. The members present showed their appreciation with a round of applause.

   b. The President was pleased to report that Mr Roy Warden (1973), who the previous day had retired from a senior position in HMRC, had volunteered to take over from Martin. Mr Martin Ansley-Young proposed that Mr Warden be appointed Financial Officer, this was seconded by Mr Bob Ely (1950) and carried nem con.

5. Committee Members:

   a. The President reported that Dr Nigel Chancellor (1990), who had given six years of service to the Association, including three as President, had asked to
retire from the Committee; he was, however, willing to remain available for consultation and advice – including facilitating the link with the College. There was a round of applause in appreciation of Nigel’s considerable contribution to the Association.

b. The President indicated that under the rules of the Association Mr Andrew Lennon (1999) was also due to retire but was eligible for re-election for a further term and that he had indicated that he was willing to continue as a member of the Committee. The Secretary proposed his re-appointment, this was seconded by the Vice President and carried nem con.

c. The President proposed the appointment of Dr Emma Bailey (2009) to the Committee, this was seconded by Mr Bob Ely and carried nem con.

d. The President moved the appointment of Mr Jonathan Cornwell (1992) to the Committee, proposed by Dr David Billett (1968), seconded by Judge Guy Brannan (1974) and carried nem con.

6. Secretary’s report: the Secretary spoke briefly to the main points of his report which had been published on the College web-site.

The Association had held three social events during the course of the year in addition to the Cambridge Dinner – a North East event held at the Discovery Museum in Newcastle, a Midlands event held at the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and a London event held at the Royal Geographical Society. The latter marked a policy decision, on a trial basis, to hold a London event each year. The RGS event included a fascinating talk from the traveller, writer and broadcaster John Pilkington (1968).

The Secretary concluded with grateful thanks to the staff of the Alumni and Development Office of the College who were responsible for organising most of our events around the country and for handling much of the administrative burden. The meeting responded with a round of applause.

There was a question from the floor about the statement made by the Secretary at the 2015 AGM that “the cost of mailing all members about individual events was now considered prohibitive” and the effect that that might have on attendance at regional events. The Secretary responded that the policy did not preclude us mailing alumni within a geographical area for whom we have no email addresses.

7. Financial Report: the Financial Officer spoke briefly to the Statement of Accounts for the year ending June 2016 which had been circulated prior to the start of the meeting. He reported that the finances were on a sound footing with a healthy income. This year we had funded four events (compared to three in recent years). We had made four offers of THA Volunteer Awards, one of which had not been taken up, but had provided funding for three student interns in need of financial assistance. We had budgeted for a small deficit over the year but had finished the year with a surplus of about £1K.

The President added emphasis to the point that we had succeeded in reducing the surplus for the year in line with our stated intentions.
In answer to the question from the floor “how do you get rid of the surplus?” the outgoing Financial Officer responded “by intending to make a small deficit each year”. The President stated that we had a litmus test for new ideas: “would Dennis have supported it?” and reported that Dennis Avery remained very much in our minds and deliberations. Dr Nigel Chancellor pointed out our policy of offering half price tickets to our younger members.

The President moved that the accounts should be adopted, proposed by Mr Alan Brinson (1982), seconded by Mr Rory Silkin (1976) and carried nem con.

8. Any Other Business

There was a question from the floor from someone who had observed that Peterhouse and St Catherine’s were flying their flags and asking whether we should ask the College to also fly the flag on the occasion of the THA AGM and Dinner. The Development Director responded that there was now a formal College policy that dictated the occasions on which the flag should be flown and that we would need to make a request to be included. [Note: we were later informed by the Master that it was purely an oversight that the policy had not included the THA AGM and Dinner as an occasion on which the flag should be flown and that it would be suitably amended.]

A member noted that, attached to the agenda for the meeting, we had provided particulars of members being proposed for membership of the Committee in line with a commitment made at a previous AGM.

There being no further business, the President closed the meeting at 7:00 p.m. precisely.