



105th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 26th September 2020

Held online from Trinity Hall at 4:15 pm

MINUTES

In the Chair: Mr Roger McKinlay, President

1. Some 25 members participated online.

Apologies had been received from Mr Bob Ely.

2. The minutes of the 104th Annual General Meeting held on the 28th September 2019 had been circulated. Any matters arising were covered in the agenda. There being no amendments, acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Chris Angus, seconded by Sarah Webbe, carried *nem con*, and they were duly signed by the President.

3. Elections

The President, Mr Roger McKinlay (1979), spoke to his paper on Committee membership for 2020/2021 which had been published on the College website. This proposed the re-election of the existing Officers and Committee Members, with no announcement of retirements. REDACTED disputed the statement of the general background of the legal claim contained in the paper. The President responded that the wording in his paper holds correct. The proposal for continuing the existing Committee was accepted by majority vote: 14 for, 1 against and 10 abstentions.

4. Secretary's report: The Secretary, Dr David Billett (1968), spoke briefly to his report, which had been published on the College website, mentioning in particular:

- the great opportunities for alumni afforded by the regional events;
- the visits and dinners at the Merseyside Museum in November and at the Titanic Museum in Belfast in March;
- the inevitable cancellation due to the Covid-19 pandemic of the reception at Lambeth Palace in May, and the postponement of the forthcoming dinner in Edinburgh in November;
- broadening engagement, encouragement and support regarding the student community in the College;

- the Association's gratitude to all the staff of the Alumni and Development Office for their support throughout the year.
5. Financial report: The Finance Officer, Mr Roy Warden (1973), referred to his report for 2019-2020, which had been published on the website:
- An account of the main items of expenditure for the year ending 30 June 2020 had been presented to the Committee at their earlier meeting and was adopted in the report for this meeting..
 - The amount of the endowment is not being published at this time because it is, as always, provisional until the College accounts are audited and approved, usually in late October. A full set of THA accounts for the year ending 30 June 2020 will then be published on the website.
 - He expected income and expenditure broadly to break even for the year ending on 30 June 2020.
 - Because of current uncertainties, no plan had been made for the current year.

The Financial Officer then responded to the following questions that had been tabled by REDACTED before the meeting:

- **Safety and strategy.**

Could Roy give some explanations about the overall strategy and safeguards of the endowment's management? We are living in troubling times!

The endowment has been managed since 2004 by the College on THA's behalf. This arrangement is reviewed from time to time.

- **2020 AGM.**

Is there a rough valuation of the endowment available for the AGM? I appreciate final accounts will come in October.

The capital value of the endowment at 30 June 2020 will be shown in the accounts when they are published.

- **Charitable purpose.**

When the endowment was first received, it was stated that it had to be for charitable purpose. Could Roy advise us how the use of the endowment meets that requirement? THA's website says: "*Through the generosity of an alumnus, THA has its own endowment which enables the Association to subsidise events and offer volunteering awards.*" Is that a complete statement of the objectives of the endowment? It would be nice to have something definite on how charitable purpose is achieved.

THA is not a charity. The purpose of the endowment is to enable alumni to meet and engage with each other and the College, and the Committee is responsible for ensuring

that this is observed. Dr Chris Angus (1968) noted that the original payment of the endowment had to be made to a charitable institution, in this case the College.

- **Excess income possibly given to the College?**

Do the terms of the endowment allow THA to consider donating its excess income or part of the endowment to the college, which probably has too little income?

And would it be more charitable for the college to have the endowment and to handle the awards, including to disadvantaged students? This may help to tidy up some issues about ownership and charitable purpose as there have been various comments on this.

This issue is hypothetical since the THA does not have excess income.

Dr Stephen Moss (1972) asked about the possible financial impact of the outcome of legal proceedings on THA finances. The Financial Officer replied that, in his judgement, the THA currently has sufficient funds in accessible accounts to meet all foreseeable eventualities.

6. Any other business

REDACTED requested to table a motion seeking a discussion and vote. When asked by the President whether this related to the legal matter, she confirmed that it did. The President refused the request since discussion of the matter had been closed. The litigation was ongoing. He observed that very few of the members in attendance either knew the background to the case or were able to speak about it.

There being no other business, the President thanked all participants, the Committee and the College. The meeting closed at 4:45pm.