

# DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ST OLAVE'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2016

**Present:** David Budds representing Aydin Önaç, President  
Debbie Hills Chair  
Charlotte Rutter Vice Chair  
Amit Singh Treasurer  
Ravi Savur Secretary  
Sara Alade  
Tiffany Barradell  
Rinku Chibber  
Laura Clayden  
Laura Covill  
Jennifer Franks  
Elizabeth Garnham-Jong  
Zey Kagan  
Lin Limbrey  
Mark McBennett  
Liz O'Connor  
Rachael Peek  
D. Shreshtha  
Seema Singh  
Shelly Tse  
Jo Wright

**Apologies for absence:** Saurabh Deshmukh, Anand Ganguli, Lakshmi Kandala, Susmita Kumari, Dinta Madlani, David Mylroi

The **Minutes of the General Meeting of the Association** held on Wednesday 18 November 2015 were approved.

### **Chair's Report**

Dear members of the PA, parents and teachers,

Thank you all for coming along this evening. It has been an incredibly successful year for the PA on many fronts.

We have seen many new people join our Committee and become actively involved in the running of many events. The unrivalled support from committee members and parents in general is the reason why our Parents' association has been so successful.

We have seen first-hand the benefit to our children that the funds we raise have made. We have, as a PA, helped every area of the school and the feedback and thanks that we have had from teachers and pupils really does make it all worthwhile. The facts are that without the contributions from the PA there are many things that the school budget would just not be able to supply.

There are many people that I would like to thank who help out at many events, and are always on call and willing to lend a hand.

This year I would like to offer an extra special thank you to certain team members who will be leaving at the end of July:

**Jennifer and Allan:** I don't know how you do it. The time and effort you have selflessly given to both the PA and the school are priceless. You are going to be a very hard act to follow. On behalf of everyone I would like to say a huge thank you.

Ravi. You have been secretary for as long as I have had a son at this school. Despite having a very demanding full time job you have given 100% and have been the backbone of our Parents Association. You have given your time and expertise without hesitation. And although I know you have fine-tuned procedures and are on top of everything, you too are going to leave a big pair of boots to fill. Thank you on behalf of us all.

**Lin and Ingrid** who take on the running of the Spring Ball between them. You do an amazing job year after year. Aside from all the work on the day you put in so many hours beforehand that we do not see. The success of the Ball is purely down to the dedication of these two ladies.

I would also like to express our thanks to **David Mylroi** for the recent quiz that he organised for year 7's. It was a huge success and we thank you David for taking this on.

**Rachael** has done a great job taking over the second hand uniform sales and all the work that goes with it. She has already raised over £500 this year which is a fantastic start. Thank you Rachael, I know how much work goes in to sorting, pricing and hanging the clothes and it really is a full time job.

**Charlotte** has taken on the running of the form reps system and progress is being made with increasing the number of form reps, and is also vice Chair. She really was thrown in at the deep end.

The Summer Fun Day and prize draw were also very successful and raised a considerable amount of money. Again, these things are only possible with support and donations from parents. Dinta and I pride ourselves on the fact that we have not paid for a raffle prize at all for the last 3 or 4 years, and this has a huge impact on profits raised. Christmas prize draw tickets will be sent out very soon so please do sell as many tickets as possible as we have a never-ending wish list to fulfill.

**David Budds**, thank you for joining us as the school's representative. I am absolutely convinced that you never go home! We appreciate the time you spend coming to our meetings and also your quick responses to any questions we ask.

Finally I would like to say on behalf of the whole committee what an amazing job Ravi, Amit, Nick, Esmat and all others involved did on getting the Mock tests up and running. This was a huge undertaking by you all and was a total success, raising over £35,000. You all gave up so much time and put in so many hours behind the scenes. The mock tests are something that we all should feel very proud to have been a part of. It would not have been possible without all those that volunteered on mock test days. On behalf of everyone I would like to thank you all.

We have had enormous support from **Mr Önaç** and the teachers again this year. Thank you Mr Önaç for always attending our events where possible and for not saying no to some of our crazier ideas! Thank you all for your support, here's to another successful year, and to making a difference.

Lastly we would like to offer our goodbyes and best wishes to **Nick White** who is sadly for us moving on to new pastures. He has contributed so much to the Parents' Association both in the art work he has provided for us (which has been amazing), and the time he gives to help out at almost every event. You really don't know what a difference you have made Nick. Your talent in creating the most amazing artwork for us really has taken our PA to another level. We all wish you the very best for the future (and if you ever get a spare 5 minutes I'm sure we will have a poster or something that you could help us with!). Thank you Nick, You've been amazing!

Thank you all.  
Debbie Hills

### **President's Report delivered by David Budds on behalf of Headmaster and President**

Friends on the PA committee.  
2015/16 has been another highly successful year for St Olave's PA.

In the true spirit of the association, you provided social outlets for parents to get together and have some fun through a number of events, culminating in the sparkling Masked Ball. These supported the wider Olavian community feel and were very much appreciated by large numbers of participating parents.

The social events also served as fund-raising forums, enabling the PA, once again, to raise substantial sums of money and provide much needed financial support to departments so that they could purchase 'wish list' items to enhance provision for students.

Those involved in assisting me with the targeted year-group fund-raising events and the follow-up phone calls have made further invaluable contributions – often whilst encountering responses that can be quite challenging. Securing these regular monthly donations is now fundamental to the school budget.

Others have turned up unflinchingly to provide refreshments for Saturday sport or other evening events. Whilst these are not the most lucrative events the support of those parents nevertheless adds to the friendly 'face' of the school and enhances the sense of a wider Olavian community.

However, without doubt, the outstanding success story of the year was the first running of the new Mock Tests. A huge amount of time and energy went into these, from the creation of the highly professional website to the management of the actual sittings. The money raised has, quite literally, enabled the appointment of a member of staff, with the obvious consequent benefits for students in the school through sensible class sizes and curriculum provision.

All of this means that the job of managing this amazing school on the impossibly inadequate budget provided by the state, actually becomes possible. Provision of the very highest quality once again supported our students in achieving outstanding public examination results in 2016. This came on top of the Student of the Year and the London Evening Standard Award for Academic Excellence. At 67, our Oxbridge + Medicine offers smashed all previous records and dwarfed the achievements of all but the top 3 or 4 most wealthy Independent schools. Cultural and co-curricular opportunities for students meant that they were able to visit exotic locations – Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Tanzania, Greece, Washington, Kolkata, France and Germany, or bushcraft camp to mention but a few. Many excelled in sport and

music, some as individuals, others representing the school or county at team level. Student societies and Academic Journals blossomed with new editions from the Natural Sciences, Mathematics, Literature, Art and History Societies, packed full of erudite research articles reflecting the intellectual curiosity of our students.

The wonderful support that we receive from our parents makes it possible to create these opportunities for your sons and daughters and continues to make it a great pleasure for me to lead this outstanding school.

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of you for the generous way you give your time and energy to support us at St Olave's Grammar School.

### **Treasurer's Report**

We started the year with a balance of around £14,000 and net income increased by between 10 and 15% to £28,000. In addition, the Mock Tests raised £36,500 and after costs, we paid £34,000 to the school. In addition to this, we funded a wish list of close to £16,000. Current funds available in the bank are around £29,000 though some 10% of this is committed to the school.

Copies of the Accounts were circulated and approved, subject to review by Hai-ying Song, and will then be filed with the Charity Commission.

### **The following were ELECTED as the officers and trustees of the Association for the coming year:**

Chair:	Debbie Hills
Vice Chair:	Charlotte Rutter
Treasurer:	Amit Singh
Secretary:	Ravi Savur
Assistant Secretary	Zey Kagan

**All attending the meeting, as well as those from who apologies were received were ELECTED as the members of the Association Committee.** Also, Winnie Leong agreed to be Class Rep coordinator.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Ravi Savur, Secretary

Confirmed as a true record of the meeting

Debbie Hills, Chair