

The RGSW and AOS Foundation Meeting Minutes

4pm – 6pm Thursday 16 May 2019

Venue: Spurling Room

Foundation Trustees - Andrew Greenway, Rosemary Ham, Annie Fitch, Annabelle Hancock, Gary Rouse, Jonny Arr, Tim Curtis.

RGS staff: John Pitt, Gareth Hughes, Ian Roberts, Scott MacDonald

Minute Secretary: Joanna Weaver

1 Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies from Nick Fairlie, Emma Bentley-Hughes, Mike Ridout and Laura Brown

Declarations of Interest, NONE.

2 Acceptance of Previous Minutes

ALL AGREED, minutes accepted and signed.

3 Administration Actions / Matters Arising from Previous Minutes / Updates

3.1 Annual Accounts and Audit Report

Auditor has now provided final accounts and report which will be circulated to Trustees ahead of meeting. Approved and **AG** signed off Accounts and Cover Letter. To be sent to auditors who will file them with Companies House. **SCM** will file with the Charity Commission.

For information, King's Worcester has just published its Annual Accounts and reports that it spent £180k on Fundraising/Development during 2017-18 (RGS will be £82k for the same period).

3.2 Website

Delay in data migration from InTouch to the new ToucanTech (TT) database that will sit behind the website has hindered the website completion and testing process – majority of data is now mapped but some errors and anomalies are still being worked through by TT and **SCM**.

- Database mapping activity is expected to be completed by 23rd May which is a 5 week over-run that reflects the additional time taken at our end in January and early February to fulfil the requirements of the GDPR Healthcheck findings and new IT procurement procedure.

- On 23rd May TT will receive a copy of the existing InTouch database at that point and load it into TT. This will be the start point for the new database and TT have advised to allow a week for further validation so we have opted to do this over half term when **SCM** and **JOW** are both on long planned leave over the holiday week.

- Assuming all has gone to plan then on Tuesday 4 June we will start to email alumni year groups to invite them to register with the website in a managed process to manage workload.

- The existing database provider, InTouch, has been retained on a short-term temporary basis to cover this delay.

- Accounts set up with Stripe (payment provider similar to paypal) to process online gifts (single and regular) and ticket/merchandise sales through the website. Technical glitch as the final step of the payment is being resolved and should be possible to make online donations by launch.

- Link to the website to be circulated to Trustees ahead of the meeting so they can get a feel for it while recognising it remains a work in progress.

3.3 Annual Report Mailing schedule

Plan is for Annual Review to arrive with alumni in June to coincide with website launch. Draft copy circulated at Board Meeting. Focus is on bursaries and legacies as per previous agreement. Agreed previously forthcoming capital projects will not be included in this edition. Privacy policy to be moved to the end of the publication.

To reduce costs in line with overall RGS policy and to reflect wider environmental concerns, households with more than one sibling listed will only receive a single copy. It is hoped this will prompt alumni who have since left the family home to update their details when registering on the website. Overseas alumni who have not had any engagement over the past five years will not receive a copy automatically but can request one from a small stock of spares that will be held in the Foundation Office.

The website will offer the ability to have publications online for those who only wish to receive a soft copy for environmental reasons (this is a small but growing number of alumni).

4 Finance – Fundraising and Disbursement of Funds

4.1 Update

Bursary Funds, Bank account, seat sponsorship and (known) legacy pledges.

ARW Fund: **£378,610**, AO Fund **£26,921**; Current Account: **£18,802**; Money Markets: **£50,000**. PAC has **66 seats** sponsored; **32 Legacy** known pledges, no further legacy notifications received since last meeting.

Bursaries - there are currently 15 pupils who have been, are currently being or will be helped by bursary support. The target is to assist 20 pupils up to and including September 2020.

Legacy pledges are difficult to quantify. **SCM** provided some guidance on the figures already pledged. **GR** confirmed the need to use legacy lunches as a means to encourage donors to donate whilst still alive. Legacy lunch scheduled for Saturday 14 September.

Discussion regarding Chris Dyer and his role in the USA. Ideally, Chris to contact donors based in the USA. To avoid any GDPR issues, it was suggested he becomes a Trustee, but with limited responsibilities. **RH** to contact Chris to discuss.

4.2 Update - Capital Projects status

Tennis Dome - verbal approval from LTA on 12 December 2018, still awaiting written confirmation with terms and conditions due to ongoing discussions between the LTA and Worcester City Council in relation to the Council element of the package. Architect has visited site to begin process. The design process will involve the LTA. Expected date for completion September 2020.

Hockey project - financing model to be determined by Worcester City Council was put back from March until June earliest to reflect 'purdah' period ahead of local council elections and to enable changes in elected personnel to take effect. Envisaged the Council will loan RGS the necessary funds, repaid over agreed term and hockey facility will become property of the School.

4.3 Requesting Deposit Donations from parents of Class of 2019.

Deposit donation request to the parents of Upper Sixth leavers to give their £100 joining deposit to the Foundation. The Headmaster has agreed wording of letter to parents asking their support for the commission of artwork of School buildings that will be sold to alumni and parents to generate income for bursaries. Donors will receive a copy of one of the pictures (trailing the idea of giving

something small back for a donation – we cannot claim Gift Aid on the deposits so it does not affect those HMRC regulations). Parents can also donate the deposit to the AR Wheeler Bursary Fund or towards the Digital Archives project.

4.4 **COIF investments**

Use of these from September onwards and placing of funds currently on the money markets with Lloyds Bank until mid-August.

Use of COIF Funds from September to be considered by the Trustees. The decision to defer any change was predicated on Brexit having taken place in March and allowing a period for markets to settle down. At time of writing Brexit could be as late as 31 October. Recommend this is picked up by the finance group in October but Trustees will need to advise what they wish done with funds currently on the money market with Lloyds as per the instruction given to John Ralph at the last meeting. **JWR** to pass Quarterly Report to **GR** for review on behalf of Finance Committee.

5 **Communications**

5.1 **GDPR update**

New Privacy Notice, Leavers' consent process, website consent capture.

- Privacy Notice has now been updated to cover Alumni and Fundraising and will be included in the Annual Review.
- Data Sharing Agreement to be put in place with AOOEs – ITR has written to the Committee and awaits a response.
- Consent has been obtained from 99% of Class of 2019 Upper Sixth Leavers to remain in contact with the School through the Foundation Office and to receive fundraising information.
- Consent for all communications to be recorded for easy auditing – this has been incorporated into the new website and hard copies can be sent to those who are not online.
- Donor forms now changed to ask donors to 'opt in' to being named in the Annual Giving Report.

Discussion regarding data held on parents. It was felt that occasional correspondence to parents would be beneficial. Suggested a yearly communication, possibly a timetable of events that parents may wish to attend.

Agreed this needs to be explored. **Update / proposal at next meeting**

5.2 **Fundraising for Capital Projects**

Dedicated material is required to explain why we need support and how it will benefit the School, children and the local community. This will be hard and soft copy to complement online message and giving facility and underpin the fundraising message for the duration of both projects.

Recommendation is for a separate Foundation fundraising document to be created that can be hard and soft copy.

Website copy can be built and hidden until time to go live.

Hard copy can be mailed to selected audience. It needs to address the School's strategic vision around both projects, the public benefit and the impact on pupils – as well as the donor channels and matched funding mechanism.

Discussion regarding timing of publications – must be careful not dilute the message for either fundraising campaign: bursaries and capital projects.

6 **Managing the Changes in the Charity Sector**

- Updates from the Fundraising Regulator. None to report.

6 Any Other Business

- Trustee recruitment for AGM and Chairmanship of Board from October.
One Dodderhill governor is keen to join the board. **RH** to liaise.
An AOS link is required and Rachel Wyatt was suggested. **AG** to liaise.
SCM has spoken to Pete Breakwell, Past President of the AOOE Association and this would be a positive move to align both organisations. **SCM** to facilitate meeting with **AG** and **PB**.
- Trustee recruitment for AGM – Annabelle is retiring and Andrew is stepping down as Chairman in October. Successor for Andrew required Trustee to volunteer for role.
Trustees thanked Annabelle for her work with the board and was presented with a gift.
- Dodderhill – Sarah Atkinson, as Headmistress, will be welcomed into the Foundation. The School currently has no formal links with their alumnae. The 75th anniversary of the school is in 2020 and this may be a good opportunity to engage with alumnae.
- Trustees wished Jonny good luck on his departure from Worcester Warriors.

8 Future Meeting Dates, Venue and Agenda Items

Future Foundation Trustee meeting dates are to be agreed to take place ahead of the RGS F&GP meetings. Meeting dates are proposed below at the Senior School with rooms advised closer to the date to facilitate School needs:

- 2019 Legacy Lunch: **Saturday 14 September 12 noon**
- 2019 Finance Working Group: **Tuesday 15 October 4pm**
- 2019 Michaelmas Board: **Thursday 24 October 4pm**
- 2020 Lent Board: **Thursday 27 February 4pm**
- 2020 Trinity Board: **Thursday 21 May 4pm**