ASSOCIATION OF OXFORD UNIVERSITY PENSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE 31st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held in Lecture Room 1, Department of Engineering Science At 2.15 p.m. on Wednesday 15th February 2017

Present – Carlos Ruiz (President), Gilliane Sills (Chairman); the following members of the committee: Jan Allen, David Bicknell, Geoff Clough, Susan Greenford, Andrew Moss, Laurence Reynolds, John and Gaynor Woodhouse; and over 100 members.

Welcome – The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- **1. Apologies for Absence** Apologies were received from Wendy Claye, Caroline Carpenter and Rosemary Williams.
- 2. Minutes of the 30^h Annual General Meeting, held on Wednesday 17th February 2016 copies of the minutes had been displayed on the screen and circulated, and they were accepted as a correct record *nem con*.
- **3. Matters** arising None were raised.

4. Chairman's Report

Thanks – Professor Sills started by expressing thanks to the Committee and the University (Jan Killick, Marie Hough in the Pensions Office, and all those involved in the Newsletter production and distribution: Jean Butler, Andy Connor, Bob Malloy, and Helen Dyson in Reprographics; Pippa Jupe in Publications; Hannah Marples in the Post Room.

The Chairman thanked the committee for their efforts on visits this year and mentioned that Susan Greenford and Andrew Moss would be retiring from the committee this year. She thanked them for their considerable contributions and hard work during their term on the committee.

Outings in the past year – The statistics for the Summer 2016 and Winter 2016/17 were displayed on the screens, and are given below:

Summer Programme 2016			
Month	Visit	Number of applicants	Number offered places
April	RIBA and the BBC	160	50 (Loss of numbers due to BBC cancellation of second trip)
May	Woburn Abbey	96	All
June	Secret London	107	All
July	Coughton Court and Ragley	101	All
	President's Garden Party	73	All
September	St Albans	79	All
Winter Programme 2016/17			
October	Walk Oxford's Industrial Past with Liz Woolley	90	All

November	Sand in the Sandwiches	53	All
December	Christmas lunch	147	All
January	The Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock	48	All
February	Guided Visit to 'The Kilns' (C.S. Lewis's home)	125	All
March	Guided Visit to Trinity College	>183	180

The Chairman said that two coaches were now regularly used for summer outings.

5. Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer had provided the following tables, which were displayed on the screens.

Association of Oxford University Pensioners - Annual Accounts		
Income for the year ended 31 D	December 20	16
	2016	2015
	£	£
University Contributions	13,500.00	11,235
Subscriptions	5,530.00	5,300
Trips	36,326.55	37,491
Christmas Lunch	4,520.00	4,480
Bank Interest	202.38	178
Total	60,078.93	58,684

Association of Oxford University Pensioners - Annual Accounts Expenditure for the year ended 31 December 2016		
	2016	2015
	£	£
Outings and Functions		40,464
	36,751.55	
Committee and Admin Expenses		516
	415.36	
Newsletters OU		6,516
	7,736.81	
New Members Evening OU		930
	895.60	
Lecture Fees and Refreshments OU		2,874
	1,401.24	
Christmas Lunch		5,641
	5,473.64	
Honoraria	700	700

Miscellaneous		20
	32.50	
Insurance		204
	231.87	
Long trip advance payment		2,045
	2,685.00	
Total		59,910
	56,323.57	
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year		(1,226)
	3,755.36	

Balance Sheet	2916	2015
Accumulated Fund Balance as at 1st	28,761.56	29,987
January 2016		
(Deficit)/Surplus on year	3,755.36	(1,226)
Total		28,761
	32,516.92	
Barclays Bank: Community Account	291.51	200
Premium Account	16,761.29	8,007
Skipton Building Society	20,752.76	20,554
Less creditor Exeter College re Christmas	(5,288.64)	0
Lunch		
Balance at 31 December 2016	32,516.92	28,761

The Treasurer noted that subscription income had increased by £230. Coach trips and outings have remained well supported with a subsidy of £2,326 (Overall subsidy was £3,126 in 2015). The basis for the coach trip costings remains satisfactory. We were invoiced for 146 Christmas Lunches this year cost had been held at the same level with a subsidy of £954 or £6.53 per head (down from £7.80 last year). The University had charged for two newsletters but the invoice for the Autumn 2106 edition was still awaited. No postage had been charged in 2016. Further discussion was required with the University to review the basis of the grant going forward. The cost of catering is much more reasonable following the change of caterers at EngSci. There was a catch up of costs for 2014 of £828 in the 2015 figure. Skipton Building Society had paid interest without deducting tax (hence the apparent increase despite reducing interest rates). Barclays paid us £3.88 on £8,000+ average balance! The trip to Ireland was full. Despite the falling Pound, we managed to refund £20 each to members. The 2017 trip to Chester is proving popular. The invoice for the Christmas Lunch was not paid until 2 January so the cost had been included as a creditor in the balance sheet.

Appointment of Independent Examiner – Geoff Clough said that current Auditor, Tim Croft, had reviewed the accounts and was willing to sign them off if approved by the meeting.

The meeting **approved** the accounts *nem con*.

Geoff Clough said that Tim Croft was willing to be reappointed for 2017 and proposed that he be reappointed. This motion was put to the meeting and **agreed** nem con.

6. Secretary's Report – Jan Allen reported membership statistics as follows: Membership Statistics as at 15th February 2017 (Figures for 2015 in brackets): Social Members 481 [420] Single Members

353 [294] Couples **Total** 834 [714] 4086 [4069]

Non-Social Members

The Secretary was pleased to report a rise in social membership over the past year. There had been a good response to the reception for newly retired members held at the Divinity School in November with attendance rising from 58 in 2015 to 74 in 2016 and 17 of those attendees had since applied for social membership. The Secretary had been invited to contribute on AOUP to workshops on Preparing for Retirement run by the Oxford Institute of Learning. Feedback from the workshop in October indicated that attendees will consider joining when they come up for retirement and some already have.

The Secretary thanked the Pensions Office for their support during the year, particularly, Jan Killick, Head of Pensions, David James and Marie Hough. She thanked staff of the Engineering Department where Committee meetings and the lectures are held. In particular, Sara Downs, the Receptionist, Sukarni Wheeler who arranges room bookings; and Darren Sprague, Catering Manager at Baxter Storey. She paid tribute to the Chairman, Gilliane Sills, who continued to provide invaluable support and leadership to the Association and to the unfailing support of the committee throughout the year.

7. Programme 2017	
February	Wednesday 22th Newsletter envelope labelling, University Offices, Room 3, from 10.30am
April	Tues 25 th , Thurs 27 th Portsmouth Historic Dockyard
Мау	Thurs 18 th , Wed 24 th Hatfield House
June	Tues 20 th , Wed 21 st Royal Ascot
July	Tues 4th, Wed 5 th , Tues 11 th BBC Birmingham & Silver Quarter
August	Wed 2 nd , Fri 4 th GWR Railway/Stanway
Sept/Oct	Sun 24 th , Sun 1 st Kings Cross Regeneration
December	Wed 13 th Christmas Carol Service and lunch, Exeter College
Five-day trip, May 2018	The Isle of Man

- **7.** Vote of thanks to retiring committee members Susan Greenford and Andrew Moss. Susan had taken the role of Events coordinator, typically dealing with up to 150 applications every month and allocating places, and they'd both planned and organised some splendid outings and talks.
- **8. Any Other Business** Nothing was raised.

Talk following the AGM – Dr Bart van Es, 1594 Shakespeare's Most Important Year