

**THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF GUYANA ASSOCIATION (UK)**

(Registered Charity No 801250)

**(UNADOPTED) MINUTES OF THE  
TWENTY-THIRD POST-INAUGURAL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD ON SATURDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2011  
AT THE GUYANA HIGH COMMISSION, LONDON**

**1 PRELIMINARIES**

**1.1 Present**

**Non-Executive Officers**

President Dr Neville O Linton in the chair.

Vice-Presidents Henry O Edwards, J R Gary Ramprashad and Ivor E Ying.

**1.2 Management Committee**

Dr Christopher J Chunnillall – Chairman Mrs E Claire Carballo

C Ian C Wishart – Hon. Secretary Bruce M Nóbrega

Dr Peter D Fraser – Hon. Treasurer

*Co-opted members:* J Mark Adamson and Praveen D Hanoman (Asst. Treasurer)

**Other Attendees**

Six members and three guests as listed in the appended attendance sheet.

**1.3 Apologies for Absence**

Dr John A O Besson, S Mark D Dalgety, Mrs June (Rickford) Fletcher, Derek G Hugh, Joseph Le-Roi Smith, R R (Peter) McKenzie, Peter E McLean, Miss Leila D Persaud, Andrew C Terrill, Michael J Sharples and Roderick A Westmaas.

**1.4 President's Introductory Remarks/Valete**

The President welcomed those present with special reference to first-timers. He then asked the meeting to stand and observe a minute's silence for those old students and members of staff known to have died since the previous AGM. The names were read out by Mark Adamson.

**2 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-SECOND POST-INAUGURAL AGM HELD ON 19.11.10**

Noting that the minutes had been previously circulated, President asked for a motion that they be taken as read. This was proposed by Gary Ramprashad, seconded by Fred Weston and carried *nem. con.* There being no amendments, President then asked for a motion for adoption of the minutes. This was proposed by Mark Adamson, seconded by Fred weston and carried *nem.con.*

**3 MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

## **4 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

### **4.1 Presentation**

MC Chairman Chris Chunnillall presented his report, copies of which were before the meeting. [The Report is also available on the Association's website, qcoga.org.uk.] Key points were:

- 109 paid-up members (including 85 life members) and three honorary members (two of whom are life).
- Profits from fund-raising events were: cultural event ('A Celebration of Guyanese Art, Music and Literature') at Kensington Library – £249; Annual Dinner – £566; Sunday Brunch – £891; Summer Reunion – £646; Carnival Fête (re-established; a joint venture with Bishops' High School Association) a disappointing £101 mainly because we did not have the bar.
- Other sources of income were membership subscriptions, donations, Gift Aid tax reimbursements, and sales of polo shirts and Norman Cameron's *History of QC*.
- Events held outside the reporting period were: a reception for ICQC delegates (£30 loss), an outing to Stone, the birthplace of QC's founder (£30 profit), a second cultural event at Kensington Library (£315 profit) and the ICQC Annual Business Meeting and lunch. Special thanks were due to Rod Westmaas and Leila Persaud for organising both the 2010 and 2011 cultural events, and to Rod for organising the Stone visit and ICQC Business Meeting.
- Disbursements were: £1625 to supply and ship school ties; £460 for providing French and Spanish language materials (funded from a donation by Mrs Susan Matheson); £415 for art class provision in memory of the late Bob Batchelor (funded by donations from his family and friends); £622 for UPS batteries for the computer room; £1500 towards the cost of air-conditioning the library.
- Two Newsletters were published. Our website [www.qcoga.org.uk](http://www.qcoga.org.uk) gives information about future events and holds archival material.
- The Association received a Hansib Community Award in recognition of our donations of £120,000+ in cash and kind to the school since 1988.

Chairman concluded by thanking the High Commissioner for granting the use of the premises for our meetings, to the staff of the High Commission, especially Carl Browne, for their assistance, to the Bishops' Association for their support of our joint ventures, to all supporters of the Association, to President Neville Linton for his advice and help, and to Committee members for their enthusiastic efforts throughout the year.

### **4.2 Discussion**

President thanked MC Chairman for his report, and asked whether members had any ideas for future events.

Independent Examiner Carl Warren observed that receipt of the Trustees' Report did not appear as an agenda item – a statutory requirement. He felt that the Chairman's Report included items that should have been in the Trustees' Report, which should also include future plans – a Charity Commission requirement. Treasurer said that although the next agenda item referred to "Treasurer's Report" the report itself was headed "Trustees' Report". Secretary explained that the agenda had merely followed previous layouts. After some discussion it was suggested that in future there be a single Trustees' Report to include what would otherwise have been in a separate Chairman's Report.

**5 TRUSTSEES' REPORT AND ADOPTION OF THE ACCOUNTS**

Treasurer noted that copies of the Independent Examiner's Report, the Trustees' Report and the Accounts and Notes thereon were before the meeting. Following further explanatory remarks, questions and comments were invited. There being none, the President asked for a proposal for the adoption of the Report and the Accounts. This was proposed by Gary Ramprashad, seconded by Derek McWatt and carried *nem. con.*

**6 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINER FOR 2011-12**

Carl Warren was proposed by Peter Fraser and seconded by Bruce Nóbrega. Carl indicated acceptance, and the motion was carried *nem. con.*

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At this point the President apologised for having to leave the meeting to go to the airport, and MC Chairman Christopher Chunnillall took the chair.

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**7 ICQC MATTERS**

**7.1 Presentation**

Peter Fraser, the Association's representative on ICQC (jointly with President Neville Linton) drew the meeting's attention to section 8 of the Chairman's Report which summarised our involvement with ICQC over the year. He had not written a separate report. A problem with ascertaining the needs of the school was the number of bodies involved in Guyana: the Ministry of Education, the Board of Governors, QCOSA. As the Ministry did not appear to have a policy regarding sport at schools, this was an area where ICQC could operate without outside interference. There had been a ball held in New York in an attempt to raise money for a sports pavilion, but this had made a loss. At the recent ICQC Business Meeting, it had been agreed that a sports initiative be pursued. Money would be needed not only to maintain the ground, but also to improve drainage.

For the second time in less than a decade QCOSA have requested support for their welfare programme (providing meals and textbooks for under-privileged children) from the overseas Associations. Peter felt that QCOSA should be more pro-active in fund-raising. There were many old students in prominent positions in Guyana from whom donations could be sought. He has proposed to ICQC that a significant contribution be made from the overseas Associations in the present year, half that amount in the next year, and 10% of the initial amount in the third year, with no further contributions. Hopefully this should prompt QCOSA to get their fund-raising act together.

**7.1 Discussion**

Gary Ramprashad said that it was necessary to get the ground levelled and the grass cut – and maintained in that condition – before giving any thought to a new pavilion. Henry Edwards added that flooding should not be a problem at the ground.

Certain members questioned whether we should be supporting the welfare programme in the light of QCOSA's apparent inactivity in the fund-raising area. However it was pointed out that the welfare recipients would suffer: hungry children could not be expected to concentrate on their lessons.

Peter considered that it was possible to proceed with both the sporting and welfare initiatives in parallel. Chairman concluded that the consensus of the meeting was to support both initiatives, but with the proviso that financial accountability be ensured.

## **8 ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT**

Secretary announced the Management Committee's proposal that Neville Linton be re-elected President. He reminded the meeting that nominations could also be made from the floor. There being none, Chairman declared Neville elected unopposed.

## **9 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-PRESIDENTS**

Secretary announced that the Management Committee proposed that all existing Vice-Presidents be re-appointed:

John O V Rafferty, MBE (immediate past president)  
Lloyd E Bascom  
Brigadier David A Man  
Sir Shridath S Ramphal, GCMG, OE OM(Jam), OCC  
M Trevor Phillips, OBE  
Henry O Edwards  
Derek G Hugh  
Ivor E Ying  
J R Gary Ramprashad.

There being no objections to any of the above and no other nominations, Chairman declared the above duly appointed.

## **10 ELECTION OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

It was noted that Mark Dalgety and Ian Wishart were ineligible for re-election under the three year rule. Seven persons were to be elected, however only six nominations were received. These were [**candidate** (proposer, seconder)]:

**Praveen Hanoman** (Peter Fraser, Mark Adamson)  
**Roderick Westmaas** (Bruce Nóbrega, Derek McWatt)  
(Secretary confirmed that Rod had expressed his willingness to stand.)  
**Bruce Nóbrega** (Ivor Ying, Fred Weston)  
**Christopher Chunnilall** (Ian Wishart, Claire Carballo)  
**Mark Adamson** (Bruce Nóbrega, Ivor Ying)  
**Claire Carballo** (Gary Ramprashad, Derek McWatt)

Chairman declared the above six elected unopposed.

## **11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Noting that a majority of members were life members and that the Association's funds were comparatively low, Ivor Ying suggested that the committee write to life members of ten or more years standing requesting voluntary donations. [**For consideration by the new Committee.**]

Secretary said that 2013 would see the 25th anniversaries of both our and Bishops' High School Associations. A joint dinner-dance at the New Connaught Rooms, in October, was being proposed. Derek Hugh had been informed. Claire Carballo said that the Bishops' Association had no objection to the proposal which would be discussed at their forthcoming AGM. Peter Fraser added that he had proposed at the ICQC meeting that the 2013 ABM be held here in London, coupled with a reunion. Joan Plummer suggested that we should start advertising the event as soon as possible.

## 12 CLOSURE

Chairman thanked those present for their attendance and the High Commissioner for the use of the premises. The meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the first verse of *Carmen Collegii Reginae*.

Prepared by \_\_\_\_\_ (outgoing) Hon. Sec.  
(C I C Wishart)

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_ President  
(N O Linton)

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## ATTENDANCE REGISTER

### Officers of the Association

Eleven Non-Executive and Executive Officers as listed in the Minutes.

### Members and Guests

Mrs Patricia F Brewster

Phil N MacInnes

Colin G McWatt (guest)

Derek A McWatt

E L (Ted) Murray

Ms Joan Plummer (guest)

John G Rowe

Carl A Warren (guest, Independent Examiner)

H Fred(erick) Weston