



# The Old Southendian Association

[www.oldsouthendianassociation.org](http://www.oldsouthendianassociation.org)

*Sustaining Friendships...*

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Southendian Association  
held at The Southendian Club, Garon Park, Southend on Sea, Essex  
on Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> November 2024 commencing at 7.55 pm.**

*Those Present:*

Andy Crow (in the Chair)	Ken Carter	Alex Cass	Kate Cooper
Ian Fulton	Daniel Garside	Will Green	Sam Hodgson
Trevor Johnson	Geoff Kittle	Kevin Leigh	Sara Linney
Joseph Madren	Geoff May	Clive Shiret	Chris Sorrell
Keith Spenceley	Sophie Thickbroom	Rachel Worth	Joseph Zammit

<b>Item</b>	<b>Minute</b>
<b>1.0</b>	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> had been received from Karl Anderson, Jim Harrington, Callum Hynes, Edward Marron, Nick Robins and Jack Stevenson.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023:</b> The Minutes were accepted unanimously on a proposal by Joe Zammit, seconded by Sam Hodgson and signed by the Chairman.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Matters Arising from the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> November 2023:</b> There were none.
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Chairman's Report:</b> Andy Crow's report had been circulated prior to the meeting.
4.1	The year had seen huge efforts made by members of the Executive Committee and others to grow the membership of the Association and improve its already strong ties with the School. The departure of Dr Bevan had been a huge change for the School but Mrs Worth and the Governors had managed the change seamlessly. The appointment of the new Headteacher was awaited. Andy had attended many events at the School and continued to be impressed with the high standards of the School and its students. He had also hosted an online "chin-wag" for members around the globe.
4.2	A record 71 new members had joined from the 2024 leavers with the possibility of more being recruited at the Certificate Collection event in December. The Scholarship Scheme supporting students to buy textbooks in their first year at university was flourishing. The Association had funded the prizegivings, 6th form pizza and afternoon tea events, a prefect's team bonding event and had created a new funding scheme for departments within the School. From August, an Association Work Experience Scheme was being established, working closely with the School careers team. Six companies were already interested.
4.3	The Associated Clubs and Societies continued to flourish and were so important in maintaining those friendships formed through the School. Members of the Executive Committee had worked hard to boost the Association's social media presence throughout the year and this had undoubtedly increased awareness of and attendance at several events.
4.4	Andy congratulated Jim Harrington for an excellent year as President and thanked especially Alex Cass, Chris Sorrell, Sam Hodgson and Joe Zammit for their efforts on the Association's behalf during the year.
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Treasurer's Report and Presentation of the Audited Accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024:</b> Dan Garside's report and the accounts had been circulated and he commented as follows:
5.1	Good growth in annual subscriptions based on a successful post A Level "sign up" session in May 23 as well as some new joiners signing up via the website.
5.2	NSA bond interest was now paying a decent return but looking at ways to earn more on the TSB deposits. Creditors include two years of School Prizegiving contributions
5.3	Transaction fees relate to the use of the Square card reader and Go Cardless scheme for signing up the next generation.

*"Sustaining friendships formed through the School and the Association  
for the benefit of past, present and future Southendians"*

5.4	Stock is higher this year due to a delivery of polyester OSA ties and also silk ladies' scarves. The loss on tie sales is due to new joiners being given a polyester tie.												
5.5	Richard Medcalf was standing down after many (15 plus?) years of sterling service looking after the Association's No 2 account and Lucy Glover had kindly agreed to succeed him. The Association (and especially the Treasurer) was very grateful to Richard for his meticulous work												
5.6	The Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2024 were adopted on a proposal by Clive Shiret, seconded by Geoff Kittle.												
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Report of Sub Committees, the School, the Clubs and the Affiliated Organisations:</b> The following three reports had been circulated prior to the meeting:												
6.1	<b>Old Southendian Bowls Circle.</b> Ian Fulton confirmed that the Circle had had a successful summer season with a total of 34 members playing some 20 outdoor fixtures, winning 14, losing 5 and with one abandonment. The Circle won 3 matches and lost 2 in the indoor season in 2023/24. Trevor Johnson retired as Match Secretary at the end of the summer season after a magnificent 8 years in which he had increased membership, expanded the fixture list and completely overhauled the organisation and administration of the Circle. One sad note was the death of long-time member, Richard Fenn, in April.												
6.2	<b>Old Southendian &amp; Southchurch Cricket Club.</b> Woody Marron reported on what had been the Club's most successful season on the pitch, winning four league titles through the 1st, 3rd, 4th and U17 XIs, as well as a runners-up performance for the 2nd XI and a playoff final victory for the U11s. The focus on youth cricket remained on enjoyment and participation, and the coaches have done a fantastic job to cultivate a positive and inclusive environment in which all youngsters are encouraged to thrive.												
6.3	<b>Old Southendian Organ Society.</b> Joe Zammit reported that two concerts in late 2023 had concluded a very successful series to celebrate the Centenary of the War Memorial Organ, featuring Francesca Massey and <i>Cantare</i> . In contrast, 2024 had been calmer in terms of events but the work of the Society had continued, working with the School to establish tuition and support for organ students. A concert entitled "A Southendian Showcase" would be held on 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 featuring current and former staff and students. Selected recordings from past concerts were also available on the Society's website and on its YouTube channel. The Society remained grateful to the School and to its members and donors without who it would not be able to provide this support or indeed look after the 101-year-old organ!												
6.4	<b>School Liaison Officer.</b> Karl Anderson had sent a report in his absence and confirmed that two main initiatives between the School and the Association had been further developed in the preceding year. Firstly, the Year 13 scholarship initiative meant that Association members now funded scholarships worth £250 in a broad range of subject areas to enable students with the best academic record and potential to purchase books and resources in the first year of their university studies. The second initiative is the work experience scheme, whereby a database is maintained of Association members who are able to offer advice and/or work placements to current students. This database is shared with the School Careers team and allows them to put students in touch with those members. There has been good initial engagement across a range of industries but the scheme was always looking for more participants to offer a wider range of opportunities.												
6.5	<b>Registrar.</b> Geoff May reported the latest figures vis-à-vis membership of the Association as follows: <table border="1" data-bbox="231 1624 949 1848"> <tr> <td>Active Members</td> <td>2555</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lapsed Members</td> <td>337</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resigned</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gone Away</td> <td>273</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lost Members, presumed dead</td> <td>28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deceased Members notified since 2019</td> <td>70</td> </tr> </table>	Active Members	2555	Lapsed Members	337	Resigned	60	Gone Away	273	Lost Members, presumed dead	28	Deceased Members notified since 2019	70
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<b>7.0</b>	<b>The Election of Officers, the Executive Committee and the Honorary Auditor:</b>
7.1	The meeting approved the appointment of the following Officers: Chairman* (of the Executive Committee – serving until the 2025 AGM) Andy Crow President* (with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024 and to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024)* Jim Harrington Immediate Past President* (to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024) Dan Garside President Designate* (with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2024 and to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2024) Clive Shiret President* (with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025 and to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2025) Clive Shiret Immediate Past President* (with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025 and to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2025) Jim Harrington
7.2	The Executive Committee proposed that the President Designate of the Association* with effect from 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025 (to serve until 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2025) and therefore its President in 2026 be Nick Robins. This was carried unanimously by the meeting.
7.3	The following Officers had confirmed their willingness to continue to serve on the Executive Committee: Treasurer* Dan Garside Secretary* Keith Spenceley Registrar* Geoff May Legal Adviser* Kevin Leigh Publications Officer* Chris Sorrell {Officers marked * are <i>ex officio</i> members of the Executive Committee.}
7.4	The following were elected <i>en bloc</i> to the Executive Committee to serve until the 2025 AGM: Karl Anderson, Ken Carter, Kate Cooper, Will Green, Sam Hodgson, Callum Hynes, Geoff Kittle, Sara Linney, Joseph Madren, Sophie Thickbroom and Joe Zammit.
7.5	Executive Committee representatives from the Affiliated Organisations and Clubs were advised as: Old Southendian & Southchurch Cricket Club Edward Marron Old Southendian Football Club John Roy Old Southendian Hockey Club Jack Stevenson Old Southendian Organ Society Joe Zammit Old Southendian Bowls Circle Ian Fulton # Old Southendian Golf Circle Steve Clarke # Ian is representing the Bowls Circle on the Executive Committee for the first time. Andy Crow asked the meeting to recognise with thanks the service of Trevor Johnson who was stepping down as the Bowls Circle’s Match Secretary after eight magnificent years’ service.
7.6	A partner of Azets, Julian Golding, has agreed to continue as Honorary Auditor.
<b>8.0</b>	<b>Date of the next Annual General Meeting:</b> The meeting agreed that the 2025 Annual General Meeting should be held at The Southendian Club, Garon Park, Southend on Sea on Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> November 2025, commencing at 8.15 pm.
<b>9.0</b>	<b>Any Other Competent Business:</b>
9.1	There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 8.18 pm.

**Keith Spenceley, General Secretary.**  
**28<sup>th</sup> January 2025**