

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Edward Alleyn Club

Held at 8pm on Tuesday 12th November 2024
in the Pavilion Meeting room, Alleyn's School with a link to Zoom.

In attendance: Reno Antoniadis (President), Paul Barber (Chairman), John Battle, Saif Beejay, John Dunley (Vice-Chairman), John Gibbons, Chris Heayberd (Hon. Treasurer), Rob Holden, Timothy Inge, Mike Jones (joint Hon. Secretary), Frank Keenan (Director of Development and Alumni Engagement), John Kent (representing Tennis), Lisa Pavlovsky, Ollie Tipton (representing Cricket), and Ollie Watkins (Director of Commercial & Community Activities).

1. **Apologies for absence** had been received from Johnny Battle, Jim Bridgeman, Neil French and David Hankin.
2. The **Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting**, held on 14th November 2023, were presented by the Chairman, agreed by the meeting and signed by the President.
3. There were no **Matters Arising** which would not be covered elsewhere in the Agenda.
4. The **Annual Report of the Management Board** was presented by the Chairman: The year since our last AGM has been one of successful and improving EAC sports activities at Burbage Road and beyond. Tennis, Cricket, Football and Golf have all had fantastic seasons and the Alleyn's community is very well represented in most of these sports. The Clubhouse Bar has been very busy and is now often used for Parents' socials and parties for people from the local community.

All in all, the Club itself and the site have benefited hugely from the dedication and leadership of sports section captains and chairs – Linda, Liz, John for Tennis; Johnny, Ethan and Michael for Football; Jim, Oli and Manny for Cricket; Dave, George and Dennis for Golf (at Dulwich Golf Club) – and from the dedicated team led by James, the Clubhouse Manager.

One of the most prominent successes of 2024 has been the continuing development and growth of the (relatively new) Randonneurs walking group, led by John Gibbons, and now with a membership of over eighty alumni. This initiative was born out of John's love of walking and has been supported enthusiastically by an ever-growing group who walk on shorter and longer days out in the home counties. There is also a special trip to Dartmoor in the summer that the more adventurous go on!

John is very keen to expand the scope of the Randonneurs and we'd love to hear from anyone who would like to take the model and replicate it in other parts of the country.

A wide variety of alumni have also supported the School with talks, lectures and attendance at assemblies as the Development and Alumni team are continuing to create an exciting programme for pupils to hear about alumni successes. For the wider community this has also included soirees with alumni who have become successful and

famous in their fields. Huge thanks to those of you who come and talk to the pupils and equally big thanks to the D&A team who work so hard to make these events successful. I have mentioned previously that I am delighted to support the School's Sustainability Committee as we discuss and decide on a programme of events and initiatives to support the implementation of sustainable practices in the School environment and in the daily lives of all in the Alleyn's community.

As I write, Eco Week is coming up and there will be much to report about it at a later date. However, I do hope that we will be able to extend the participation of alumni in various parts of the more general school life in the same way as we have pioneered taking part in the Sustainability Committee. This ambition fits well with the increasing opportunities to discuss strategies with the Senior Leadership Team at the School and which we hope to expand in the coming months and years.

2024 has also been a success socially for the Edward Alleyn Club. We will be holding our Annual Dinner at BAFTA in London this year to celebrate Reno Antoniadès' Presidency and to welcome Aisha Bywaters as our new President. Prior to this event we also held two other landmark celebrations: Reno's President's Day football matches between the School and AOB FC attracted a couple of hundred spectators to Burbage Road to see exciting games that the Old Boys won but only after strong play from the School teams - we hope this revival of an old tradition will continue in future years; and, in September, our Social Sub Committee led by Lisa Pavlovsky and ably supported by Saif Beejay and the D&A team, hosted the first Women of Alleyn's lunch which kicked off our 2024/25 celebration of fifty years since girls first joined the School!

Thank you to the Management Board members who make running the EAC a success and also to the Development and Alumni team – Mel, Katharine and Alex, and led by Frank – for their fantastic creativity, support and hard work this year!

The report was proposed by PB and seconded by John Gibbons, and passed unanimously.

5. a. Accounts for the Club for the year ended 31st July 2024

CH presented the Club's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31/7/2024, which had been signed off by the independent examiner, John Griffiths, AOB.

The numbers were similar to those for the previous year – the main income stream comes from the School which covers the magazine costs. There are just a few vacancies in the 200 Club, whose winners are posted on the website. The accounts were proposed by CH, seconded by JD and passed unanimously.

b. Accounts for the Alleyn Benevolent Fund

CH confirmed that these accounts were checked by Jason Peck AOB and he thanked Jason for his kindness in doing this.

6. Election of Club Officers for the year 2024-25

The following were proposed by RA, seconded by RH and duly elected to the offices indicated.

6.1 The Presidency

President	Aisha Bywaters
Deputy President	to be confirmed

6.2 Nominations for the management board

Chair	Paul Barber
Vice-Chair	John Dunley
Treasurer	Chris Heayberd
Secretary	David Hankin/ Mike Jones
Executive Member	Saif Beejay
Executive Member (Events Liaison)	John Battle, Lisa Pavlovsky
Co-opted Members	Nell Butler, Lizzy Frost and Sue Lane

Ex Officio Members

Clubhouse General Manager: James Freeman
Development, Alumni Relations and Hon. Editor: Frank Keenan/Melanie Huntley
Facilities Management: Oli Watkins
Chair (or representative) Alleyn Cricket Club: Jim Bridgeman
Chair(or representative) Alleyn Old Boys' Football Club: Johnny Battle
Chair (or representative) Edward Alleyn Tennis Club: John Kent
Chair (or representative) Edward Alleyn Golf Club: David Slaney
Representative of the Randonneurs: John Gibbons
Representative of Netball: Sue Lane (pro-tem)

The President proposed that these nominations be elected; this was seconded by LP and passed unanimously.

6.3 Other roles

6.3.1 Membership secretary: the role is presently covered by the Development and Alumni Office of Alleyn's School

6.3.2 Dinner Committee: The President, Lisa Pavlovsky, Frank Keenan and co-opted members as appropriate

6.3.3 200 Club Treasurer: Chris Heayberd

The President proposed the above nominations; this was seconded by LP and passed unanimously.

6.3.5 Sports Sub-Committee

This Committee will continue to meet at least quarterly to discuss practical matters, including projects and /or expenditure required at the Burbage Road site.

The intention is that the Committee will be established formally within the Club's Constitution at a future E.G.M.

Representatives are:

The Vice-Chair, John Dunley

The Chair of the Football section

The Chair of the Cricket Section

The Chair of the Tennis Section

The Chair of the Golf Section

The School representatives are:

The Chief Financial Officer or their representative

The Director of Estates

The Director of Commercial Lettings

The Clubhouse Manager

6.3.6 Social Sub-Committee

This Committee will meet regularly as required throughout the year to take a leadership role in the social events that the EAC and the Development and Alumni team create and organise for the benefit of alumni.

Representatives are:

Lisa Pavlovsky

Saif Beejay

Development and Alumni team members as appropriate

Co-opted members as required

6.4 Hon. Treasurer of the Alleyn Benevolent Fund

6.4.1 The President nominated Mick Walker. Seconded CH, passed.

6.4.2 CH listed the other Trustees of the Benevolent Fund, who were noted and confirmed by the meeting: Mark Grogan (the Head's Representative), Neil French, Pippa Hawkesford, Chris Heayberd (Chair), Mike Jones (Hon. Secretary) and Lisa Pavolvsky.

6.5 The Honorary Reviewer (of the Club's accounts)

The board is urgently seeking a successor to John Griffiths who has relinquished the role.

6.6 Election of Vice Presidents

6.6.1 PB took the chair.

6.6.2 JB, representing the Vice Presidents, proposed the election of Reno Antoniadis as a new Vice President. He then spoke in praise of RA, thanking him for his outstanding work this year.

6.6.3 PB called for a vote by acclamation in favour, which duly occurred.

7. Presentation of School business by the Head's representative (FK)

FK explained that the school was academically very successful again. 92% of our leavers gained access to the university of their first or second choice.

The Sidney Batrick fives courts were being redeveloped to provide facilities which would help pupils to prepare for their future careers, especially in the technology field.

All pupils are now involved in partnership work, e.g. assisting at state primary schools. The school now has 117 bursaries and the average support these give per pupil is now 91% of fees.

A major challenge will be the VAT on fees which comes in in January 2025. The school is currently working hard to diversify its income. We will usefully be able to claim back VAT on recent capital projects.

We are looking forward to celebrating 50 years of co-education at Alleyns in 2025-26.

8. Dates for 2025

8.1 AGM: Tuesday 11th November 2025 (tbc)

8.2 Dinner Friday 21st or Saturday 22nd November 2025 (tbc)

9. Any Other (Qualifying) Business

RH raised the unsuitable location of the School Archives. This location may be precarious, a fire risk and lack of space are both issues. PB agreed that we'd like this rectified asap. He suggested that he and the new President should lobby the school on the matter. RH also mentioned that NF has now done 25 years as the EAC archivist. A splendid contribution.

PB thanked RA for his excellent year as President.

RH thanked the Board for their work over the past year.

The meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Mike Jones – Hon. Joint Secretary