

**TDA Panel
Meeting Minutes
11th September 2015**

Location: ITV Studios, 200 Grays Inn Road, London

Attendees: Simon Daghish, Chris Crowcroft, Chris Winter, Allan Mayo, Nick Scott-Kilvert, Karl Biscoe, Ian Kennett, Stu Milligan and Jenny Grant

Apologies: Chris Russell, Abigail Trench, Charlie Davies, Andy Wilkes

School Update

Cohort:

- Numbers are currently at 486, as compared to 443 last September.

Building work:

- Capital Build is now done. Haig is nearly finished, and the Dining Hall and School House have been given facelifts. Fire alarm system has been centralised.
- In the next 6 months, potentially Alanbrooke and the running track will be upgraded, and the Coach House will be renovated as either staff or visitors accommodation.
- Gary Coward recently opened the East Teaching Block – now renamed the Sir Gary Coward Teaching Block
- The Chief of the General Staff is coming on 1st October to open the rest of the new buildings.

Website:

- The new school website should be live (for staff and governors) on 21st September, and is going through testing currently. Amanda Baker and Katherine Seton have received Content Management System training.
- Allan Mayo suggested Alumni should be on front page, it was confirmed that it is on one of the top tabs but that TDA portal was not yet up and running.

Exam results:

- NSK updated the Panel on the exam results. Further details can be found on the website.

TDA Update

New database

- Now at approx. 1000 members.
- New database installed, will be searchable and definable.
- All Year 13 students were contact before they left, 50% replied with new contact details. More signed up on Grand Day

- At what point should former staff members become a member of TDA? 3 years was suggested.

Dukie News

- John Bowler account re Principal Flute at Royal Opera House, JG to chase.
- New website to be covered in a future version.

SM mentioned his 'Dukies in the Forces' Facebook Group – 80+ members. SM to put JG on admin so the groups can be tied in together.

Events

Reunion Dinner

- Proposed menu and pricing discussed and it was agreed that the cost per ticket should be £25.
- SD requested extension of finish time. N S-K to check, but it is likely not to be possible due to the students on site.
- Karl mentioned Mike Davies, works for brewery, could be helpful in providing beer for the event. IK has his contact details.
- IK's band The Hong Kong Streakers Club is booked to play, and will not be charging.
- Bar to be the same as last year
- RSM will MC to ensure speeches etc in correct order
- Minibuses organised

Remembrance Sunday

- OBA have been in contact with CR, all agreed.
- SD and a female member receive the colours.
- Dukies Guard to be commanded by Derek Jones of OBA.
- SD has discussed hymns with Padre as no 'I vow to thee my country' last year.

Founders Day

- JG gave SD a breakdown of costs from the 2013 Saatchi Gallery launch event. This came in at £23,000.
- SD asked around the room to see how much anyone would reasonably be prepared to pay for such an event, if the free bar was taken out of the equation (alcohol amounted to £10,000 of that cost).
- £35 was felt to be a reasonable cost. SD to see if he can negotiate in order that this can be achieved for a Founders Day social on 29th April.
- SD also to look at hiring a large Dukies tent for the Army/Navy rugby match on 30th April.
- The School Band used to play before the game sometimes (on a rotation basis) so this is also to be looked at.
- OBA lunch also around this time. If the event goes ahead, OBA would need to be informed and invited.

- There should also be someone to talk about the Founder – look at possible candidates for this.
- JG and SD to liaise on Founders Day research/idea.

Saunton Sands reunion

- JG arranging a reunion at Saunton Sands hotel (May 2016) for those Dukies who were never actually at the Dover site, and instead spent their time at DOYRMS at the hotel during the 2nd World War.

Careers Workshops

- One TDA Careers Workshop per half term has now been slotted into the school calendar between 1.30 and 3.30 on a Friday, prior to chapel.
- The first is being run by SD together with Nigel Clarkson and Steve Parker on “What life is like in media” and is taking place on September 25th. The second will cover ‘Professional Services’ and is being run by CW and two other Deloittes Dukies.
- It is hoped these Careers Workshops will offer a diverse programme across the academic year.
- AM suggested that students should receive some preparation before the careers workshops and careers fair in order that they achieve maximum benefit.
- AM expressed a wish that more should come from the school about what it needs, and what TDA is able to help provide them with: JG to request a wishlist from Head of Music/Head of Sport

Fundraising

Clocktower Society

- CC proposed names of Clocktower subscribers should be published: names encourage other names. This was agreed. JG to check with those people concerned.
- CC stated more is needed from the School in terms of expressing its needs.
- Biggest need the school has is support for the fees that the students have to pay.

Annual fund

- NSK – most independent schools and some state schools run Annual Funds – monthly contributions from parents to supplement school activities and experiences. We are looking to launch one shortly – initially to new parents, then other parents. Eventually also possibly to Alumni.
- Be careful not to mix messages.
- School/TDF raises funds from parents or from trusts
- TDA raises funds from alumni
- TDF is trustee of monies raised for the School.

Museum/Archiving proposal

- NSK – museum needs refurbishment, has not really been added to for 10/15 years.
- Either we could find somewhere else in the School to house it, or move into part of the coffee shop, alternatively build a new building next to chapel just for museum.
- SD feels pupils wouldn't go in there if a separate building, would become a mausoleum: should remain part of school. In coffee shop or where it already is.
- Better in the thoroughfare, as students pass by every day and enroute for visitors.
- Would need funding to go towards existing collection, acquisitions and maintenance.
- Link in with Mike Carson.
- Also looking at digitisation. Good educational tool, very beneficial. Also look at external funding - Heritage lottery, Foyle Foundation. CC to discuss with JG.
- SD requested we put together favoured proposal to bring back to next panel to present both student support and this proposal, then Panel members can post this out.
- Appears to be realistic and doable.

Upcoming Dates

Reunion Dinner	November 7 th 2015
Next TDA Panel Meeting	January 15 th 2016
Clocktower Society Dinner	February 26 th 2016
Careers Fair	March 4 th 2016
Saunton Sands Reunion	March 20 th 2016
OBA Lunch	April 9 th 2016