



The Dukies' Association

## **TDA Panel Meeting Minutes**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2018 at 1500hrs

**Location:** ITV Studios, 200 Grays Inn Road, London, WC1X 8HF

**Attendees:** Simon Daghish (SD), Holly Applebee (HA) - minutes, Chris Crowcroft (CC), Karl Biscoe (KB), Alex Foreman (ALF), Adam Kent (AJK), Allan Mayo (AM), Stuart Milligan (SM), David Richmond (DR), Chris Winter (CW)

**Apologies:** Abigail Trench (AT), Andrew Wilkes (AW), Ian Kennett (IK)

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### **1) Welcome & Last Meeting's Minutes**

- SD welcomed all to meeting.
- There are no minutes from previous TDA Panel meeting.

### **2) School Update**

- ALF reported that OFSTED had visited the school for a boarding and welfare inspection and a Section 8 short education inspection. Section 8 short education inspections are for 'GOOD' schools whom OFSTED feel are still of a 'GOOD' standard. ALF reported that these inspections were routine, as the school was overdue both inspections. The results from both inspections will be released in due course by OFSTED. ALF expressed that he was delighted with how the inspections went and that the school will continue to progress for the best of the students. Next OFSTED inspections will be in 3 years for boarding and welfare, and 4 years for education.
- ALF reported that RSM Steff Dowle has been appointed as Assistant Principal (Behaviour, Safety & Welfare) and is also the safeguarding lead for the school.
- ALF reported that Mr Jolyon Marsh has been appointed as Assistant Principal (Boarding and Intervention).
- ALF advised since mock exams, revision sessions have been implemented for the students, these have been well attended.
- ALF reported that Year 11 into Sixth Form student retention has grown from 30% last year, to a potential 70% this year, this is exam result depending. The school has also received 10-12 external applications for Sixth Form.
- AJK advised that the school is estimating 500-510 students for next year, this is currently around 485 students.
- SD congratulated ALF on his hard work so far.

### **3) Alumni Relations Management & Clocktower Society**

#### Bursaries

- CC introduced TDA Bursaries which are funded through the student support restricted funds of the TDF.

- AJK reported that Hannah Couves, Head of Sixth Form, has individually met with all Year 11 students to discuss Sixth Form plans and their GCSE results predictions. Unfortunately, funding was a reoccurring barrier to progressing to Sixth Form. So far, around 20 students have been allocated academic, drama and sports related scholarships which offer discounts on the fees.
- AJK also reported that there are third party external funding schemes also available to the school, such as Armed Forces Education Trust, Buttle and Whispers.
- AJK informed that there are now more non-military background cases requiring financial help within the school.
- HA presented 6 candidates, 4 students from serving backgrounds and 2 students from non-serving backgrounds; all students demonstrate financial hardship and show sporting, leadership and academic ability. It was agreed that Candidates 4 and 6 would be selected for the 2 bursaries available and would be presented at the next TDF meeting.
- CC reported that Peter Vincent has set up a fund currently worth \$245,000. Peter has already committed to 2 bursaries for the coming academic year and will be committing another 2 bursaries next year. Peter is hoping to grow this fund.

#### Clocktower Society

- HA reported that there are currently 61 Clocktower Society members.
- CC reported that Bill Dickens, a new Clocktower member, has recently donated C\$25,000 to student support, which has greatly aided the 2 TDA bursaries this year.
- AJK reported that the current monthly run rate of donations is £800, CW suggested Clocktower should aim for a target of £1,200 a month. **Panel agreed.**

#### National Arboretum (Peter Goodwin paper)

- CC reported that Peter Godwin would like a continued bond between the school and the memorial. ALF agreed that there are curriculum links if students are studying the Second World War there could be possibilities for educational visits.
- CC reported that the best fundraising lesson Peter Godwin learnt from his National Arboretum project, was that calling people direct and fundraising on a one-to-one basis worked best.
- CC reported that Peter Godwin felt there should be more feedback in terms of Clocktower and TDF and what the money has been used for within the school. **ACTION: HA**
- CC reported that Peter Godwin felt there were concerns over the lack of Ch. OBA on the saluting dias on Remembrance Day. ALF suggested that whomever the oldest former Dukies at Reunion Dinner is, will take the salute and lay a wreath. OBA will also lay a wreath. **Panel agreed.**

## 4) **Events**

### Careers Fair 2018

- AJK reported that the event was cancelled due to snowy conditions.
- ALF reported that it is probably too late to hold the event this year, now looking at February 2019 for the next event.
- ALF reported that only 10 former Dukies signed up for the Careers Fair this year, which was very low. DR advised that he felt that the Careers Event would be so well subscribed that he didn't apply. CC raised that the event invitations should be more targeted in terms of careers. ALF did advise that we contacted the students to ask what careers they wanted

advice on, next year this should be more successful as the Alumni post is now filled.

**ACTION: HA**

#### Old Boys Hockey

- ALF reported that this event should continue as usual this year.

#### Work Experience with His Honour Judge Keith Raynor

- ALF reported that two students will be attending work experience with His Honour Judge Keith Raynor, a former Dukie, on 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> May, as both students are going to apply to read law at University.
- HA reported that one of these students is currently on a Sports Scholarship and her parents will struggle to pay for the travel, food and accommodation for this trip, around £150. SD and CW agreed to fund £150 each with leftover amount staying with TDF.

**ACTION: SD & CW**

#### Drill Competition 2018

- ALF reported that General Karl Ford, a former Dukie, was guest of honour and is really keen to get back involved with the school. He has signed up for TDA since the event and wants to come to Grand Day.

#### Army v Navy 2018

- AJK reported that there are 2 tickets left. Next year there will be a pay to reserve tickets option, as we experienced many people reserving tickets and then cancelling. There will be an expected 145+ people attending the event on Saturday.
- CC raised query if we could use this as a promotion/fundraising event for TDF. ALF informed that there will be conversations happening about Clocktower/TDF to the former Dukies.

#### 60s Reunion Plan

- DR reported that in 2008 he organised a meet for 1968 leavers at the Ramada, which was attended by around 30 former Dukies. Following the event DR started the Facebook Page 'DYRMS Class of 68 Reunion', on which many photos and stories were shared.
- DR would like to propose an extension to Remembrance Day to a 3-day event;
  - Photo sharing on Friday at the Ramada,
  - Curry at school and 'oh what a lovely war' shown on Friday evening at school,
  - Trip to Dover Castle on Saturday morning,
  - Trip to rugby in Crabble on Saturday afternoon,
  - As usual for Reunion Dinner and then Remembrance Sunday.
- DR would like photos from this event to be used for a digital archive of the school's records. CC advised that Alan Jones is currently looking into the possibility of a digital archive and lottery funding for this.
- ALF advised if we can keep the impact on the school to a minimum, that he would be happy for the event to be extended, given it can be arranged correctly and successfully. Agreed that we need to look at the logistics and how many former Dukies are interested before we agree to the plans.

**ACTION: DR and HA to discuss**

### 5) Any Other Business

- CC raised a query as to how the students know about the TDA bursaries available to them and also if there is a way in which the TDA could be informed on how the bursary students

achieve and progress. AJK advised that there is hope that in the future a 'bidding' process will be put in place, so that students can apply directly for bursaries. It was agreed that the school will look into ways in which the TDA can be informed on the bursary students' progress without breaching safeguarding issues. The school will also look into the possibility of a presentation or assembly to present the bursaries available to the students.

**ACTION: AJK & HA**

- DR and CC raised issue of GDPR with regards to the bursary students and the TDA database. There is a deadline of 24<sup>th</sup> May for 'opt-in' for continue use decisions. AJK reported that there will be an email asking for consent to 'opt-in' to continued TDA updates to all on the TDA database.

**ACTION: AJK & HA**

- HA reported that there are plans to update the TDA website and add new features. SM raised the idea of using the site as an 'internal LinkedIn' where former Dukies can offer career advice.

**ACTION: HA**

- HA raised the idea of buying 'Tommy' statues through 'There But Not There'. These are 6ft aluminium soldier silhouette statues and proceeds are going to; The Royal Foundation, The Commonwealth War Graves Foundation, Walking With The Wounded, Combat Stress, Help for and Project Equinox: Housing Veterans and Medical Students. The price is £750 inc. VAT per statue, the statues include a hole for a poppy to be placed on the statue chest, and so could be a part of Remembrance. CC raised this would be TDF unrestricted funds and worth presenting to TDF. ALF raised that we could use social media to directly ask former Dukies to donate. SD raised that the statue would look good in rose garden by memorial.

**ACTION: HA**

## **6) Future Meeting Dates**

- Looking at September for next meeting.
- Andrea will contact Trudy to arrange a date.

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