

Hutchesons' Grammar School Association

Report from the Hutchesons' Grammar School Association Annual General Meeting held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 20th October 2009.

The meeting opened with the Chairman, Mr Kyle, welcoming everyone to the AGM which was being held for the first time in Kingarth Street. He added that one of the reasons for holding it there was for everyone to see the new stage, kindly donated by the 57 Group.

Following an excellent musical programme provided by Kingarth Street pupils, Dr Greig gave an interesting and informative report on some of the major events and developments that had taken place in the school during the past year, including a quite outstanding set of Fifth and Sixth Year exam results, OSCAR and the new Sports Track and pitches.

In thanking the Rector, Mr Kyle paid tribute to his excellent leadership.

Deputy headmaster Jim McDougall then gave a very full and illuminating update on eHutchesons, the intranet facility for parents, pupils and teachers.

The formal part of the evening then commenced with Mr Kyle reporting that the Committee had met on five occasions since the last AGM, when a wide variety of topics had been discussed, including OSCR, school buses, parking around Beaton Road and Kingarth Street and School Uniform.

Mr Kyle went on to say that one of the most important projects in which the Association was involved was the annual Careers Convention for Fourth Year pupils held in March and that this year's had been a huge success with every pupil in the year participating once again. He then took the opportunity to thank Catherine Paton and her committee and Jane Thomson for all their help in organizing the evening so effectively.

Regarding the accounts of the Association, the opening balance at the start of the financial year on 1st August 2008 was £1,985.00. With the £606.00 raised on the evening of the Careers Convention, the closing balance on 31st July was £2598.37, and Mr Kyle said that at their next meeting the Committee would discuss how best to distribute part of this surplus.

The Chairman then thanked the members of the Committee for their support and enthusiasm and paid particular tribute to retiring members, Alistair Carson, Patricia Crawford, Susan Wilson and Sanjeev Chitnis for all their contributions to the work of the Association over a number of years.

Thereafter, following nominations and in the absence of any contested positions, the following new members were elected:-

Primary 1 Claire Macauley

Primary 7 Alina Zahoor

Secondary 3 Fiona McCrae

Secondary 6 Marion Leslie

The Primary 2 position was not filled and currently remains vacant.

Mr Kyle then advised the meeting that the names of the full committee would be posted on the website and that the first meeting of the new committee would take place on Monday 16th November 2009.

Mr Kyle then opened the meeting to any questions or comments from parents.

Through her year representative, Fiona Godsman, Fiona Stewart stated that although there was a School Uniform code, she did not feel that the School adhered to it. Dr Greig replied that it was an important rule and that he wished to reassure parents that a great deal of effort went in to ensuring that uniform was smartly worn.

Another comment was made with regard to lack of communication from the PE Department, after a parent bought new rugby boots unaware of the option for her son to play hockey in Second Year, and which he subsequently did. Dr Greig replied that he would look in to this and that the School continually strived to improve communication with parents.

Finally, Mr Macauley wished to note that the new website and the whole eHutchesons initiative were very impressive. Dr Greig thanked him for his positive feedback.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded with Mr Kyle thanking everyone who had contributed to making the evening such a success.