

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE UMUAHIA OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION
U.K & EIRE

President: Mr Chijioke Ebizie

V.President: Dr Chinwe Nwokoma

Secretary: Mr Chuks Aguocha

Treasurer: Mr Victor Ehriodo

Fin Secretary: Engr Chike Nwoke



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MINUTES OF ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

DATE: 13th April 2024.

VENUE:

Ashfield College Road, Northfleet Kent

Hosts: Mr & Mrs Ikechukwu Onyeadu

IN ATTENDANCE

Present	New Reg	Apologies	Guest
Prof Iheanyi Iheanacho		Dr Uche Ngwu	Ms Aude Sellier
Mr Obin Sunday		Dr Obed Onuzo	Mr Ike Iheanacho
Mr Kalu Ogbueke		Dr Njoku Emeka	Miss Francine Iheanacho
Mr Innocent Okoye		Dr Charles Uwakaneme	Master Chidubem Victor
Mr Ifeanyi Okekearu			
Mr Emeka Ogbonnaya			
Mr Dickson Nmeribe			
Mr Chinedu Achomadu			
Mr Chika Nwokorie			
Mr Chibueze Uchendu			
Mr & Mrs Victor Ehriodo			
Mr & Mrs Nkwachukwu Aguocha			
Mr & Mrs Ikechukwu Onyeadu			
Mr & Mrs Enyinna Uwadi			
Engr Chijioke Ebezie			
Engr & Mrs Chike Nwoke			
Dr Nwachukwu Nwabineli			
Dr Kenneth Nwosu			
Dr Hilary Umeh			
Dr & Mrs Chinwe Nwokoma			
Dr & Mrs Chike Onyekwuluje			
Dr & Mrs Anele Ebezie			

1. OPENING PRAYERS

Opening prayers were said by Dr Chinwe Nwokoma

2. MINUTES

The minute of the last meeting was read by the general secretary.

Amendment

A. None

Adoption

The minute was duly adopted by Dr Kenneth Nwosu and Dr Chinwe Nwokoma

3. MATTERS ARISING

School Management Update

The president informed the meeting of the following

- a) Full time principal has now been recruited and running the day-to-day administration of the school since 2023.
- b) A school management board has also been set up to assist in the management of the school. The board is led by Mr Enyinna Nwadinobi.
- c) Other administrative structures in place in the school include the facilities manager, Abia vigilante security organization.
- d) The student population is currently about 66 and spread across 2 classes in both JS1 and JS2 levels.
- e) Entrance exams into the next academic year is already ongoing with online exams also available. 40 potential entrants have already participated in the exams as of date. 18 of these have paid the N50,000 (Fifty thousand Naira) acceptance fees.

Student Scholarship Update

The scholarship structure is being maintained as originally designed, which includes

- a. Pioneer students on full scholarship
 - b. Current JS1 students are on N1M (One Million Naira) scholarship support
 - c. The new intake will not have any scholarship support set out for them.
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School Operation Budget

The meeting was informed

- a) The meeting was informed that a gap of about N100M (One hundred Million Naira) was existing in the operations budget of the school.
- b) Members deliberated on the subject of the gap and made proposals which included making contact with state governments across the former eastern region of Nigeria. Nothing that the school had such reach and impact across the said region. The president responded that such an effort had previously been tried without significant success. Other proposals included encouraging class groups to adopt a student for sponsored scholarship.

Ongoing Projects and Funding Support

The meeting was informed that the following infrastructure projects were in need of attention.

- a) Solar Panel Implementation: This is a highly needed power source for most amenities in the school. It will help cut the cost of running equipment that depends on diesel fuel which is currently very expensive in Nigeria.
- b) Fencing: following the successful land reclamation effort from intruders, securing the extended school land has become a priority for GCUOBA.
- c) Accommodation Building: The increase in the number of students necessitates the need to prioritise accommodation. The possibility of commencing work on the Erekosima house building is being considered.
- d) Science Laboratory: A class group has undertaken the task to equip the laboratory. Further update on the progress will be made in subsequent meetings.
- e) Endowment Fund: Dr Anele Ebizie reiterated the need to recommence the monthly £10 endowment fund contribution by members. This will help the UK association to be prepared to make contributions or take up projects in GCU.

Charity Registration

The president updated that the consultants are still working on it and have raised some questions which need to be addressed by the trustees, he will report back at the next meeting.

Members Welfare Review

- a) Dr Chike Onyekwuluje addressed the subject, pointing out the genesis of the existing welfare framework of the association. He further acknowledged that the growth of the association and new challenges necessitate a different framework to accommodate the same. Mr Ikechukwu Onyeadi used the opportunity to propose a change in the welfare system to be more responsive to the needs of members particularly younger Umuahians with peculiar needs on arrival to the UK. He further stated that such change was also capable of encouraging participation by a wider demographic of old boys who hitherto seem to be on the fringes of participation in the UK association. The proposal put forward will anchor around a welfare fund which is freely contributed to by members and a system of outreach and disbursement which allows for members in need to easily be identified. Following deliberations by members it was agreed that a committee be set up to review and propose a framework for presentation at the next OGM.
- b) Committee members include
 - a. Mr Ifeanyi Okekearu
 - b. Mr Kalu Ogburueke
 - c. Mr Dickson Nmeribe
 - d. Mr Ikechukwu Onyeadi

4. Any Other Business

- a) Pro Amos Iheanacho thanked members for their effort at keeping the association active and specifically showered praises on Dr Anele Ebizie and Engr Chike Nwoke for their unrelenting effort and constant engagement in several forums and meetings.
- b) Engr Chike Nwoke requested for the association to consider approving an assistant for the office of the Financial Secretary
- c) The president informed the meeting that elections into the executive committee is due at the annual general meeting in Aug 2024.

6 FINANCE

Account balance - £11,643.10 and NGN108,800

The report will go out to the general house by the financial secretary.

7 ADJOURNMENT

- a. Mr Kalu Ogburueke
 - b. Engr Chike Nwoke
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8 HOST APPRECIATION

Dr Kenneth Nwosu thanked the hosts for their gracious hospitality on behalf of the association.

9 CLOSING PRAYERS
