

Minutes of the 15th Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 23rd January 2011 At The Green Man - Great Portland Street, London @ 1.30pm

Those present: - John Wassell, Allan Johnson, Stuart Galloway, Mike Dworetzky, Bill Beadle, Adrian Morris, Barry Keane, Tony Basing, David Cutbertson, Chris Robertson, Allen Peppitt, Mark Galloway, Jackie Murphy, and Paul Jeffery.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence had been received from: **Chris & Glyn Scally, Ian Griggs, Mark Rowe, Mark Bridger, Jo Davis, and Alaric Rosman.**

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24th January 2010

The minutes of the previous AGM had been copied to all members in order to save review time at the meeting. They were adopted as a true record of the proceedings. Proposed: Bill Beadle – Seconded: John Wassell – agreed by all.

3. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There were no matters arising, apart from the arrangements for Canterbury 2010, which will be covered in the Secretary's report.

4. Secretary's Report

Stuart Galloway welcomed those present on behalf of the Committee, particularly those attending for the first time from the Whitechapel Society, our sister group with whom we have very close links. We both have a common interest in trying to solve particular gruesome murders.

It had been another eventful year for the Group. Canterbury had again been dogged by a gremlin, this time a volcano preventing our guests from America from attending the Seminar. However, thanks to several of our members stepping in to present a paper, and with the expansion of the now very popular Open Forums, the weekend went off well. Apologies go to the Journal Editor for having failed to produce an résumé of the Canterbury Seminar. Trying to organise last minute changes prevented the necessary attention being paid to the presentations. The intention is to appoint somebody who can take notes this year. Thanks go in particular to Mike and Isobel Dworetzky who organised the excellent buffet on the Sunday lunchtime. One particular event of note occurred during the auction. Ian Griggs had kindly put Jesse Curry's Assassination File book up for auction but this was special edition because the author had signed it. After endless bidding by three courageous members the lot realised £125 – an all time record.

Thanks go to Mark Bridger for having edited the Journal for the last 5 years – he is now stepping down and handing over to Mark de Valk. Thanks also go to all the contributors to the Journal whom without there would not be a document in particular, Alaric Rosman, Chris Scally, Bill Beadle, Mark Bridger himself, and Barry Keane. The articles covered a huge range of subjects including, JD Tippit, the Head Shot, the Harper Fragment, Rosaline Quinn (and Oswald), the Witness Bystanders, and the Acoustic Evidence. The standard of writing was superb. Remembering some of the previous Seminars, Alaric's presentations stand out as so compelling and demonstrative. Our thanks go to him for the way that he has supported the Journal and Canterbury.

The committee had met only once during the year because of the difficulty in finding a suitable time and place convenient to all. However, a lot of communication is done by e-mail and telephone. Hopefully, the new committee will have better luck in structuring suitable meetings.

Sadly, two notable persons closely associated with the Assassination died during 2010, namely Aubrey Rike and Ed Hoffman. Aubrey was the 25-year-old Ambulance Driver who had driven an epileptic to Parkland Hospital shortly before the assassination. He struck up a conversation with Jackie at Parkland and later helped place JFK's body into the casket and then witnessed the hassle between the Secret Service and the Dallas PD as they tried to manhandle the casket away from Parkland where the autopsy should have been held. He had written a book describing his activities that weekend. Ed was the man who saw a shooter close to the wooden fence overlooking the Grassy Knoll clearly running and away and disassembling a rifle. Ed had hearing and speech difficulties but never tired of trying to convince the authorities of what really happened on 22 Nov 1963. Barry Keane actually had the pleasure of meeting him in Dallas in 1999.

Earlier in the year the executor of the will of a gentleman by the name of Stanley Martin had bequeathed to the Group a large collection of books on Crime in general including at least 40 on JFK. Some are quite rare. It has been decided that the books should be auctioned at Canterbury.

Two major books have been started by members of the Group, one being edited by Mark Bridger and the other being written by Chris Robertson. We thank them, and all those involved, for their efforts. See Item 10.

Stuart thanked John Wassell and all the committee for their help and support over the last year. Allan has done an excellent job with the accounts, as has Mark Bridger as Echo Editor. We also thank Francesca Akhtar who worked for nearly five years as Membership Secretary but who has now stepped down. Thanks go to Peter Antill for having taken her place. Finally thanks go to all the members for their help and encouragement. Please keep in contact whenever

possible. We would love to hear from you.

5. Treasurer's Report

Allan Johnson tabled copies of the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2010 – a copy is attached to these minutes. The year had begun with £823 in the bank and had ended with £1266, a very satisfactory state of affairs considering our expenditure on the Journal. Postage costs to the USA and UK have also gone up further. Another very successful auction at Canterbury had realised £346, slightly more than the previous year. Membership subscriptions had amounted to £658, with £44 in donations. The auction cancels out postage and distribution costs and subscriptions cover the printing.

\$868 dollars had also been banked, amounting to £521.67 being money that had been collected by Mark Rowe for USA subscriptions. £58 had been written off against meals paid for at Canterbury where the visitors from the USA had been prevented from attending due to cancelled flights. Allan also thanked the three people who had donated £10 each at Canterbury by not claiming Saturday lunch money back.

Allan confirmed that we move into 2011 in a financially viable and healthy position. The accounts were proposed for adoption by Barry Keane and seconded by Mike Dworetzky – agreed by all.

It was also agreed that Membership Subscriptions be held at their existing levels in 2012, unless financial circumstances force a re-assessment.

A discussion ensued as to whether some profit could be realised from the website e.g. payment for hits and advertising. Maybe some sort of arrangement could be set up with Amazon whereby those using the DPUK website are directed towards Amazon to purchase any advertised books. Maybe John Simkin could advise if commercial exploitation of the Group were to be considered. Although setting up a PayPal account was considered this was felt unnecessary at this stage since we have nothing to sell apart from subscriptions.

The statement of accounts was proposed for adoption by Barry Keane and seconded by Adrian Morris. All agreed.

6. Membership Secretary's Report

Peter Antill had reported that he is updating the 2010 membership list and is asking for confirmation of postal and e-mail addresses. 44 members were listed last year, including 4 life members. We also have 18 members in the USA and thanks go to Mark Rowe for his support as USA Membership Secretary. Only nine have re-joined in the UK so far this year but we also have one new member. No doubt others will be re-joining in the near future.

A discussion ensued as to whether the Internet was making groups like ours redundant. The general feeling was probably not because the Echo is a very well regarded Journal. Should we charge more for the Journal or raise membership fees? It was agreed certainly not this year. Journal costs are covered and Canterbury is self-financing. The membership list is currently in a pdf file because this is universally readable.

7. Journal Editor's Report

Mark Bridger reported that three journals had been produced in 2010 each of which maintained a very high standard of literary and technical content. This was mainly thanks to the efforts of a few valued members and it is hoped to get more members to contribute articles in the future. Articles submitted this during the year attracted a great deal of praise and debate both sides of the Atlantic. We may not know for certain the names of the gunmen, or exactly from where they fired, but we do have a wealth of information indicating who were the architects of this coup d'état. Mark thanked in particular Alaric Rosman and Chris Scally for all their contributions to the Journal, and to Barry Keane for all that he has done. Here's to 2011 and a new, improved, Dealey Plaza Echo under the expert tutelage of our Canadian Oliver Stone – Mark de Valk.

Mark de Valk is also thinking about re-invigorating the Journal and is considering the following: -

- a) Glossy colour cover
- b) internal format and layout upgrade
- c) change of title – maybe seek advice from members on a new name
- d) clarification of copyright parameters i.e. statement that submitted material may be used for general dissemination in other formats and on the internet.

It was agreed that the committee should consider these points as soon as possible. It was also felt important that members should be regularly encouraged to submit articles etc.

8. Election of Management Committee.

Bill Beadle thanked the committee for the work that they had undertaken in 2010 and proposed that each person standing for re-election should be re-elected to the post that they held last year. In addition, Peter Antill's post as Membership Secretary and Mark de Valk's post as Journal Editor were both ratified by the meeting. The motions were seconded by Mike Dworetzky and agreed by all present.

The 2011 Committee therefore comprises the following members: -

Chairman: John Wassell

Vice-Chairman: Barry Keane

Hon. Secretary: Stuart Galloway

Hon. Treasurer: Allan Johnson

UK Membership Secretary: Peter Antill

US Membership Secretary: Mark Rowe

Journal Editor: Mark de Valk

President & Committee Member: Ian Griggs

The meeting was also pleased that Bernard Wilds is willing to continue as our Webmaster.

It was decided that, if necessary, Mark Bridger would be co-opted onto the Committee to feed back information relating to progress on the DPUK Book. However, it was pointed out from the floor that it was unlikely that Mark would wish to be

so co-opted bearing in mind the comments he made in his valedictory editorial in the Dealey Plaza Echo dated November 2010.

9. Update on Arrangements for the Canterbury Seminar – 16th/17th April 2011

Response to the initial e-mails has been very positive. Over 30 people have expressed an interest in attending. Invites have been sent to a number of potential speakers and many have responded positively. The main speaker from the USA was to have been Nancy Weiford but she has suddenly dropped out. However, we are very pleased that Gerald McKnight and Clay Ogilvie are coming to the event this year. It is planned to hold two Open Forums following the success of the format over the last two years. Subjects to be decided by members (see below). Pinocchio's is again popular with delegates on the Friday and the Saturday evening meal is to be held at the Best Western Abbots Barton Hotel. The Chaucer Hotel has closed. Following the success of last year, a buffet lunch in the Powell Building will also be arranged for the Sunday lunchtime.

Ideas for the Open Forums currently include: -

- a) The CIA and the Cubans
- b) The Acoustic Evidence
- c) Zapruder Film Fakery

Stuart will e-mail delegates for other ideas.

10. Update on Writing of Books – Mark Bridger/Chris Robertson

A) Barry Keane reported on the DPUK book in Mark's absence. Although still early days, the basic structure of the Book has been established. Work is in progress. It will become an anthology. A different person is writing each chapter, although some are writing two chapters each. Peter Antill is seeking advice from Adrian Morris on publication issues. Lancer Publications is also being consulted. It is hoped to have all inputs completed by the 3rd quarter of this year. There will be a suitable quote at the start of each chapter, numbering about 16 in all. Subject matter is wide ranging. There will be a summary at the end of each chapter. Recommendation that The History Press should be contacted they are a specialist local and history publisher based in Gloucestershire and have been in business for over 30 years. The meeting felt that the format is important e.g. Kindle and get it on a Google page. Advertise the book in the Whitechapel Society Journal. The committee is asked to keep abreast of costs and advise when necessary.

The publication of the Book could be helped by the fact that Larry Hancock, one of the contributors, is a published author. It was agreed that the Book should be aimed at people generally interested in the case, rather than just researchers. In other words, not like the content of the Echo, which tends to be for specialists. Bill Beadle kindly offered to write a chapter if required.

A simple explanation is required at some point as to who may have killed Kennedy, so tying up the subject matter will be important e.g. the Cuban Connection, Oilmen, Entrepreneurs, Weapons industry etc. Who did it, how did they get away with it? Use a time-line technique. Tony Basing gave a top down vision of how facts should cascade. Perhaps put in a format similar to "The Mammoth Book of Jack the Ripper" – a selection of current views on who the Ripper may have been, penned by 17 different authors. It is vital that the book should be available to combat the drivel that the BBC is likely to be putting out in 2013. Maybe have a session on it at Canterbury.

B) Chris Robertson surmised that 2013 (50th Anniversary) would be a huge world-wide event generating numerous re-issues of old books, new books, and TV documentaries, including Conspiracy Theory contributions. The massive coverage after years, only the Researchers have kept the subject genuinely alive. Bugliosi has sold rights for serialisation of his book to Home Box Office – an American premium cable TV network owned by Time Warner. 7 dramatised episodes plus 3 extra programmes where Bugliosi will have the opportunity of attacking those who do not believe in Warren. Important we have an answer to what is likely to be the pedalling of many unproven "facts" pertaining to "Oswald did it". Chris will write his book as part of the ammunition required. He has a major European publisher very interested – probably the best in the world for serious books written for popular, widespread, appeal. Will be published as a paperback first (Oct 2013) and then aim for newspaper serialisation. Frustrating 13 months in discussions but seemed to have paid off, helped by the DPUK Sunday Times article published in 2005. Two sample chapters have already been submitted. Money provided to date not enough to fund a detailed research programme. May be subsidised by Chris from other work. Today publishers reach decisions by consensus of all execs. Lot of work needed for one person – should be three if funding could accommodate.

Chris then gave a brief account of his own views on the how, who, and why and the CIA, Mafia, and other intelligence agencies. JFK's own actions on Cuba, all come into it. However, it is vital to get the public there stage by stage, with no extravagant unsupported claims.

It is vital to exhibit a calm approach to the subject rather than the type of hysteria that is found on some JFK forums. Chris will require help from members – face-to-face interviews followed by an agreed write-up by him. The public will want how & why questions answered in particular. We need an analytical macro-view of the case. It is important to remember that the subject is not exhausted even though to us any move forward may seem slow and painful. There is an immense amount of interest in Kennedy's life and death bubbling beneath the surface. We need to find a way to feed those hungry for answers.

11. Annual Achievement Award

Barry Keane was very pleased to announce that all votes cast for the recipient of the 2010 Annual Achievement Award had been cast for Alaric Rosman. The Award will be presented to him at Canterbury in April. Congratulations go to Alaric and thanks for all that he has done for the Group over many years: He has been a real mainstay. The articles he writes are numerous and worthy of mention, his presentations are absolutely marvellous, and his support to the annual auction is

legendary!! Thanks go to Barry Keane for having produced the trophy.

12. Date of the Next AGM

This was set for Sunday 22nd January 2012

The meeting was declared closed at 3.15pm

DEALEY PLAZA UK

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 12 MONTHS TO 31/12/2010

RECEIPTS	No000	£	PAYMENTS	£
SUBSCRIPTIONS @ £18.00	31 MEMBERS	558.00	PRINTING COSTS	660.00
SUBSCRIPTIONS @ £10.00	10 MEMBERS	100.00	POSTAGE, STATIONERY & OTHER DISTRIBUTION COSTS	324.34
US SUBSCRIPTIONS BANKED (\$668)		521.67	WEBSITE COSTS	29.36
DONATIONS		44.00	COLLECTION COSTS OF DONATED BOOKS	45.00
CANTERBURY CONFERENCE RECEIPTS		1101.00	CANTERBURY CONFERENCE EXPENDITURE	1156.51
AUCTION PROCEEDS CANTERBURY 2010		346.90	EXPENSES RE RUSS BAKER VISIT	11.50
TOTAL RECEIPTS		2671.17	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	2228.71
			SURPLUS FOR PERIOD	442.46
		2671.17		2228.71
BALANCE AT BARCLAYS 01/01/2010		823.68		
ADD: SURPLUS FOR PERIOD AS ABOVE		442.46		
BALANCE AT BARCLAYS 31/12/2010		1266.14		

NOTES

1 As with previous years, the above accounts only show items passing through the UK bank account.
As at 31st December 2010, Mark Rowe was holding the sum of \$50.00 on behalf of DPUK and also \$108.00 was held by the treasurer.