AGENDA OF THE MORRISONIAN CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY 12 JUNE 2021 AT 1100
VIA ZOOM FROM THE MEMORIAL HALL

1. PRESIDENT’S WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS
The President, Sheila Dunbar, opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending either in person or via the ZOOM webinar. She also thanked Michelle McGregor and her team for successfully setting up Memorial Hall in a safe and compliant manner by adhering to the current requirements and restrictions brought by the pandemic.

PRESENT
Committee attendees in person
President: Sheila Dunbar
Secretary: Fiona Walthall
Judith Bell
Jim McGregor
Margaret MacArthur
Landel Johnston

Committee attendees via ZOOM
Helen Lewis McPhee

Other attendees in person
Gareth Warren - Rector
David Glen – Chairman of the Board
Michelle Gardi McGregor – Head of External Relations
Olivia Macfarlane – External Relations Officer
Bain Shaw – Club Member

Other attendees via ZOOM
Brian Vidler
Stephen Thompson
Mike Cochrane
Nigel Dunkley
Ian Wilson
Kenneth Murray
Mary Stewart
Robert Bone
Peter Glover
Gordon Lamont
Peter Hingston
2. **APOLOGIES**  
Committee Members  
Miranda Powell – Vice President  
Colin Dolby – Treasurer  
Sally Brooks  
Karen Elwis  
Jenny Lee  
David McColl  

Other apologies  
Scotty Watson  
Roger Robinson  
Elspeth Weisberg  
Brain McLean  
Gordon Martin

3. **MINUTES OF 2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & UPDATES**  
Due to the 2020 global pandemic, the Minutes of 2019 AGM were taken as read.

4. **ADOPTION OF THE 2019 AGM MINUTES**  
Proposed: Landel Johnston  
Seconded: Jim McGregor

5. **MATTERS ARISING**  
Sheila reported that there were no matters to be recorded owing to the pandemic and resultant restrictions.

6. **PRESENTATION OF HONORARY MEMBERSHIP: LANDEL JOHNSTON**  
Landel welcomed all those who were able to attend the meeting in person plus those from around the world and had great pleasure in making the presentations. As detailed in the Club’s constitution, it states,  
“ in General Meeting, elect Honorary Members. Any former Governor or former member of staff of the Academy and any person having rendered notable services to the Club or to the Academy will be eligible for Honorary Membership.”

The following members of staff have been nominated to become Honorary Members of the Club:  
Those leaving in 2021  

Arrived as the 12th Rector and Principal of Morrison's Academy in August 2015 having been through a successful selection process some 12 months earlier and since this time, the school has seen much development delivered by his team of dedicated and expert staff.
Several notable challenges and exciting opportunities have been added to Gareth’s CV whilst in charge at Morrison’s Academy. However, in this forum our thanks should really be focused from the Morrisonian Club point of view whilst recognising some of the other significant challenges in this period.

His continued support and development of the Club Gatherings across the breadth of the UK, namely in Aberdeen, Inverness, Glasgow, Edinburgh and London plus overseas engagements with FPs in Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur.

He established a group within London who have supported the development of Cricket once again amongst all age groups.

The addition of bringing the current School Captains and Vice Captains to meet the FPs and share what it is like being a Morrisonian today has provided a fresh insight for many an FP at these gatherings of just how much things have changed.

Other notable achievements either directly or by his support and encouragement of others has seen:

- Continuing the school’s strong academic heritage with enriched with numerous skills-focused educational programmes including Forest Schools, the first Peter Jones Enterprise Academy in Scotland, and a unique STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) programme for Primary pupils.

- And possibly some more difficult decisions, with mixed reactions I am sure whether it stimulated the memories of the gala days or the cold days but ultimately the demise of the swimming pool with its closure.

- The converse being the continued development of golf with involvement of FPs at the Gleneagles Golfing Academy and now the new pitch and putt facility at Dallerie. (And no, it is not an April fool this time round).

- The opening and completion of the long awaited modern floodlight hockey pitch at Dallerie.

- With some support and contribution from the Club has seen the state of the art libraries and science labs, a strength and conditioning suite and more recently the new STEM workshop, the Bauhaus Suite.

I would like to thank Gareth once again for his efforts throughout his tenure, especially during the past year with his continued involvement in the Scottish Child Abuse Inquiry (SCAI) supporting our FPs who have been sharing their experiences and most importantly managing the Academy under a world pandemic with all the ever changing COVID rules and requirements under his continued stewardship for a couple months more, in the 160th year of the school.

He presented Gareth Warren with a Club tie who thanked Landel for his kind words and stated that it was important to connect with the school community and the wider former pupil audience. He mentioned that it had been an immense privilege and pleasure to
serve as Rector and Principal and the kindness, friendliness and warmth shown to his family and wished the school and club continued success for the future.

**Leavers in 2021**

- Eddie Coffey: Head of Languages: 2002–21  
  19 years’ service
- Brian Bellman: CCF School Staff Instructor: 2014–21  
  7 years’ service
- Seonaid Roberts: Pipe Band and Music Dept Administrator: Pipe Band 2013–21  
  8 years’ service
- Carolyn Cassidy: Catering Assistant: 9 years’ service
- Anne Deacons: School Cleaner: 8 years’ service
- Shirley MacIntosh: tea lady: 2012 – 2021: 9 years’ service
- **Retirees or left in 2020**
  - Ian Barr: Primary Teacher: 2002 – 2020: 18 years’ service
  - Sandy Beavington: Primary Teacher: 2015 – 2020: 5 years’ service
  - Gina Thomson: Nursery 2002 – 2020: established the Nursery: 18 years’ service

### 7. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

On Colin’s behalf, Fiona gave a résumé of the club’s accounts which have been audited and reviewed by Morag Speak, Finance Manager.

**Year Ended 31 March 2021.**

The club finished the year with a £3,685 surplus (2020: £4,235 deficit) and with £6,107 in the bank. 2020: £2,322.

The only financial activity in the year was the receipt of the annual income from the lifetime membership of pupils, which was £3,785. 2020: £3,773.

The accounts have been independently reviewed by the school’s finance manager, Morag Speak. Many thanks to her for her continued support in this matter.

There are no further comments to be made with regards to the finances of the club.

### 8. ADOPTION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Proposed: Judith Bell  
Seconded: Margaret MacArthur

### 9. APPOINTMENT OF FINANCIAL INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Morag Speak is happy to continue in her role as Independent financial adviser for another year.

### 10. ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Proposed: Landel Johnston  
Seconded: Bain Shaw
RECTOR’S REPORT JUNE 2021

In what has been a unique year, I am pleased to report that the school has responded to the challenges faced with a dedication and professionalism that has strongly enhanced it reputation.

Back to the origins of the Covid outbreak, we were required to engage immediately with the return of our ski party from Italy. The impending lockdown provided a short window to prepare to remote learning and a significant effort by teaching staff to ensure all materials, equipment and digital understanding was in place before the school closed.

Fortunately, for the previous four years we had digital learning as one of our key strategic strands, including a significant investment in hardware that allowed every child and member of staff possession of a laptop and access to our Virtual Learning Environment. For our younger Primary pupils, work packs had been created that would support their learning and these were delivered to houses.

The priority of our remote learning was for the pupils’ experience was to be one of high quality activities and these were balanced with active challenges and fun events to ensure good mental health was maintained.

On our return in August 2020, a new set or Covid regulations and guidance had to be adhered to including social distancing, sanitising stations, face masks as well as a multitude of procedures to follow for the serving of food and the maintenance of year group bubbles. As the Autumn term progressed there was a gradual easing of the regulations and cocurricular activities began, much to the joy of pupils and staff alike.

Following the Christmas holiday, the second lockdown period commenced and although we were only provided with a few days to prepare, the school was placed to continue a high level of education through the Easter term. As the restrictions eased our Nursery and Lower Primary pupils were welcomed back and by the end of the term Secondary pupils were experiencing in-house teaching as well as participating in co-curricular programmes, outdoor adventures and sporting days at Dallerie.

During the Easter term, further details were emerging of the SQA examination requirements for this year. The school had been well placed by its remote provision to complete the courses in good time and identify a fair robust programme of assessments to allow pupils to demonstrate their ability yet with the rigour and rules expected.

Tremendous credit must go to the teaching staff for their continued professionalism throughout the Summer term in what were trying circumstances and having a substantial additional workload placed upon them through the setting, marking and moderation of national qualification assessments.

As well as assessments for our Senior pupils, the Summer term bought a return to further activities and events. Although still limited by government regulations we were able hold Sports days for both our Primary and Secondary Schools, the S6 fortnight experience (culminating in a Summer Ball) and our Speech Days with invited parents at a marquee down at Dallerie. The highlight of all the achievements was, without doubt the production of the School Show – The Addams Family. Whilst under strict regulations of
singing and playing instruments, utilising our outdoor classroom, technical mastery and a high degree of imagination, our Music and Drama Departments created and filmed a superb show that was streamed out to audiences one Friday night. A brilliant achievement in such adversity.

Finally, there was return to some competitive sporting fixtures, notably cricket and tennis which gave the sense of a beginning of a return to normality. In what has been 18 months of consistent challenge, the school has been exemplary in maintaining great discipline in enacting Covid procedures, exemplary in maintaining academic standards and exemplary in caring for the welfare for each member of our community.

Finally, on a personal note it has been a privilege and please to lead the School through the last six years of its history. I wish you all well.

Gareth J Warren
Rector and Principal
June 2021

12. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

- **President**: Sheila Dunbar
  Proposed by: Landel Johnston  
  Seconded: Jim McGregor

- **Vice President**: Miranda Powell
  Proposed by: Judith Bell  
  Seconded: Landel Johnston

- **Treasurer**: Colin Dolby
  Proposed by: Landel Johnston  
  Seconded: Jim McGregor

- **Secretary**: Fiona Walthall
  Proposed by: Margaret MacArthur  
  Seconded: Judith Bell

13. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

- David Glen greeted everyone present and echoed Landel’s remarks to Gareth and picked up the matter of the SCAI and support offered to Former Pupils.

- Gareth mentioned that a £1-2 million strategy investment in the campus during the forthcoming year due to the generous legacies from Thomas Morrison and Henry Vick who left his entire estate to the school.

- Bain Shaw highlighted that a practice of former Morriston Rectors from 1950s would wear the school tie and raised a humorous point that it would be noted if Gareth was wearing the Morrisonian tie when Heriots and Morrisons met on the playing fields.

14. PRESIDENT’S CLOSING REMARKS

Sheila thanked everyone for attending the AGM both in person and virtually and hoped that circumstances for next year’s meeting would be very different to allow for an in person meeting to convene once again on Sports Day and wished all attendees a safe onward journey.