



Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



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Chairman – **Frank Murray** Secretary – **Gil Nicol** Treasurer – **Mick Walker**

Minutes of the meeting held on Sunday 17 March 2013 at The Royal British Legion, Rodney Street, Edinburgh.

- 1.0 **Members Present** ; Frank Murray , Gil Nicol , Mick Walker , Kim Panton , Eoghann mac lachlainn , John Donaldson , Ronnie Drummond , Ron McCartan , Brian Earl , Gordon Mc Leod , Andy Paterson , Alex McWhirter and Raymond Mannion .
- 2.0 **Apologies** ; Willie Grant , Craig McQuade , Andy Mullen , David Brock , Hugh McPhee , Dougie Archibald , Norrie Bishop , Jim Simpson , Roy Kay and all overseas members.
- 3.0 **Welfare Report** ; Mick Walker has been to visit Jim Simpson at home and he is recovering and taking things easy.
- 4.0 **Chairman's Welcome** ; Frank welcomed all present with a special mention for Eoghann Mac laughlainn , who does not attend many meeting as he lives in the Inner Hebrides. A minutes silence was observed in remembrance of all past members and those who have fallen in recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.
“We will remember them”
- 5.0 **Minutes of Last Meeting** ; The previous minutes were proposed as accurate by Brian Earl and seconded by Kim Panton.
- 6.0 **Matters Arising** ; There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.
- 7.0 **Secretary's Report** ;
 - (a) Copies of Fred Gray's book "The Airborne Engineers" have been distributed to all who requested copies.
 - (b) Details of contact for The Shoebox Appeal have been forwarded to Craig and Kathy Mac Quade , the details were forwarded to us by Bunny Brown of our Birmingham Branch.
 - (c) Arnhem 2014 – members were reminded that Arnhem 2014 is the 70th anniversary of "Operation Market Garden" and should anyone wish to make the journey please contact Gil Nicol or Craig McQuade as they are looking into various options.
It was pointed out to the members that it could cost in the region of £800.00.
Gil Nicol has contacted John Ferry (AEA Chairman) to see if The Airborne Engineers are going as a main body or if it is being left to individual branches , he will get back to Gil later.
It was stated in the recent copy of "The Jumper" that grants may be available to assist with attending this venture and the person to contact was Mrs Tracy Miller (A.B.F.S.F)
Gil Nicol contacted her and was informed that no decision has been made as they have

limited funds available , however because we have the R.E. Cap Badge she suggested that we contact the Royal Engineers regarding funding. This will be looked into from all aspects as we are/were “Airborne Engineers” which means that we are/were members of The Airborne Forces.

8.0 Treasurer’s Report ; Before commencing with The Treasurers Report we had to elect a Treasurer.

Mick Walker was proposed by Gil Nicol and seconded by Brian Earl – this was accepted unanimously and Mick intimated that he was happy to accept the position.

Now that we had a Treasurer in place his report on our Financial position was presented and we are still in a healthy financial position. This report was passed and seconded as being accurate.

Mick informed us that he will forward our donation to The Yorkshire Branch (AEA) regarding Molly, the caretakers granddaughter who requires treatment for flat head syndrome.

9.0 Website Report ; John Donaldson reported that he has a new computer but it is not suitable for our purposes and he will continue using his old computer until it packs in. This means that when he commences using his new computer then new software will be required , it was agreed that we look at this problem when and if it arises.

Information regarding names and addresses for The Nominal Roll will be issued as PDF.

10.0 The Shoe box Appeal ; There was no report

11.0 Future Meetings ; All future meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month , every 2nd month , starting from and including January 2013. Meetings will commence at 1300hrs.

12.0 A.O.CB.

(a) Gil Nicol asked the members to give some thoughts to having more outings in the summer of 2013 as we did not have so many last year

(b) Gordon McLeod is willing to organise hill walking trips for members , commencing after our May 2013 meeting , anyone interested either contact Gordon or raise it at the May meeting.

(c) Eoghann maclachlainn informed all members that he has a croft in Uist, Outer Hebrides, and we are welcome to use it. Gordon McLeod is willing to organise this outing if anyone is interested.

(d) A gentleman called Jim Kilbride (Ex 2 Para) contacted Mick Walker and informed him that he is carrying out a project to restore a Dakota (KP 208) to ensure it is fit to fly again. He was looking for a donation towards the cost of this project and would appreciate any assistance given

It was decide to discuss this in more detail at our next meeting.

(e) Final numbers are required for attendance at The Armed Forces Day Parade to be held in Glenrothes in July 2013. No one will be allowed entry if they do not have the necessary passes (even if anyone turns up suited and booted).

Final numbers will be required at our next meeting in May 2013

The meeting was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the chair

13.0 Date of Next Meeting ; Our next meeting will be on Sunday 19th may 2013 (1300hrs) at The Royal British Legion , Rodney Street , Edinburgh.