



Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk

Chairman - Frank Murray

Secretary - Gil Nicol

Treasurer - Mick Walker

**Minute of meeting held at the Royal British Legion, Central Branch, Rodney Street,
Edinburgh at 1300hrs. on 15 May 2011**

1. MEMBERS PRESENT

Jimmy Simpson, Kim Panton, John Donaldson, Raymond Mannion, Alex McWhirter, Norrie Bishop, Ronnie Drummond, Frank Murray (Chairman), Roy Kay, Craig McQuade, Hugh McPhee, Andy Mullen and Mick Walker.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

The Chairman warmly welcomed those present. While he made mention of the female bomb disposal officer who had been killed in Afghanistan since our last meeting he invited us to stand and observe a minute's silence for all who had been lost in that period.

3. APOLOGIES

An apology had been received from Gil Nicol and it was agreed Mick Walker should assume the Secretary's duties for the day. Apologies had also been received from Dougie Archibald, Willie Grant, Kenny Wratten, Ian McIntyre, Jimmy Wilson and were taken as read from our overseas members..

4. MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Frank Murray Highlighted Item 9 of the minute of 20 March and said it would be clearer if it stated that our meetings were on the third Sunday of the odd months. The minute was adopted, with that amendment, as a true record on the motion of Jimmy Simpson who was seconded by Craig McQuade.

5. MATTERS ARISING

There were none.

6. WEBSITE UPDATE

John had nothing to report on the actual website. He did, however, mention that Geoff Howard was reported in the minute of the March OGM as saying a link to AEA Scotland was required. John had e-mailed him saying there was, and had been for some time, such a link but he had yet to get a reply.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Mick circulated a report of our financial position. This showed that we remained in a relatively healthy position and had made a small surplus since our last meeting. The report was accepted on the motion of Andy Mullen who was seconded by Alex McWhirter

8. ALTERNATIVE XMAS LUNCH

It was agreed this would be held in The Glen Tavern, Pittencrieff Street, Dunfermline on 26 June at 1230 (for 1300). Mick extended an invitation to those attending to retire to his house nearby afterwards for further refreshments.

This will be a Xmas lunch –ie turkey, etc. As it will be “out of season” could those not at the meeting but who wish to have lunch please advise Mick before 19 June (01383 723925 or balvaig@btinternet.com).

Directions are below.

9. SHOE BOX APPEAL

Craig indicated he was happy to continue making up and despatching the boxes and took possession of items members had brought in. Several financial donations had been/were made and Mick later gave £60 (£40 donations and £20 surplus from last appeal) to Craig to help continue the good work.

Craig gave a summary of the response he had received and cited in particular the uplifting affect the boxes had on the morale of those in the field.

The Chairman initiated a debate as to which Units the boxes should be sent. It was agreed these should be sent Para REs, REs if there were no Para REs and Scottish units if there was none of the aforementioned on active service. Craig pointed out it was difficult to imagine circumstance where there would not be REs engaged in the current conflict.

Frank passed on our thanks to Craig and Tom Ormiston for leading the Branch effort in this work.

10. GOLF

It was agreed arrangements would be made at our July meeting for the Colin Reid Memorial Cup contest.

11. WELFARE

Roy advised that Jimmy Wilson had recently been hospitalised with fluid on the lung. He is now back home with the problem resolved and is a bit tired but as cheerful as ever. Kim said if anyone wanted to visit Jimmy the best time was about 1000hrs as his home help was present then. Jimmy is recently wheelchair bound and a bit deaf so it could take him some time to answer the door.

12. ARMED FORCES WEEKEND

This will be held in Edinburgh over the weekend 24 – 26 June when there will be a full programme of events each day. The main event for us will be the parade on Saturday – muster in Johnston Terrace at 1030hrs for parade at 1100hrs down the High Street followed by a drumhead service 1230 – 1300hrs.

A draft programme of events for the weekend is available from Mick.

13. AIRBORNE FORCES DAY (SCOTLAND)

This is being organised by our PRA friends and is to be held in Dalkeith on 23 July. The outline programme is a service in Dalkeith Parish Church at 1100hrs (all seated by 1045hrs) followed by a short parade to Dalkeith Indoor Bowling Club where there will be a buffet.

The PRA hope to be joined by some serving soldiers back from Afghanistan and that their CO will take the salute at the parade.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This is scheduled for **17 July at 1300hrs**. Mick indicated he might not be able to make a financial report then as he is due to return from holiday only the previous day.

DIRECTIONS

Coming from the west cross the original Kincardine Bridge and follow the A944 to Dunfermline. On entering Dunfermline go straight through the first traffic lights and The Glen Tavern is about 150yards on the left. There is a car park on the right just before The Glen.

From other directions turn off the M90 at the Halbeath Interchange and follow the signs for Dunfermline and the Kincardine Bridge. Go through the town on that road and after crossing The Glen Bridge The Glen Tavern is about 250yards on the right.

For anybody coming by bus, exit the bus station on the same road as the buses then turn left to The Glen Bridge and as above.

A taxi from the train station will be less than £5.

Contact Mick if any clarification is needed.