



## *Airborne Engineers Association*

*Registered Charity Number: 1009201*

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### **MINUTES OF AN AIRBORNE ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (COUNCIL MEETING) HELD AT ALDERSHOT ON SUNDAY 22 APRIL 2012**

Attachments:

1. Treasurer's Report as at April 2012.

**The Meeting Opened at 1030 hours.**

#### **Members Present**

John Ferry (Chairman), John Lee (President), Billy Morris (Membership Secretary/AEA Ultra Club), Dick Brown (Treasurer), Dave Rutter (Editor and Shop rep), Fred Gray (Archivist/Historian), Joe Stoddart (Vice-president), Geoff Howard (General Secretary).

#### **Chairman's Opening Remarks**

- The Chairman thanked all for attending his first OGM as Chairman, he promised to make the meeting as painless as possible!
- A 1 minute silence was held for departed comrades.

*Afternote: The meeting WAS painless!*

#### **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Comment was called for on the Minutes of the Ordinary General Meeting held at Coventry on Saturday 29 October 2011.

There being no matters arising the minutes were accepted. Proposed by Dave Rutter, seconded by John Lee. **CARRIED.**

#### **Treasurer's Report**

A copy of the Treasurer's Report is at Attachment 1.

Proposed by John Lee, seconded by Billy Morris, that the Treasurer's Report be accepted subject to audit. **CARRIED.**

## Journal/Editor's Report

Dave Rutter outlined his report, bulleted as follows:

- The cost of postage is set to rise – the current cost is 92p, this could rise to £1.20 in the near future, steps have been taken to hold the cost at 92p for the next 12 months.
- *Discussion ensued on possible solutions, some possibilities as follows:*
  1. *An increase to subscriptions.*
  2. *Some reduction in the weight of paper.*
  3. *Reduce frequency from 3 to 2 per annum.*
  4. *Move to E-production.*
- **No decision was reached by Council. It was decided to put solutions to the vote at AGM 2012.**
- As always, Dave called for contributions to the Journal – please attach photographs if possible.

Proposed by Billy Morris, seconded by Dick Brown that the Journal Report be accepted.

**CARRIED.**

## Membership Report

Billy Morris stated that the membership stands at 1432. So far this year, 8 new members have joined – very few are joining from 23 Regiment.

Billy outlined a number of initiatives on recruiting – his poster campaign, car decals and the like.

Proposed by Dick Brown, seconded by John Lee: that 'The Membership Report be accepted as presented'.

**CARRIED.**

The Chairman directed that an official vote of thanks be recorded for Billy's efforts as Membership Secretary over the last 6 years.

***Afternote: These minutes are distributed to OC/SSM 9 Sqn – please raise awareness as much as possible of the AEA within the Regiment – many thanks.***

## Archivist/Historian Report

Fred Gray submitted a verbal report, bulleted as follows:

- The history of 9 Airborne/Parachute Squadron 1948-1990 is well underway and it is hoped to be ready for proof reading by the end of Jun 12. Options for publishing are being investigated.

- Fred is currently fielding 4-5 enquiries a month, mainly from families wishing to learn more about their fathers'/grandfathers' service. A positive response can be supplied to most.
- Fred will be standing down as Historian when the History and Inventory of Archives are complete, total service in the post being some 22 years – a sterling contribution. A new Historian will be required. Prospective candidates will require space for the archived material.

Proposed by Billy Morris, seconded by John Lee: 'That the Historian/Archivist Report be accepted as presented'. **CARRIED.**

The Chairman directed that a vote of thanks be recorded for Fred's service to the Association.

### **Ultra Club Report**

Billy Morris presented the following report:

The AEA Ultra Club is a running club for dedicated runners who want to go that extra mile, an Ultra event is any distance that exceeds the 26.2 miles of a full marathon.

The current membership is:

Billy Morris, Bob Chatterton, Dave Leibrick, Reg Grantham and Jamie Rankine.

Jamie is a serving Warrant Officer who has recently joined the 'Ultra' ranks to take part in the Falklands 30<sup>th</sup> Run being planned for November 2012..

Billy, Bob, Dave and Jamie (sounds like The Waltons!) are planning to complete the 3 Para Gp route over the Falklands in November to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (75 miles in 20 hours) and raise money for Charity. Billy will circulate a poster with the details and there will be opportunity to contribute on-line or at the AGM in October..

The team is currently training hard in preparation.

Proposed by John Lee, seconded by Dave Rutter: 'That the Ultra Club Report be accepted as presented'. **CARRIED.**

### **Shop Report**

Dave Rutter submitted a verbal report, bulleted as follows:

- Shop sales are ticking over at a steady rate – Total sales of approx £2000.00 this year.

- There will inevitably have to be a review of P&P charges in line with the general rise in postage rates..
- The Shop will be open at the 2012 AGM with as full a range available as is possible. Members are encouraged to pre-order items for the Hull weekend – these can be brought along for distribution.
- Thank you to all Members for their continuing support to the shop.

Proposed by Dick Brown and seconded by John Lee that the Shop Report be accepted.

**CARRIED.**

The Chairman directed that a vote of thanks be recorded to Jeanette Rutter for her sterling work in keeping the shop a going concern.

### **Any Other Business**

#### **Presidents Points**

John Lee raised points bulleted as follows:

- President's Commendations – 3 Nominations have been received so far – Branches are encouraged to submit nominations (supported by a short citation) for the award of commendations at the 2012 AGM/reunion.
- Cenotaph Parade 2012 – bids for places on the Cenotaph parade have been received from various branches – the numbers will be collated and allocations made in July/August.
- Accommodation Prices AGM 2012 – Members should be aware that the Hotel is offering a 3 night deal (Thu/Fri/Sat) for £99.00 per person. The Booking proforma was issued in the AEA Journal.
- The President requested the Chair to direct a vote of thanks be recorded to 299 Branch for their work in organising the AGM/reunion.
- The President stated that he would write to CO, RSM, OCs SSMs in 23 Regt to formally invite them to the AGM/reunion.

#### **Chairmans Points**

John Ferry raised points bulleted as follows:

- **Double Hills – 2 September 2012** – John proposed that the sum of £150 be made available to assist with the arrangements for Double Hills 2012. This was agreed by Council.
- **1 Para Sqn RE Memorial** – Members should be ware that the unveiling of the Memorial is scheduled for 30 Sep 12.
- **Cromwell Weir Commemoration** – It is understood that this is also scheduled for 30 Sep 12 – John Lee will investigate and circulate details.

- **National Arboretum – Unveiling of ABF Statue** – To take place on 13 July 2012.
- **John Rock – Cemetery Commemoration 7 October 2012** – Chatham Branch have requested that some form of Commemoration is carried out in the cemetery at Tidworth this year. Chatham Branch are requested to provide a detailed proposal/outline plan by end of July.
- **Welfare Officer** – Tony Roberts will stand down as at AGM 2012. Izzy Leather (Mick Leather's MUCH better half) is willing, and has been proposed, as the replacement. The proposal will be debated and voted on at AGM 2012.

### **Chairman's Closing Remarks**

The Chairman thanked all for attending what had proved to be a very productive meeting and wished everyone a safe return journey.

**DONM** – The Date of the Next Meeting was set for **Sat 27 October 2012** to follow AGM 2012..

There being no further business, the meeting closed in good order at 1200hrs.

*Geoff Howard*

G HOWARD  
General Secretary

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**TREASURER'S REPORT**

**Statement of Account as at 22 April 2012**

**Assets**

Cash in Hand	0.00
Cash at Bank	13526.89
Deposit Account	14359.51
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>27886.40</b>

**Liabilities**

Newsletter	4981.89
Projects	2030.17
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>7012.06</b>

**Working Capital**

Assets	27886.40
Minus Liabilities	7012.06

**TOTAL WORKING CAPITAL = 20874.34**

*Richard Brown*

**Treasurer**