



Royal Military Police Association Hull & East Riding Branch



Minutes of the Branch Meeting Held 1st March 2017

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- Members Present:** Fred Hemmerman (FH); Bob Hare (RH); Pete Watson (PW); Bob Boreland (BB); Phil Cowan (PC); Derek Garton (DG); Sandy Robinson BEM (SR); Brian Petch (BP);
- Apologies:** Darren Howlett (DH); Frank Maunder (FM); Terry Scholes (TS); Jon Wild (JW); Mike Walker (MW); Jim Anderson (JA); Dave Emmerson (DE); David Kennedy (DK); Steve Johnson (SJ); Alison Sayell (AS); Craig Hemmerman (CH); Capt. Whitehead RMP
- Not Present:** Steve Woods (SW); Scott Jenkins (SJ2); Michael Sutton (MS); Dave Mitchell (DM);
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Agenda

1. Remembrance
2. Members Present/Apologies Received
3. Absent Friends
4. Minutes of the Previous Branch Meeting
5. Matters Arising.
6. Communications
7. Reports
 - 7.1. CESA
 - 7.2. CENCO
 - 7.3. Standard Bearer
 - 7.4. Corps Journal Correspondent
8. Social Events
9. Any Other Business
10. Close of Meeting & Date of Next Meeting

- 1.0 Meeting opened at 20.00hrs . RH gave the act of remembrance and welcomed the members present. We also took a moment to remember the fallen from the Military Police Roll of Honour:

Lance Corporal WILLIAM GORDON JOLLIFFE
24177549, CORPS OF ROYAL MILITARY POLICE
KILLED IN ACTION, AGE 18, ON 1 MARCH 1971
KILLED WHEN HIS LAND ROVER WAS HIT BY PETROL BOMBS AND CRASHED IN
LONDONDERRY.
LAID TO REST AT TIDWORTH MILITARY CEMETERY.

- 2.0 Members Present/Apologies Received – as indicated above. DH sent apologies as he is in London. TS phoned to say he couldn't make it.

- 3.0 Absent Friends – As detailed in the apologies.
- 4.0 BB proposed that the minutes from the previous meeting were true and an accurate representation. Seconded by PC All in favour.
- 5.0 Matter Arising – Feb 2017 Minutes 9.2 – PW asked whether the expenditure had been proposed, seconded and voted as this had not been reflected in the minutes. RH stated that BB had proposed and that FM seconded and that all were in favour.
- 6.0 Communications –
- 6.1 An email was received from RMPA Hon Sec. regarding an Invitation to South Yorkshire Branch RMPA Annual Dinner.

Dear Branch Secretary

**South Yorkshire Branch Annual Dinner
Friday 21 April 2017, 7pm for 7.30pm
Banqueting Suite, Consort Hotel, Thurcroft, Rotherham, S66 9JA**

We are delighted to invite your members to join us at the Consort Hotel, as above, on occasion of our Branch's Annual Dinner. The cost for the three course dinner is £20 per person and I enclose some booking forms, which are self explanatory, for you to copy/distribute as appropriate.

Menu choices will be made on the night, but I have enclosed a copy of the menu for information. I am happy to receive bookings as soon as possible, with the absolute deadline being Friday 7 April 2017.

Information for anyone wishing to book overnight accommodation at the Hotel is on the bottom of the menu sheet, as is a note regarding dress.

I look forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards

Gordon Haywood

Consort Hotel, Thurcroft, Rotherham, S66 9JA

**South Yorkshire Branch RMPA
Annual Dinner
Friday 21st April 2017
7pm for 7.30pm**

CONSORT SUITE MENU

***Slice of Fresh Melon with Pineapple, Strawberry and Kiwi
Prawn Salad with Marie Rose Sauce
Chicken Liver Pate with Cumberland Sauce and French Toast
Chef's Home Made Chicken & Asparagus Soup***

***Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding
Baked Salmon Steak with Prawn and Tartare Cream
Supreme of Chicken with Bacon, Mushroom, Shallot and Red Wine
Butter Roast Pork Steak with Apple and Stilton
Vegetarian Option Available on Request
(Served with a Selection of Seasonal Vegetables)***

***Chocolate Torte
Strawberry Cheese Cake***

**Pavlova
Cheese & Biscuits**

Coffee and Dinner Mints

**** Please consider the choices and be ready to order at the table ****

Dress: Gentlemen may wear Blazers, Lounge Suits or Dinner Jackets. Ladies as appropriate.

Member wishing to attend should contact their Branch Secretary in the first instance.

6.2 An email was received from the RMPA Vice Chair, Bob Eggleton giving details of the forthcoming Founders Day Parade at the Royal Hospital Chelsea as follows:

Ladies and Gents,

Founder's Day at the Royal Hospital Chelsea is on Thursday 8th June 2017.

A number of tickets for the event have been made available to the Association.

Please circulate to all your members that if they wish to attend the event, which is really worth seeing, then they are to submit their names to me no later than midnight (2400 hrs) on the 8th March 2017. You, as Branch Secretary, may wish to collate the names and send them through to me by e-mail.

I then intend to hold a draw on the 9th March by a person not related to the Association and the successful applicants will be informed immediately. Please inform your members that they are responsible for making their own way to Chelsea and for any costs incurred.

Kindest regards,

Bob Eggleton

Vice Chairman

6.3 An email was received from Vice Chair RMPA Bob Eggleton regarding the Rules of the Association as follows:

Dear members,

Please find attached a proposed set of rules for the Association which have been written to reflect the future and hopefully the survival of the Association. Credit must go in the main to Ron Campbell-Smith who has used his years of experience in drafting such rules and his knowledge when dealing with The Charity Commission. He has also explained below as to how and why the changes are necessary.

In his message he points out the urgency of having the rules finalised in time for the AGM in May, with this time frame in mind I am asking you to circulate the proposed rules to all your members, discuss them as a branch if you can. Ron has provided a separate e-mail address where you can ask questions, it is contained within his message. Members have until the 20th March 2017 to make comments. It is intended that at the AGM those present will be asked to vote YES or NO for the change in the rules, there will not be time for debate on the day.

With the AGM in mind, if you have anything you would like to raise at the meeting please let me know by the 31st March 2017 in order that it can be placed on the agenda. If it is not on the agenda then it will not be discussed at the meeting.

I look forward to seeing you at the Reunion Weekend.

My kindest regards, Bob Eggleton Vice Chair

6.4 An email was received from Bob Eggleton Vice Chair RMPA as follows:

Dear all,

It has become apparent from the response and questions that have been received from members that in some cases the guidance notes which were contained in the original message were not forwarded with the attachment. I have attached the said notes so they can, if not already done so, be forwarded to your members as it may alleviate certain concerns and obviate potential misunderstandings.

Kindest regards,

Bob Eggleton

Attached notes:

Rules of the Association

Colleagues,

We are given to understand that the Regimental Secretary's contract of employment as a civil servant, will in the near future preclude his being involved with the administration of the Association.

He had in the Association Report and Accounts dated 31st December 2015 drawn attention to this likelihood suggesting that the Association might have in the future to contribute to his and his successors income, something an 'Unincorporated Charity' is not empowered to do.

Change to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) is possible, but not practical in the short period we have available to us. (Such a change took the Royal Marines Association five years to achieve.)

The issue was further complicated by our Governing Document (as the Charity Commission call it), or the Association Rules as we call them. The Charity Commission recognise our current rules as those revised in November 2000. A copy of the 'July 2013 revision' was never formally filed with the Commission so does not exist, and the adoption of 'Version 7' at the AGM in 2016 never took place because of a technical error. However none of these rules come close to providing a template for the future we currently face.

The Trustees have unanimously agreed to the completely updated version of the Association Rules attached, reflecting the necessary changes to deal with our new situation and placing the Trustees front and centre in the Charity Administration, which is of course the normal way that most Charities work.

- No changes have been made to the 'Objectives' as this requires Charity Commission written approval, which from considerable experience is a long and laborious task!*
- Reduction of Trustees to 10 has been recommended, all bar one are ipso facto elected to Trusteeship by the Membership. Why the reduction? Simple cost; what decision requires 12 individuals to debate which cannot equally be decided by 10 particularly when most decisions are then ratified by the Membership at the AGM, or if necessary an EGM.*
- Trusteeship is a voluntary position with each Trustee offering their time and expertise in various fields to the Association. Only the actual out of pocket expenses incurred in performing these roles being claimed by the individuals concerned.*
- Trustees are given the power to elect the board officers, including their Chair and Vice Chair from their numbers annually. This is standard board practice in the United Kingdom. The Membership elect the Trustees and they in turn exercise that trust on behalf of the Members.*

- *Additional power to have accounts independently examined or audited, para 8.5 refers.*

It is not our intension to comment upon all fourteen pages of the rules here. They should be clear enough to speak for themselves, however questions can be emailed directly to sprmpa@btinternet.com which is set up for the purpose of receiving constructive comments and responding quickly to questions about the new rules. A portfolio of responses will be maintained. Please do not pose questions to the Regimental Secretary, he is not in the loop.

We believe these rules should be adopted at the May AGM in order to put the procedures for the future in place. They are being exported to the Membership via the secretaries of branches. Our time table is limited, the final document requiring to be ready 28 days prior to the AGM ie 14th April 2017, so your early input is recommended. The Final draft for the AGM will need to be put before the Trustees during the first days of April. They are recommended for your formal adoption at the AGM.

6.5 An email was received from Joy Eggleton, Hon Sec RMPA as follows:

Secretaries,

I am attaching the Instruction for the NMA Parade on 3rd June 2017. This is for your information and dissemination amongst your members.

Thank you

*Joy Eggleton
Honorary Secretary*

Attachment:

THE ANNUAL CHURCH SERVICE, PARADE AND ACT OF REMEMBRANCE AT THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARBORETUM – SATURDAY, 3 JUNE 2017

Introduction

1. Every year, on the first Saturday of June, the Royal Military Police (RMP) and its Association (RMPA) hold a Church Service, Parade and Act of Remembrance at:

*The National Memorial Arboretum (NMA)
Croxall Road,
Alrewas,
Staffordshire, DE13 7AR.
Tel No: 01283 792333
[Information at: thenma.org.uk]*

2. The day will be co-ordinated on behalf of the Provost Marshal (Army) and Commander 1 Military Police Brigade jointly, by the Regimental Secretary (Regt Sec), the Provost Sergeant Major (ProSM) and the Association's National Events Co-ordinator (NEC).

*3. All serving and retired members of the RMP, together with their partners, are encouraged to attend.
Outline of Events/Timings*

4. The outline of the day is as follows:

- a. Assembly. All personnel should assemble at the NMA by no later than 1100 hrs when Last Post and Reveille is sounded across the Arboretum.*
- b. Church Service. A multi-denomination Church Service, led by the Padre, will take place in the NMA Chapel at 1130 hrs. The reading of scriptures within the Service will be detailed by the Regimental Secretary.*

- c. *Parade.* A parade of the National Standard and Branch Standards and all personnel will take place following the Church Service. The format of the parade will be dictated by attendance and will be co-ordinated by the NEC, assisted by the ProSM and the Association's Parade Marshal.
- d. *Act of Remembrance.* A short Act of Remembrance will be held at the RMP plot within the NMA. The service will be led by the Padre during which wreaths will be laid.
- e. *RMP Cyprus Veterans Plot.* As is now the tradition, immediately after the Act of remembrance a short service will take place at the nearby RMP Cyprus Veterans' Plot.
- f. *Luncheon.* Hosted by Derby Branch, a buffet lunch, at a cost of £7.00 per head, will be held at The Royal British Legion Club, Rykneld Street, Alrewas, DE13 7AX, following the Parade. Bar facilities will be available from 1245 hrs onwards with the buffet served at 1330 hrs. Full details will be issued by the Secretary Derby Branch RMPA and notified to all addressees for action. The co-ordination of all applications for luncheon will be completed by the Chairman Derby Branch namely:

Mr Bob Potts,
24, Saxon Grove,
Willington, Derbyshire.
Tel No 01283 703384
Email: kathryn.potts@btinternet.com

Payment should be forwarded to either him (or his wife Kath) at the aforementioned address as soon as possible as attendance will be limited. The PM (A) or his nominated representative will be present at the luncheon together with the Regt Sec and ProSM.

g. *Dress:*

- (i) *Serving Personnel.* SD/No., 2 Dress with leather and medals, as directed by the ProSM;
- (ii) *Veterans.* Dark suit or blazer and grey trousers, wearing medals and scarlet beret OR if in motorcycle leathers, scarlet beret and medals; and
- (iii) *Ladies.* As appropriate.

h. *Footwear.* As the NMA is often very wet, due consideration as to suitable footwear should be given.
General Administrative Support

5. The Regt Sec is requested to provide the following support:

- a. Liaise with the NMA in respect of bookings, payment of fees, provision of an organist, Public Address system and other general support as deemed necessary;
- b. Provide the Order of Service for both the Church Service and Act of Remembrance; and
- c. Liaise with the Chairman Derby Branch in respect of the attendance of the PM (A) (or his representative) and other members of the serving RMP at luncheon, and the provision of a bugler for the Act of Remembrance.

Summary

6. The NMA is a wonderful memorial of national remembrance and all are encouraged to take the opportunity to visit and support this event by attending.

A K Barley
Major (Retired)

- 6.6 An email was received from Joy Eggleton, Hon Sec RMPA regarding the snowdrop parade. She indicated that response to the event (which will be held on 8th March at the NMA Alrewas) has not been great and she had asked whether Branch Standard could attend the event. PW stated that although he was attending he would be unable to take anyone with him as he was staying over in Birmingham for business.

7.0 Reports

7.1 CESA Report –

- 7.1.1 BP stated that Dave Mitchell was invited to attend to receive a tankard but he failed to attend.

- 7.1.2 A discussion took place about non-military wearing uniform. He believed that this was illegal. PC confirmed that an offence only occurred if a financial benefit was gained by false representation. PC will further look into this as he is a serving Police officer.
- 7.1.3 Veterans Weekend is confirmed as 29th and 30th July 2017. There has been a cut in funding for this year's event.
- 7.2 Website – No report.
- 7.3 Standard Bearer – PW reported that the Branch Standard had been carried at H.M. Tower of London by DK and that he did exceptionally well and was a credit to the Branch.
- 7.4 Corps Journal – PW stated that he will put together the next article for the Journal.
- 7.5 Liaison Officer – Neither JW or Capt. Whitehead were present.
- 8.0 Social Events –
 - 8.1 Annual Dinner 2017 –
 - 8.1.1 FH stated that he had confirmed the chef for the event.
 - 8.1.2 A discussion was had with regard to the entertainment for the evening do. PW stated that the artist that the Breakfast Club had at New Years was fantastic. BP stated that he wouldn't pay more than £130, but it was explained that the Branch made decisions by majority only and that no individual would be making decisions about the entertainment.
 - 8.1.3 RH stated that for the next meeting, members should get ideas of who they would like as the entertainment for the event including costs and availability.
 - 8.2 FH stated that he had received an invitation from Janine Fenwick, wife of the late Brian Fenwick, who passed away on the 12th September 2016. She is hosting a memorial and celebration event on the 12th September 2017 to remember Brian. This will be held at the Seabirds Restaurant in Flamborough. Members will have to purchase their own food but a Champaign toast to Brian will be provided. Members wishing to attend should let the Branch Secretary know ASAP.
- 9.0 Any Other Business –
 - 9.1 A general discussion was had about the social events that the Branch has and that we haven't had many social events. BP suggested that we go to the next event held at St. Vincent's Club as a group.
 - 9.2 FH asked whether David Mitchell had been approached about all the memorabilia that the branch owns. RH stated that DH was going to speak directly to Mr. Mitchell.
- 10.0 The time being 20.hrs and there being no further business, the meeting was closed by RH. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th April 2017 at 19.30 hrs. for a 20.00hrs start, St. Vincent's Social Club, Queen Road, Hull.

Agenda for February's Meeting

11. Remembrance
12. Members Present/Apologies Received
13. Absent Friends
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