

Submariners Association

Recognised by the Ministry of Defence
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Vice Patron Admiral Sir James Perowne KBE

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President:

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Honorary Chaplain to the Association:
Reverend Paul B. Jupp

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Rear Admiral A.J. Whetstone CB
Cdr. R. C. Seaward OBE RN
D. Barlow Esq.

Minutes of NMC Meeting held at the West Bromwich RNA , Club

Saturday 22nd April 2017, Starting at 1230

Present: Mr Jim McMaster (Chairman)
Cdr Robert Seaward OBE (Vice President)
Mr David Barlow (Vice-President)
Mr Nigel Mellor (Secretary)
Mr Keith Bishop (Membership Secretary)
Mr Ian Atkinson (Treasurer)
Mr Brian Tate (Committee)
Mr Frank Pas (Committee)
Mr Chris Freeth (Committee)
Mr Andy Morgan (Committee)
CPO Paul Swaby (Serving Rep)

1. **Welcome.** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed Mr Andy Morgan to his first meeting of the NMC.

2. **Apologies.**

Apologies were submitted on Behalf of Rear Admiral Niall Kilgour CB (President) Rear Admiral Tony Whetstone CB, Mr Ray Gritt, (Vice Presidents), Mr Iain Mackenzie (Vice-Chairman) Mr Stuart Brown, Mr Frank Powell (Committee Members)

3. **Minutes of the January 2017 NMC Meeting.**

As there were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting, it was proposed by Keith Bishop and seconded by Brian Tate that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record of that meeting. Carried Unanimously.

4. Outstanding Actions from Minutes January 2017.

The action grid was checked one action remains ongoing and will remain on the grid until completed, a new grid will be prepared and that item will be carried forward together with new actions from this meeting as Annex 1.

5. Correspondence including Chairman's Correspondence.

- A) A letter has been received from Colchester Branch, and read to the meeting, a discussion took place regarding the letter, and its content, it was felt that we can assist Colchester with providing information about where to get a standard, and possible sources of funding to purchase a new standard, however it was felt that the NMC are unable to contribute financially at the moment.
- B) A letter has been received from Bas Bowyer about the T-shirts that had been provided to serving Submariners and was it possible to procure some of these for members of the Association. It was believed that the shirts were provided solely for the use of Serving Submariners as they had been sponsored. Paul Swaby will Investigate this and provide any information to assist in this matter.
- C) A letter of thanks has been received from the Falkland Islands Memorial Fund thanking us for the donation towards the cost of a bench in the chapel with the wording.
"Donated by the Submarine Association in Memory of all those that did not return "A vote of thanks was passed for the way Bob Seaward had dealt with the matter, A copy of letter can be found at annex 2 of these minutes. It was felt that the raffle that had been organised at the reunion was a great success and the remaining monies would be circulated to charities local to Leicester.
- D) A breakdown of the accounts on the association slops, has been received. This will be dealt with under the Treasurers report.
- E) A letter received from The Essex Branch enquiring about the possibility of the national memorial parade returning to the Embankment, the NMC support their view on this matter and that we should start requesting permission to move the parade back to allow us to pay our respects to the Submariners who have lost to their lives since the first world war. Jim McMaster to start correspondence to the relevant people, who may be able to assist in this cause.
- F) A letter was received from RASM, thanking the Association for a great weekend in Leicester for the reunion and Conference.

6. Officers Reports: -

- **Secretary.** All correspondence had been circulated to branches when received. Myself and Keith Bishop have been working with the new Webmaster in updating and launching the new website, there are several new functions available on the site, such as an On-line application form, a system for sadly reporting one of our brothers who have crossed the Bar. We still have the option to use paper forms for applications if a member or Branch so require.
- **Treasurer.** This report will be brief, as the March report was issued just a short time ago. All Reunion expenses have been paid out, and the Sponsorship funds from Stuart's company are expected shortly. There appears to be some interest in the Direct Debit scheme and members are signing up for it. Other than that, there is nothing to report except to give the up-dated Association Bank Balances as follows

Business Account

Income £17,488.00	Expenditure £14,452.00
Balance at Bank	(£15,000.00 Ring-fenced) £50,698.29

Blue Plaque Account No Movement £6001.16

Reunion Account

Income £60.00	Expenditure £204.00
Balance at Bank	£2207.22

The shop account was discussed, Frank has sold a lot of stock over the reunion weekend and he will be transferring the accounting system to an online version shortly, he is currently sourcing several new products and the shop will be available on the website shortly. Anyone wishing to purchase slops at the moment please contact Frank directly.

Also discussed was the current surplus in the reunion account, as Iain was not present the committee discussed this and Dave Barlow will discuss with Iain, ways of reducing this surplus and provide an updated pricing structure for the reunion and conference.

This completes the report to committee and up dated Account figures

- **Membership Secretary**

Membership continues to be maintained at approx. 1,800 members, we are receiving a steady flow of new applicants from serving members, and returning members using the on-line application form. There are also several lapsed members starting to return to the Association.

- **Serving rep**

Paul gave a brief overview of how RASM SM Division is progressing, it was somewhat sad after a lot of effort that none of the serving members could attend the reunion, further discussions will be ongoing to promote SA events and get some of the serving members to attend Function. Paul will investigate the T Shirt supply and feedback, he will update us with further information.

7. Embankment parade Updates and NMC attendance at Westminster Abbey on Saturday event.

Progress is well under way for this year's embankment ceremony taking place, Iain Mackenzie will be visiting Middle temple shortly to progress the event. There will be a Dry weather routine as well as a wet Weather routine planned, he will continue to update the committee. Further negotiations will take place to ensure that the Walkabout Public House would open early to cater for people after the service. It was also felt that the ceremony that takes place on the Saturday should have NMC representation and the NMC decided to hold a video conference call the week before and then the meeting will be held starting at 1600 to allow the NMC to attend the Wreath-laying ceremony at Westminster Abbey.

8. Fully Integrated Reunion Wash-up report.

The reunion this year was well attended, and the Hotel staff provided an excellent service, a nice start was given to all members with a tot upon checking in. a big thanks to everyone who bought tickets for the Raffle. This raised a large sum of Money and the members should be proud of their efforts. Some of the proceeds will be donated to local Leicester charities. Next year's Conference and reunion will be held at The Premier Best Western Yew Lodge Hotel over the weekend of 23rd to 25th March 2018. Details of venue and costings will be circulated to all Branches as soon as everything is confirmed.

9. Website Progress and Announcements

As discussed previously the new Website is up and running, the new layout seems to have met with Approval, a big thanks to Dave Woolterton our new Webmaster for the sterling work he has done, we are receiving on-line applications daily and if anyone has any further suggestions please feel free to contact the webmaster.

10. Blue Plaque Progress.

There was no formal report on the progress, the next ceremony will be held on 3rd June Frank Powell, will circulate further information on his return.

11. Discuss Options to develop Link with RASM within SM Division

Following on from the Discussion at the end of the conference, a healthy debate took place on our future involvement within the SM division, it was felt that when Jim McMaster steps down as Chairman next year, he could be co-opted on to the NMC in a post of Liaison Officer this would allow us to continue developing our links within the SM Division and promote us within the serving submarine community. Further work will need to be carried out and this will be discussed later.

12. Possible options for Voting at NCC 2018.

There are several options for us to consider on how we can change the voting options available to us at Conference, it was felt that there are two parts to this matter. One being how we vote for the election of officers and secondly how we vote for proposals and recommendations from branches. A paper will be written by Keith and Nigel to start work on this and the NMC will hold zoom meetings to move this forward so we can have a Recommendation ready to go out for all branches to discuss this before conference 2018

13. Rules of Debate.

Following the conference where a Branch put a proposal to Conference, there was no way to amend this proposal under the current rules of debate, following a discussion it was felt that the rules of debate could be brought into the rules and constitution and show the rules of debate for both Proposals and

recommendations. This would need to be submitted as a Recommendation from the NMC to next year's conference.

14. Options for paying membership.

The scheme for members to pay their annual subs by direct debit was briefly discussed at Conference, and the project was in its infancy stage, we have moved along quite a lot, Ian Atkinson has asked several members of the NMC to sign up for this and it was found to be a very easy system. This can now be offered to all Branches for those that wish to partake, Nigel will write to all branches informing them this system is available for them to use, if they wish. Some branches may wish to continue collecting subs in the older method and this will remain a viable option for the branch.

15. Working group for reviewing rules and constitution before the next conference.

A working group of Nigel Mellor and Dave Barlow will start to read through the rules and constitution and work out if any need amending or updating. They will report back to this committee, as they progress. Any person with suggestions or comments should in the first instance contact Nigel

16. Diaries; Nominations for Biographies.

Within the diary is a space for a biography of a selected member, Brian would like to formalise this process and will write to all Branches seeking their nominations for people to be included within the diary. Once sent any responses should be directed to Brian Tate. He will report back to the committee, with suggested names.

17. AOCB.

Nigel Mellor Has sourced a new supplier to purchase Association ties, the committee agreed to purchase 100 Ties, and this will allow us to pass on to the members a discounted price for purchase of these ties. Anyone wishing to buy an Association tie should contact Frank Pas.

A message of Congratulations was given to Ian Atkinson and his wife Joyce on achieving their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Jim McMaster suggested that the next meeting could be held at the Clyde Submarine Base, if members wished, he was tasked with organising this event and provide further information to the committee.

There being no further Business the meeting was closed by the Chairman

Date and time of next meeting, will be Saturday 29th July 2017 Venue to be confirmed.

Annex 1

Action grid from April meeting.

Item	Action	Action By	Status
051116-10	Chairman to write to all Branches for information on memorial events held in their areas	JM	Ongoing
220417-05A	Nigel Mellor to write to Colchester Branch, keeping them informed of enquiries	NM	
220417-05A	Chris Freeth to make enquiries with CONA ref funding sources for standards	CF	
220417-05A	Nigel Mellor and Andy Morgan to contact all branches to find out what standards they have	NM/AM	
220417-05B	Paul Swaby to seek information on the purchase of Submarine t shirts.	PS	
220417-05B	Jim McMaster to write to Bas Bowyer in response to the matter	JMc	
220417-05E	Nigel mellor to acknowledge letter from Essex Branch	NM	
220417-05E	Jim McMaster to write to President asking for Assistance in getting parade moved back to the Embankment	JMc	
220417-07	Nigel Mellor to arrange Zoom Meeting week before Embankment parade to conduct relevant business	NM	
220417-07	Andy Morgan to contact relevant people to find out start times of Westminster Services on the Saturday of Memorial weekend	AM	
220417-12	Nigel Mellor and Keith Bishop to start writing recommendations for Voting Options	NM/KB	
220714-14	Nigel Mellor to write to all Branch secretaries, informing them of option to pay by Direct debit and let committee know their Branch subs, if they wish to take up offer	NM	
220417-15	Nigel mellor and Dave Barlow to start reading through and Proposing any changes to Rules and Constitution for NCC 2018	NM/DB	
220417-16	Brian Tate to write letter to all branches asking for nominations for biography entry in Association diaries	BT	
220417-17	Jim McMaster to provisionally book Faslane facilities for Weekend 28-30 July to hold NMC Meeting at HMNB Clyde	JMc	

 *The Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel Trust*

Patron: HRH The Duke of York KCVO DSO ADC
President: Admiral The Right Honourable Baron West of Spithead CBE DSO PC ADC

Trustees:
Major General Jeff Mason MBE (Chairman)
Commander Andrew Gordon Lennox (Vice-Chairman)
Mr David Albert
Brigadier Alanair Bruce of Cronach MC DC
Reverend David Cooper
Mrs Sara Jones CBE DL

Major General Sir Iain Mackay-Dick KCVO MBE DL
Mr Robert Mason
Rear Admiral Richard Melly
Air Chief Marshal Sir Andrew Palford KC CB ADC RAF
Captain Martin Reed RDP
Mr Ross Siddell MBE DSO MBE

Commander R C Seaward
The Submariners Association
Ardtalla
Peel Street
Cardross G82 5LD

14th April 2017

Dear Bob,

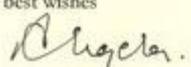
I write to thank you very much indeed for the Submariners' Association's most generous sponsorship of a 'Seat' in the Falkland Islands Memorial Chapel and am in receipt of your cheque for £1,000. The Trustees thank you wholeheartedly for this lovely gift. I will arrange to have a plaque inscribed as follows, as instructed:

*Donated By The Submariners Association
In Memory of All Those That Did Not Return*

In addition your name of the Submariners Association and inscription will be added to the register of Seat Sponsors which is on view in the Chapel Memorial Room.

Thank you very much again from all the Trustees who send you their very best wishes and appreciation

With best wishes



Mrs Angela Perry
Secretary to the Trustees

Please reply to:-
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