



Royal Naval Writers' Association (RNWA)



Annual General Meeting - Minutes

17:30 Friday 14th October 2022

Held in The Library UJC London

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|------|---|----------------------------|
| Present: | Colin Hughes | (CH) | - | President |
| | Pat Prior BEM QVRM | (PP) | - | Vice-President & Treasurer |
| | Les Heyhoe BCAv | (LH) | - | Secretary & Membership |
| | Tony Mason | (TM) | - | Committee Member |
| | David Spicer | (DS) | - | Committee Member |
| | Jim Donaldson | (JD) | - | Committee Member |
| | Lyn Gannon | (LG) | - | Committee Member |
| | Phil Allen MBE | (PA) | - | Member |
| | Albert Light | (AL) | - | Member |
| | Mary Light | (ML) | - | Member |
| | Jed Stone OBE | (JS) | - | Member |
| | Valerie Blackwell | (VB) | - | Member |
| | David Ramsey | (DR) | - | Member |

Committee Member Apologies

Tony Webber (TW) Mike Moncur (MM)

Member Apologies

David Hill (DH) Nancy Hill (NH)
David Kelly (DK) Steve Hamblin (SH)
'Dusty' Miller (DM) Bill Whaley (BW)

1. Minutes

The minutes of the AGM Friday 8th October 2021 were proposed by LG and seconded by TM and were taken as read with no further or additional comments by those present.

2. Treasurer's Report

PP advised as at close of business Thursday 13th October 2022 of the current financial situation:- £6,536* - Note: £1,506.50 'ring fenced' for National Arboretum & £65.00 for Memorial Bench – see item 5. * Also included in this sum is £2,145.00 received for the 2022 Reunion Dinner and the net expenditure of the cost of the dinner to be made to the UJC which is anticipated to be approximately £2,500.00.

3. Membership

Membership as of 13th October 2022 comprises of:-

- 3 Honorary Members
- 29 Life Members
- 218 Members
- 250 Total Membership**

LH reminded everyone to 'recruit' new members.

4. Elections

All those in attendance were unanimous in the re-election for a further year of the existing committee in the capacity as RNWA President (CH), Vice-President & Treasurer (PP), Secretary & Membership (LH) and the following Committee members of TM, DS, JD, LG, TW & MM.

PA on behalf of the member attendees and all the membership, gave a 'vote of thanks' to the RNWA Committee for their past year's efforts and dedication which was very much appreciated.

5. National Arboretum & Benches

A summarization was provided by CH stating that 'The RNWA must bear the full design costs and insurance with a minimum £1,000 application fee. Negotiations for the installation and maintenance would be a one-off payment in addition to the application fee and would range from £3,500 - £50,000. Thus, in view of the above, the Committee have decided because of the cost it is a non-starter and sought final agreement and approval from those attending. Carried unanimously, on the understanding that all those that have donated and contributed would be offered the return of their donation – action PP. However, if donors were to say retain the RNWA was to retain their donation, it would remain 'ringfenced' for a future project or special funded expenditure, to be agreed and approved by the Committee – see CH's full explanation attached.

CH stated that he was now in receipt of the "Southsea Coastal Update" a Portsmouth City Council monthly synopsis of the progress of rejuvenation work taking place between Southsea Castle and Clarence Pier. Thus, he would keep an eye when the work would affect both the RNWA Centenary Bench and the Brian Emmence Memorial Bench. At present, progress will not be until 2024 at the earliest. However, the contractor and the City Council have noted that the Association has an interest in the two benches and knows who to contact in future.

6. Crossed The Bar

CH would during his 'Reply Speech' mention those members that had 'Crossed the Bar' since the last AGM. All had previously been mentioned and minuted at prior Committee & Members scheduled meetings whereby a minutes silence was held prior to the meeting in their memory.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 17:55 and LH thanked everyone for their attendance, input, and support.

Next AGM at 17:30 (room to be advised nearer the time) **Friday 13th October 2023**, at **The QUEENS HOTEL**, Clarence Parade, Osborne Road, Southsea, Hants., PO5 3LJ – *Postscript* NEW VENUE!

Next RNWA schedule Committee & Members meeting: Thursday 17th November 2022 at 19:30 via Google Teams

<https://meet.google.com/vqp-saee-kqj>

Regards

Les Heyhoe BCav

RNWA Secretary & Membership
H: 023 9235 7181 / M: 07494 150563
Email: linda.heyhoe@btinternet.com
24th October 2022