

THE BLYTHE SAPPERS
77th MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
1100hrs Thursday 26th February 2015
THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB, LONDON

Present:

Sapper Alasdair Wilson
Sapper Scott Robinson
Sapper Roy Carlisle
Sapper Peter Clayton
Sapper David Hamilton
Sapper Carel Bouwens

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Chairman Elect 2016
Honorary Treasurer
Honorary Auditor
Honorary Secretary

ITEM ONE. Introduction. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ITEM 2. Apologies for Absence. Apologies have been received from Sappers Stuart Sinclair and Charles Holman

ITEM 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting. The minutes of the 76th meeting were accepted as a true record.

ITEM 4. Matters Arising. There were no matters arising.

ITEM 5. Finance Report.

- a. The Treasurer produced a forecast of outturn for the year to 31 December 2015 which showed a credit balance of £5706. The Treasurer advised the Committee that whilst this was lower than the previous year's outturn, he felt it was adequate to cover any unforeseen eventualities.
- b. The Honorary Auditor then presented the audited accounts for the year ending 31 December 2014, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. He pointed out that the Society remains in a healthy position financially and can continue to make annual charitable donations.
- c. The Treasurer advised those present that there are a number of members who have not paid their annual subscriptions for 2 years. He continued that this could be a consequence of members changing bank details and not altering their standing order to the Blythe Sappers, members moving abroad or members retiring without giving notice. The Secretary agreed to draft a letter for the Treasurer to send to these members, and which will be accompanied by a new standing order mandate.
- d. The Treasurer told the meeting that he had received a note from the Corps Treasurer that he would be committing £1500 of Blythe Sappers' funds, held by the Corps, for Ex PHULO TIGER TRAVERSE. This is an expedition classed as an adventurous and challenging pursuit exercise involving regular and reserve members of the Corps. This would leave very little remaining in this fund; the Committee agreed not to make any further grants for the timebeing.
- e. The Chairman thanked both the Treasurer and Auditor for their continued hard work in ensuring the Society is financially sound.

ITEM 6. Revision of Historical Notes. The Secretary reminded the Committee that the Historical Note for the Blythe Sappers had been reviewed by Sapper Robin Lloyd-Owen and that copies had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Secretary continued that he had updated the section on the Blythe Sappers Cup and asked that this 11th edition be accepted.

ITEM 7. Casualties.

- a. Deceased: Nil.
- b. Resignations: Nil.

ITEM 8. The Blythe Sappers Cup.

- a. The Blythe Sappers Cup is scheduled to be redeployed at the RE Games in the late spring. The Secretary informed the meeting that the Corps Mess Secretary believed that the glass cabinet

he had found for the cup was perhaps too large and was now proposing that the cup should be displayed in a glass dome. The Secretary continued that he was unclear how the proportions of the cup would match those of the dome or the cabinet and what impact the additional plinth will have upon them. The Secretary suggested that a visit to Chatham to view the Cup and cabinet might be in order. The meeting agreed that the engraving of the silver band should be the responsibility of the Blythe Sappers, mainly to ensure continuity of style.

- b. The Treasurer told the Committee that he had investigated the provision of medals for the Man of the Football Match and had concluded that there didn't appear to be a suitable medal to present. He did however suggest that a small salver might be in order and the Committee agreed to this. Furthermore the Committee considered that it would be appropriate to present a salver to the winning unit of the RE Games to be retained in perpetuity. It was agreed that each salver should cost in the region of £50. The Secretary agreed to provide to the Treasurer suitable wording for each salver.

ITEM 9. Nominations for Membership. The following nominations have been proposed and seconded for membership of the Blythe Sappers:

<i>Nomination</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Secunder</i>
Col Jason Kerr	Sapper Ed Robinson	Sapper Kevin O'Donoghue
Col Ian Ogden	Sapper Robbie Hall	Sapper Idris Pearce
Col David Richards	Sapper Alasdair Wilson	Sapper Bill Clark
Lt Col Jim Gibb	Sapper Roger Robinson	Sapper David Jessop
Maj Alan McGrath	Sapper Larry Inge	Sapper Mark Burrows
Maj Esmond White	Sapper Suresh Khanna	Sapper Carel Bouwens
Capt John Handel	Sapper John Russell-Jones	Sapper Alwyn Hutchinson
Capt Sinead MacKenzie	Sapper Robin Lloyd-Owen	Sapper Alasdair Wilson

There were no objections to these nominations and consequently they will be notified by the Membership Secretary of their promotions.

ITEM 10. Attendance and Arrangements for Today's Luncheon

Principal guest: Lord McGregor of Pulham Market, Parliamentarian.

Subject: "Lords versus Commons"

Total numbers attending: 78

Number of Guests: 18

Those to rise: Sappers John Fitzgerald and Roger Little

ITEM 11. Any Other Business. The Chairman had received several comments about holding lunches on Thursdays as regularly these clashed with important Corps and other meetings. The Secretary was asked to review the dates for 2016 and beyond.

ITEM 12. Next Meeting.

- a. The date of the next meeting is set for 1100 hrs Thursday 28th May 2015 followed by a meeting of Council at 1130hrs.
- b. There being no other business the meeting closed at 1145 hrs.

Sapper Alasdair Wilson
Chairman
The Blythe Sappers

Sapper Carel Bouwens
Honorary Secretary
The Blythe Sappers