

**THE BLYTHE SAPPERS**  
**79<sup>th</sup> MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**1100hrs Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2015**  
**THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB, LONDON**

**Present:**

**Sapper Alasdair Wilson**  
**Sapper Roy Carlisle**  
**Sapper Peter Clayton**  
**Sapper Stuart Sinclair**  
**Sapper Carel Bouwens**

**Chairman**  
**Chairman Elect 2016**  
**Honorary Treasurer**  
**Council Link Member**  
**Honorary Secretary**

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

**ITEM 2. Apologies for Absence.** Apologies have been received from Sappers Scott Robinson, Charles Holman and David Hamilton.

**ITEM 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.** The minutes of the 78<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted as a true record.

**ITEM 4. Matters Arising.** The Honorary Secretary reminded the meeting that Salvers were still be procured for the winners of the RE Games and the Man of the Inter Unit Football match. He confirmed that the winning unit of the RE Games would receive its salver when the Blythe Sappers' Cup was handed over (ie at the end of the year) and that the first salver for the Man of the Match would be awarded at the football final next season.

**ITEM 5. Date of The Blythe Sappers' Guest Night 2016**

The Secretary stated that the Guest Night this year had not been well supported and it was for the inclusion of a Batch Reunion that the numbers were swollen. He continued that he had spoken to the Dinner secretary about this and it was felt that the advancement of the date from August to July a few years ago has been the principle cause for dropping numbers. He said that Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2016 was a date proposed by Chatham that would be suitable to the RSME and the REHQ Mess and consequently the Committee approved this date for inclusion in the calendar.

**ITEM 6. Finance Report.**

- a. The Treasurer informed the Committee that the funds held by the Society are healthy and that after paying for today's luncheon that there would remain a balance of over £10,000 in the accounts. He continued that this would permit donations to the total value of £5,000 if we are to retain a reserve for unexpected eventualities. The Treasurer also confirmed that the Corps is not at this stage looking for more funds for Adventurous and Challenging Pursuits and the Committee agreed to stay any further grants to it until further notice.
- b. After a short discussion the Committee agreed to make the following donations:
  - £1,000 to the Kitchener Fund
  - £1,000 to Gordon's School
  - £500 to the Samaritan Fund of the REOWS.
- c. As there still remain funds for distribution it was agreed that members should be offered a reduction for their own places at a luncheon in 2016, the exact date to be decided in 2016.

**ITEM 7. Historical Note.**

The final version of the Eleventh Edition of the Historical Note had now been completed. It was agreed that it would be published on the website as the primary means of distributing it, but if members required a personal hard copy one could be provided.

**ITEM 8. Casualties.**

- a. Deceased: Sappers Ronnie Raymond-Cox, Ian Bryce and John Fitzmaurice
- b. Resignations: Sapper Rodney Chartres

The Secretary confirmed that a donation had been made to the charity chosen by the widow of John Fitzmaurice, a past Chairman. As the amount of £50 had been set some 20 years previously it was agreed to increase such donations to £100 henceforth.

**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>
Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Johns	Sapper Carel Bouwens	Sapper Alasdair Wilson
Col Neill Page	Sapper John Crompton	Sapper Peter Clayton

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

The Committee deferred a third application on the basis that although the applicant had attended a luncheon as a guest that none of the Committee knew or had met him to make a sound judgment. The Secretary agreed to inform the Sponsor.

**ITEM 10. Attendance and Arrangements for Today's Luncheon**

*Principal guest:* Mr Bryn Parry, CEO Help for Heroes  
*Subject:* "Military Charities and H4H in particular"  
*Total numbers attending:* 47  
*Number of Guests:* 16  
*Those to rise:* Sapper Peter Wall

**ITEM 11. Any Other Business.** The Chairman asked that the Honorary Membership secretary presents a Corps Report at the next meeting.

**ITEM 12. Next Meeting.**

- a. The date of the next meeting is set for 1100 hrs Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015.
- b. There being no other business the meeting closed at 1130 hrs.

**Sapper Alasdair Wilson**  
*Chairman*  
*The Blythe Sappers*

**Sapper Carel Bouwens**  
*Honorary Secretary*  
*The Blythe Sappers*