

THE BLYTHE SAPPERS
80th MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
1100hrs Thursday 3rd DECEMBER 2015
THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB, LONDON

Present:

Sapper Alasdair Wilson	Chairman
Sapper Scott Robinson	Vice Chairman
Sapper Roy Carlisle	Chairman Elect 2016
Sapper John McLennan	Chairman Elect 2017
Sapper Peter Clayton	Honorary Treasurer
Sapper David Hamilton	Honorary Auditor
Sapper Charles Holman	Honorary Membership Secretary
Sapper Stuart Sinclair	Council Link Member
Sapper Carel Bouwens	Honorary Secretary

ITEM ONE. Introduction. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted that this was his last as Chairman. He thanked everyone for their tremendous support during his year in office and wishes his successor best of luck and good fortune for his tenure. He continued that this would be the last meeting on this Committee for Sapper Scott Robinson and thanked him for his continued support and advice over the last year.

ITEM 2. Apologies for Absence. There were no apologies.

ITEM 3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting. It was noted that there is an error in the wording under Item 8 referring to the charitable donation to the charity chosen by the widow of Sapper John Fitzmaurice. The Honorary Secretary agreed to amend this before publishing the minutes on the website.

ITEM 4. Matters Arising. The Honorary Treasurer confirmed that he has still to procure Salvors for the winners of the RE Games and the Man of the Inter Unit Football match.

ITEM 5. Finance Report. The Honorary Treasurer advised the meeting that after paying for today's lunch and donations agreed at the last meeting that the account would be in credit to the order of £7,500. This represents an adequate reserve to fund any unexpected costs.

ITEM 6. Corps Report. The Honorary membership Secretary advised the meeting that he had been unable to bring a copy of the Corps Report with him but would provide a copy for inclusion with these minutes. He proceeded to give a summary of Corps activities, in which he re-iterated that the Corps is as busy as ever supporting a large number of operations around the world.

ITEM 7. Casualties.

- a. Deceased: Nil
- b. Resignations: Sappers John Russell and Leslie Coney
- c.

ITEM 8. Nominations for Membership. The following nominations have been proposed and seconded for membership of the Blythe Sappers:

<i>Nomination</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
Col Richard Brown	Sapper Hookey Walker	Sapper Matthew Jackson
Maj Jack Castle	Sapper Bill Woodburn	Sapper Jungly Drake
Maj Neil Holt	Sapper Ken Clunie	Sapper Peter Ewing
Capt Hugh Rich	Sapper Matthew Jackson	Sapper Mark Burrows

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

A point was raised that recently we had invited an Honorary Colonel to join the Blythe Sappers and it was felt that such invitations should be extended to more Honorary Colonels. The Honorary Secretary was asked to draw up a plan for the next meeting.

ITEM 9. Attendance and Arrangements for Today's Luncheon

Principal guest: General Sir Peter Wall, previous CGS

Subject: "Experiences as CGS"

Total numbers attending: 122

Number of Guests: 27 of which 11 are potential applicants to become Blythe Sappers

Those to rise: Sappers Colin Boag, Dicky Davis, Simon Hulme, Jason Kerr and Neill Page

The Honorary Secretary confirmed that there had been an unprecedented rush on places for the lunch with all having been allocated within a week of the call in being distributed. Consequently there was a waiting list for places, with 2 members already in the RAG awaiting an unexpected vacancy.

ITEM 10. Any Other Business.

- a. The Honorary Secretary advised the meeting that Sapper Larry Inge is due to retire from his post as Corps Mess Secretary and *de facto* Honorary Dinner Secretary. Whilst his successor has been provisionally selected there are some administrative issues that require resolving before an announcement will be made as to who will succeed him.
- b. Sapper Stuart Sinclair thanked Sapper Alasdair Wilson for his excellent Chairmanship during 2015 and asked that this be acknowledged in the minutes.

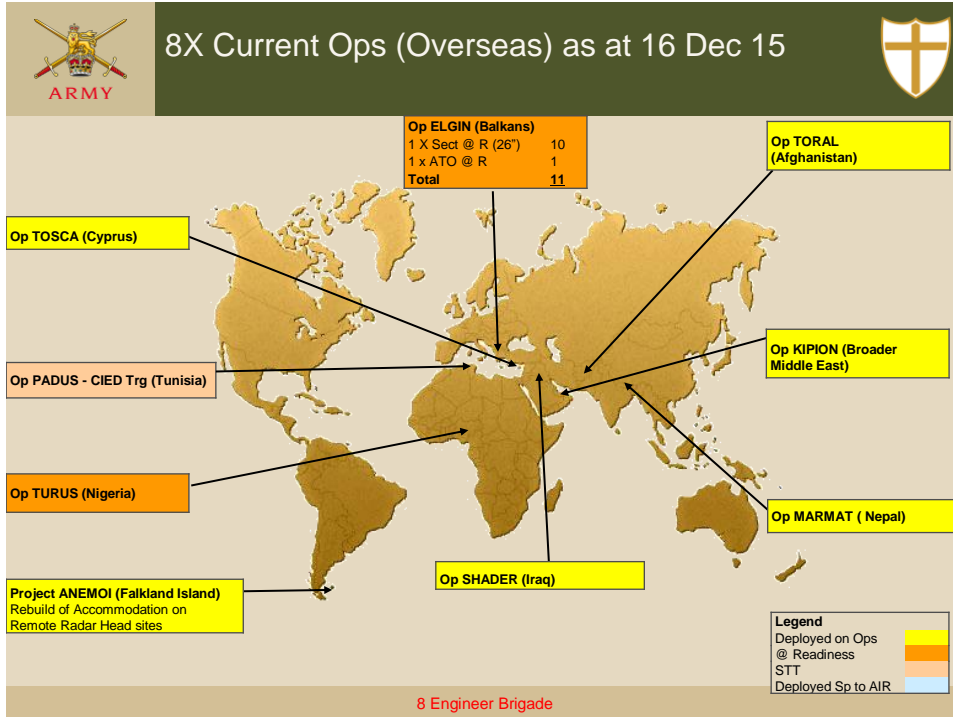
ITEM 11. Next Meeting.

- a. The date of the next meeting is set for 1100 hrs Wednesday 24th February 2016.
- b. There being no other business the meeting closed at 1130 hrs.

Sapper Roy Carlisle
Chairman
The Blythe Sappers

Sapper Carel Bouwens
Honorary Secretary
The Blythe Sappers

THE CORPS IN DECEMBER 2015



CD Cbt Sp Military Engineering – Update

Capability Plans	Structure
<p>ABC 16:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Future Close Sp and General Sp Bridging ● Joint Operational Fuel System ● Field Power ● Accommodation for HQs, Medical and Accommodation ● Combat Water Supply System ● Future C Vehicle ● Modular Gap Crossing ● Route Proving and Clearance ● EOD Electronic Counter Measures ● Chemical Weapons Detection, ● Underwater Remote EOD, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Army Comd Review. Direct, Develop, Deliver, Generate, Operate ● Restructure of RE and EOD&S planning completed. Implementation ongoing: issues with Catterick (Marne Barracks) ● Impending moves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HQ 25 (CS) Engr Gp re-base in Bulford. ● Re-subordinate 21 Engr Regt and 32 Engr Regt from 25 (Close Sp) Engr Gp to 12 (Force Sp) Engr Gp. ● Re-subordinate 103 Fd Sqn and 106 Fd Sqn from 21 Engr Regt to 75 Engr Regt.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Divisional at Readiness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 4th CS Engr Regt? By when? ● Force Sp for Theatre Entry, Divisional Intervention and Follow on force? ● Sufficient EOD&S? ● Regular Amph Sqn to meet readiness? ● Do we still need 5 x MWD Sqns? ● Strike: define the role and Mob Sp requirement ● Hybrid only where necessary, paired by default <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 21/32: Move of 103 and 106 Sqns to 75 Engr Regt ● 33/101: 217 and 350 Sqns back into 101 Engr Regt 	<p style="text-align: center;">SDSR and 'Army2020 Refine'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Existing liability shortfalls: Force Sp; 23 and 24 Engr Regts; 29 Engr Gp ● Persistent Engagement – 'Special Inf Bns' or BGs? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EOD&S ● Cbt Engrs ● Constr Engrs (Design, Resource and Construct) ● Pos move of C-CBRN to the Corps? ● What is the future utility of the Army Reserve?