

THE BLYTHE SAPPERS
86th MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
1100hrs Thursday 25th MAY 2017
THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB, LONDON

Present:

Sapper John McLennan	Chairman
Sapper Roy Carlisle	Deputy Chairman
Sapper Aidan Smyth	Chairman Elect 2018
Sapper Peter Clayton	Honorary Treasurer
Sapper Stuart Sinclair	Council Link Member
Sapper Carel Bouwens	Honorary Secretary

ITEM ONE. Introduction. The Chairman reminded the Committee that this meeting would be followed by a meeting of Council and therefore he wished to ensure that our business is succinct.

ITEM 2. Apologies for Absence. Sappers David Hamilton and Charles Holman.

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

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

ITEM 5. Finance Report.

The Honorary Treasurer that having taken account of the cost of today's lunch and meetings that the fund would stand at £13k in credit. He pointed out that the majority of members had settled their subscriptions for the year with just a few outstanding, mostly newly mustered members who were yet to set up their standing orders.

He continued to recommend how the Society should support charitable organisations this year. He reminded the meeting that £500 is awarded to the winning unit of the RE Games along with a salver and another for the REAFC Man of the Match. The Honorary Secretary pointed out that he had asked the Corps Colonel if it was appropriate to grant funds to adventurous and challenging pursuits planned to take place overseas. He reported that the Corps Colonel was very grateful for the offer but felt that additional funding from the Blythe Sappers was not required. The Committee agreed not to make any contribution to Corps Funds at this stage but asked the Honorary Secretary to let the Corps Colonel know that if funds are required that we will always consider such requests favourably.

The honorary treasurer, therefore, suggested that the Samaritan Fund of the RE Officers' Widows Society should be considered again and that we should also donate to the Forces Children's Society. After a short discussion it was agreed to award £1500 to each.

ITEM 6. Honorary Colonels. The Chairman advised the meeting that 3 Honorary Colonels had accepted the Society's invitation to become honorary members. Maj Gen Robin Brims, Capt Ken Soar and Dr Vanessa Lawrence will attend the lunch in September when they will be welcomed into the Society by the Chairman.

ITEM 7. Additional Lunch in lieu of the Guest Night.

At the previous meeting it was agreed to hold a Guest Luncheon at the Army and Navy Club on 13th July at which members would be able to invite one guest, being their spouse or partner. The Honorary Secretary reminded those present that he had issued a warning order and would be sending the call-in notice shortly after today's lunch. It was confirmed that by 22nd June there would need to be a minimum of 70 attendees to make the event viable. The Honorary Secretary confirmed that the RAG is content with this flexible approach. He then suggested that the Society might consider subsidising this event and it was agreed to charge members and their guests £45 each, being £8 less than the cost of a normal luncheon.

ITEM 8. Casualties.

- a. Deceased: Sappers Nigel Snelling-Colyer (22/5/17)
- b. Resignations: Sappers AR Taverner.

ITEM 9. Nominations for Membership

<i>Nomination</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Second</i>
Lt Col Mike Brain	Sapper Ron Watt	Sapper Carel Bouwens
Lt Col Sam Brown	Sapper Chris Davies	Sapper John McLennan
Lt Col Alistair Fox	Sapper Andrew Noble	Sapper Peter Clayton
Lt Col Andy Hill	Sapper Jeremy Blades	Sapper John McLennan
Lt Col Michael Lewis	Sapper Richard Brown	Sapper Aidan Smyth
Colonel Richard Luxton	Sapper Patrick Fagan	Sapper John McLennan

The Committee agreed to offer all these applicants full membership.
This brings the total membership to: 382

ITEM 10. Attendance and Arrangements for Today's Luncheon

Principal guest: Dr Peter Roberts, RUSI
Subject: "Cyberspace: espionage, sabotage
and subterfuge"
Total numbers attending: 93
Number of Guests: 26, of which 10 potential members
Those to rise: Sappers Rupert Baddeley, Sean
Cunniff, Chris Jarrett-Kerr, Luke
Johnston-Smith, John Knight and
John Knowles

ITEM 11. Next Meeting.

- a. Before closing, a question arose about members of the Corps who, through the nature and location of their work, are unable to be introduced at a luncheon prior to applying for membership. The Committee continues to welcome applications and acknowledged that it would be willing to make concessions where the situation warrants.
- b. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th September 2017 at 1100hrs followed by the AGM after lunch.
- c. There being no other business the meeting closed at 1135 hours.

Sapper John McLennan
Chairman
The Blythe Sappers

Sapper Carel Bouwens
Honorary Secretary
The Blythe Sappers