

THE BLYTHE SAPPERS
88th MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
1100hrs WEDNESDAY 6th DECEMBER 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 Charles Holman	Honorary Membership Secretary
Sapper Stuart Sinclair	Council Link Member
Sapper Carel Bouwens	Honorary Secretary

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

ITEM 2. Apologies for Absence. Sappers Nick Baveystock and David Hamilton.

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 circulated a letter of gratitude from the Blind Veterans Association to which the Blythe Sappers had donated £1,500. He then advised the meeting that having taken account of the cost of today's lunch and refunds due to members that the account would stand at £7,574, which was adequate to cover the cost of a failed lunch.

He updated the Committee on the state of unpaid subscriptions for 2017 and confirmed that with the assistance of the Honorary Secretary the list had been reduced from 25 to 8. The Honorary Secretary said that he was comfortable with the outcome and that he had developed a record that would permit pursuing unpaid accounts sooner in the year.

ITEM 6. Honorary Colonels. The Honorary Membership Secretary confirmed that all Honorary Colonels had been approached with a view to their joining the Blythe Sappers as Honorary Members and that just 3 had taken up the offer. He advised that one of those had now retired as an Honorary Colonel to which the Honorary Secretary stated the Committee will need to review his Honorary status.

ITEM 7. Update on the Development of the RAG.

The Chairman updated the meeting on the plans to redevelop the Army and Navy Club. He pointed out that the Chairman of the RAG had announced that for the time being this project will not proceed. This will guarantee a place for us to hold our lunches, albeit in the short term.

ITEM 8. Casualties.

- a. Deceased: Nil.
- b. Resignations: Sapper Carl West-Meads.

ITEM 9. Nominations for Membership

<i>Nomination</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
Lt Col Tim Robertson	Sapper Richard Fawcus	Sapper Carel Bouwens

The Committee agreed to offer him full membership.
This brings the total membership to: 385

ITEM 10. Attendance and Arrangements for Today's Luncheon

Principal guest: Mr Jonathan Neame DL

Subject: "The changing face of Britain's Oldest Brewer. How Shepherd Neame has survived, evolved and adapted its business over 4 centuries of change in Britain's frontline county of Kent."

Total numbers attending: 122

Number of Guests: 27

Potential Blythe Sappers: Lt Cols Giles Cobbett, Neil Marks, Scott Spencer, Dan Buckley, James Prain & Chris Warhurst
Majs Brian Smyth, Nick Charnock & Chris Holt
Capts David Smith & Brian Dean

Those to rise: Sappers Giles Baxter, Drew Craig, Nick Edwards, Mark Foden, Paul Ford, Alistair Fox, Vanessa Lawrence, Allan Steele and Jeremy Wilman

ITEM 11. AOB and Next Meeting.

- a. The Chairman conveyed his thanks to the support provided during his tenure as Chairman, to which Sapper Stuart Sinclair expressed the gratitude of the Committee and the Blythe Sappers as a whole for his dedicated leadership. Sapper Roy Carlisle said that he was now standing down from the Committee and uttered his sheer delight at being involved in the management of the Society over the last 3 years.
- b. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 22nd February 2018 at 1100hrs.
- c. There being no other business the meeting closed at 1142 hours.

Sapper Aidan Smyth
Chairman
The Blythe Sappers

Sapper Carel Bouwens
Honorary Secretary
The Blythe Sappers