

THE BLYTHE SAPPERS
91st MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
1100hrs WEDNESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2018
THE ARMY AND NAVY CLUB, LONDON

Present:

Sapper Aidan Smyth	Chairman
Sapper John McLennan	Deputy Chairman
Sapper Nick Baveystock	Chairman Designate
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. There were no apologies.

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.

- a. The Chairman asked if the procedure and guidelines for selecting Chairman were laid down anywhere as they don't seem to appear in the constitution (ie the Historical Note). The Honorary Secretary agreed to draft an Aide Memoire for retention by the Secretary and to present his draft to the Committee at the next meeting.
- b. It was confirmed that the Blythe Sappers' Cup had been awarded to 3 RSME Regiment along with a cheque for £500.

ITEM 5. Finance Report.

- a. The Honorary Treasurer reported that having accounted for today's lunch the cash position of the Society stands at £10,928.
- b. He advised the meeting that there remain 11 members to settle their subscriptions for the year and he was confident that with the assistance of the Honorary Secretary all would be settled shortly.
- c. He said that he had not progressed the matter of taking out insurance as he was unsure of the requirement. After a short discussion on the potential risks to the Society it was agreed that insurance was unnecessary.
- d. The Committee agreed to make donations to the following service charities:
 - Blind Veterans - £1,000
 - Forces Children's Trust - £1,000
 - Veterans' Aid - £1,000
 - Combat Stress - £1,000

ITEM 6. Honorary Colonels. The Honorary Membership Secretary informed the meeting that Professor Sir James (Jim) MacDonald FREng, FRSE, FInstP, FIET will become the Honorary Colonel of 71 Engineer Regiment. Sir Jim is Principal and Vice Chancellor of the University of Strathclyde and has worked for many years in the electricity industry. The Membership Secretary stated that he would write to him and invite him to become an Honorary Blythe Sapper on the terms already agreed by Council.

ITEM 7. Casualties.

- a. Deceased: Sappers Graham Hornby, John Stanion and David Alexander. The Secretary also reported that Sapper Nick Whatley who had resigned from the Society before the last meeting has died.
- b. Resignations: Sappers Mike Thornton, Peter Pugh and Jeremy Streeten.

ITEM 9. Nominations for Membership

<i>Nomination</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Seconder</i>
Maj Gen Richard Semple	Sapper Carel Bouwens	Sapper Nick Baveystock
Col Harry Vialou-Clark	Sapper Richard Peck	Sapper Carel Bouwens

Lt Col Philip Crick
Col Chris Guthkelch
Maj Sir Donald Spiers
Lt Col Richard Burnet
Lt Col Jonathan Fox
Lt Col Bob Lisle
Col Darin Gray
Capt Bob Davis

Sapper David Brambell
Sapper Mark Hughes
Sapper Robin Lloyd Owen
Sapper Jonathan Welch
Sapper Michael Lewis
Sapper Max Heron
Sapper Max Heron
Sapper Matthew Jackson

Sapper Scott Robinson
Sapper Carel Bouwens
Sapper Stuart Sinclair
Sapper Aidan Smyth
Sapper Aidan Smyth
Sapper Peter Clayton
Sapper Charles Holman
Sapper Aidan Smyth

The Committee agreed to offer all 10 membership of the Blythe Sappers.
This brings the total membership to: 395

ITEM 10. Attendance and Arrangements for Today's Luncheon

Principal guest: Lt Gen Tyrone Urch, Comd Home Command and Chief Royal Engineer.

Subject: "The Royal Engineers Today"

Total numbers attending: 76

Number of Guests: 14

Potential Blythe Sappers: Brig Ian Dobbie (Sapper Robbie Hall)
Brig John Clark (Sapper Gerry Taggart)
Maj Stephanie Still (Sapper Andrew Craig)
Maj Richard Millbank (Sapper Alistair Fox)
Mr John Mansell (Sapper Alistair Fox)

Those to rise: Sappers Chris Holt and Andrew Willis

ITEM 11. AOB and Next Meeting.

- a. Sapper Stuart Sinclair advised the meeting that he will be standing down as the Council Link Member at the end of the year and that Sapper John McLennan had agreed to succeed him. The Chairman, on behalf of the Committee thanked Sapper Sinclair for his long, loyal and devoted service to the Society and this Committee in particular.
- b. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 6th December 2018 at 1100 hrs.
- c. There being no other business the meeting closed at 1144 hours.

Sapper Aidan Smyth
Chairman
The Blythe Sappers

Sapper Carel Bouwens
Honorary Secretary
The Blythe Sappers