



Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



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Chairman – Gordon McLeod Secretary – Gil Nicol Treasurer – Craig McQuade

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at The Royal British Legion, Rodney Street,
Edinburgh, EH7 4EL at 1230hrs on Sunday 17 November 2019.**

- 1. Members Present;** Gordon McLeod, Gil Nicol, Alex McWhirter, John Donaldson, Bob Hamilton, Dougie Archibald, Andy Gemmell, Alex Cockburn, Norrie Bishop, Ronnie Drummond, Dave Henderson, Andy Paterson and John Carter.
- 2. Apologies;** Craig McQuade, Mick Walker, Andy Mullen, Bob Masson, Eoghann maclachlainn Bill Pagan, Joe Davidson, Willie Grant, Tom Ormiston, Peter Long, Ron McCartan and all overseas members.
- 3. Chairmans Welcome;** Gordon McLeod welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He welcomed two new members to the Branch Bill Pagan and Joe Davidson. Unfortunately due to prior commitments they cannot attend today.
Gordon remembered members and colleagues who have passed away in the last year.
Kim Panton
Lt Col (Retd) Stanley Peake
Lt Col (Retd) Paul Scoble
Brigadier (Retd) Mike Addison
Members stood for a minutes silence in remembrance
“We Will Remember Them”
- 4. Welfare;** Andy Mullen continues to have health problems
Ron Mc Cartan still has ongoing health problems
“We wish them all the best and a speedy recovery”
- 5. Minutes of the Previous AGM Sunday 18 November 2018.**
The Minutes were passed as accurate by Douglas Archibald and seconded by Alex Cockburn.
- 6. Matters Arising;** No matters arising
- 7. Minutes of the previous meeting – OGM 15 September 2019;** The minutes of the last meeting were passed as being accurate by Alex Cockburn and seconded by John Donaldson.
- 8. Secretary’s Report;** (a) **AEA National AGM - 4 – 6 October 2019** was held at Mercure Whately Hall Hotel, Banbury.
(b) **Cenotaph Parade — Sunday 10 November 2019;** All 30 tickets allocated have been taken up.

(c) New Members; As our Chairman informed us we have 2 new members we also have a third new member, Andy Nelson who has come along today. We welcome him into the fold.

(d) PRA Lothian Branch; We are invited to attend the PRA Lothian Branch Annual Christmas Dinner / Dance on Friday 6 December (1900hrs) held at RBL Rodney Street, Edinburgh. The cost is £10.00 per person. Anyone interested please contact Gil Nicol.

(e) AEA Executive Committee Vacant Posts; Our New Chairman, Steve Wallis, has informed us that there are some positions available on The Executive Committee. Anyone interested please contact Steve Wallis Stephen.wallis57@ntlworld.com

(f) 2020 AGM/Reunion; Will be held on 16 – 18 October 2020 at Cedar Court Hotel, Harrogate. It will be hosted by The Yorkshire Branch. Gil Nicol has details so if interested please contact him.

(g) Arnhem 2020; Charlie Mc Colgan, ex 9 Sqn, was so impressed by the Flower Children at Arnhem this year that he has started a fund to raise money or contribution of beret & badge. Anyone interested please contact Charlie at charlie9sqn@hotmail.com

9. Treasurers Report; Bob Hamilton (Auditor) informed the members that we are still in a healthy financial position, although a bit depleted and reminded them that annual subs of £10.00 per person are due today. He also commented on the accuracy, detail and presentation of our Finance Report by our Treasurer.

10. Webmaster's Report; John Donaldson informs us that all is ok with our website and we are still attracting visitors. He is updating our website on a regular basis.

11. Election of Office Bearers; The following office bearers were elected;

Chairman; Gordon McLeod. Proposed by John Donaldson and Seconded by Douglas Archibald

Secretary; Gil Nicol. Proposed by Andy Paterson and Seconded by Andy Gemmell.

Treasurer; Craig McQuade. Proposed by Alex Cockburn and Seconded by Andy Gemmell.

Auditor; Bob Hamilton. Proposed by David Henderson and Seconded by Alex Cockburn

Webmaster; John Donaldson

Branch Rep 1; Gordon McLeod

Branch Rep 2; Andy Paterson

12. Annual Subscriptions; It was agreed that we keep our annual subscriptions at £10.00 per person and this money to be collected after the meeting.

Those members who have still to pay please forward monies to the following;

Craig McQuade

37 Riverview Park

Mangerton

Newcastleton

TD9 TF

All cheques should be made payable to “**The Airborne Engineers Association**”

13. Future Meetings; All future meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday of every 2nd Month starting from 20 January 2020. Meetings will commence at 1300hrs except for the AGM which will commence at 1230hrs.

14. A.O.C.B; (a) Development of the Branch – An Advertisement was taken out with The Falkirk Herald for 1 week, however, we have had one response so far.

(b) AEA Scotland—Annual Lunch – Saturday 5 September 2020. We have been booked into the Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh once again, for our Annual Branch Lunch. The cost this year will be £26.00 per person. Gil has been asked if “Soup” can be put on the menu as one of the Starter choices. He will pass this request along to The Royal Scots Club.

(c) General Service Medal 1962 with Clasp South Arabia; John Donaldson intimated that it is now **Dead in the Water.**

(d) John Lonergan Memorial; John Donaldson suggested we give some thought about having a memorial to the late WO2 John F. Lonergan KIA Radfan 12 April 1965. The suggestion was well received from members with several suggestions being made on how this could be achieved. However, nothing was decided and it will be discussed at a later date. It has been agreed that we meet up at The Guards Club, Edinburgh on Sunday 12 April 2020 (1300hrs) to pay our respects to the memory of John Lonergan.

(e) Cromwell Lock Memorial Service 2019; A memorial service was held at The Memorial Stone at Zetland Park, Grangemouth on Sunday 22 September 2019, where we remembered the tragic loss of 10 Sappers who perished whilst taking part in “Operation Trent Chase”. After the service members retired to the Royal British Legion Hall, Grangemouth for refreshments. This parade was very well attended, even more so considering the foul weather. At the end of the day Gil Nicol was presented with a lovely handcrafted timber container complete with a bottle of rum, by Joe Davidson, in appreciation of all his work over the years. Gil was taken by surprise and for once almost speechless. Gil thanked all in attendance and informed them how much he appreciated this wonderful gesture.

(f) Cromwell Lock Memorial Service 2020; As this is the 45th Anniversary of this event, both at Cromwell Lock and Zetland Park, it would be worthwhile if some members could attend the Memorial Service at Cromwell Lock as well as Zetland Park, Grangemouth. Details of the service at Cromwell Lock will be issued later in the year. Four of our members expressed an interest in attending both services next year. Gil Nicol had worked out a preliminary cost for attending Cromwell Lock and it was in the region of £250 per person. This will be looked at in more detail in January 2020. Gil Nicol will obtain details via John Lee.

(g) Old Comrades Annual Dinner; This was held on Saturday 19 October 2019 (1930hrs for 2000hrs) at 4 Para Premises, New Pearson Hall, Houldsworth Street, Glasgow.

(h) Garden of Remembrance, Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh – This ceremony took place on Monday 28 October 2019. Some members were in attendance.

(i) Presidents Commendation Award; Gil Nicol was pleasantly surprised to be awarded this honour for the work he has carried out over the years. He feels that he has not done any more than any other members and appreciates the thoughts of his fellow members.

(j) AEA Scotland Calendars were handed out to members

15. Date of Next Meeting; OGM on Sunday 19 January 2020 (1300hrs) at R.B.L. Rodney Street, Edinburgh.

The meeting was brought to a close and everyone thanked the Chair

We wish All of Our Members and Colleagues South of The Border-"A Very Merry Christmas and A Guid New Year"