



Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk

Chairman – **Gordon McLeod**

Secretary – **Gil Nicol**

Treasurer – **Craig McQuade**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 21 November 2021 (1230hrs) at
R.B.L.S. 33Rodney Street ,Edinburgh.**

- 1. Members Present:** Gordon McLeod, Gil Nicol, Craig Mc Quade, Alex Cockburn, Andy Nelson, Brian Earl, Norrie Bishop, Douglas Archibald, John Donaldson, David Henderson, Bob Masson, Andy Gemmell and Andy Paterson.
- 2. Apologies:** Andy Mullen, Joe Davidson, Willie Grant, Ron McCartan, Bob Hamilton, Eoghann maclachlainn, Robert Stewart, Bill Pagan, Ronnie Drummond, Mick Walker, John Carter and all overseas members.
- 3. Chairman's Remarks:**—Gordon welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He opened the meeting with the Airborne Prayer.
Before getting on with the business in hand he, on behalf of our members, presented Douglas Archibald with a gift to celebrate his 80th Birthday and also as a thank you for his services in the past (he is one of our original founding members).
- 4. Welfare:**—The following members are still not keeping well and we send our best wishes for a speedy recover. Mick Walker , Andy Mullen , Ronnie Drummond , John Carter and Ron Mc Cartan
- 5. Minutes of AGM-Sunday 17 November 2019:** The minutes were passed as being accurate by Andy Nelson and seconded by Alec Cockburn.
- 6. Matters Arising;** There were no matters arising
- 7. Minutes of Previous O.G.M:—Sunday 19 September 2021:** The minutes were passed as accurate by Gordon McLeod and seconded by Alex Cockburn.
- 8. Matters Arising;** There were no matters arising.
- 9. Secretary's Report;** (a) **Erskine Home;** We agreed that we will submit a donation annually (amount to be agreed).
(b) Airborne Engineers Association—A.G.M./Reunion 2021 – This was held over 15—17 October 2021 at The Cedar Hotel, Harrogate and was well attended
(c) Airborne Engineers Association-AGM/Reunion 2024—AEA Scotland have been invited to host this event.The branch discussed this in great detail and after much deliberation decided that we are not in a position to host this event, although we are pleased and delighted to have been given the

opportunity. Details describing our reasons have been forwarded to the AEA President and AEA Chairman respectively.

(d) The Journal---Members are reminded that their last paper copy will be issued in December 2021 and any standing orders that are not cancelled will be paid into the AEA General Fund as a donation. Dave Rutter has issued details regarding the new format of The Journal which have been forwarded to all members.

(e) 131—75th Anniversary----Olaf Dudley has invited any member who wishes to attend an all ranks reunion to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of 131's foundation on April 1947. This event will take place at 131 Commando Squadron, Lonergan Lines, Kingsbury on Saturday 23 April 2022 and gates will open at 1300hrs. Parking and accommodation will be available to those who wish to overnight at Kingsbury before departing the following day. There will be displays, entertainment, the PRI Shop, good food and drink—with much more.

Further information will be issued Mid December 2021. We hope you are able to attend and celebrate our Airborne and Commando Sapper heritage, to renew bonds of friendship and make new ones. Yours—Olaf Dudley (O.C., 131 Cdo.Sqn.)

(f) John Humphreys—OBE, DL—100th Birthday Celebrations

There will be a celebration of John's birthday on 14 January at The Royal Hospital Chelsea and Steve Wallis has asked if any member wishes to attend this event, please confirm to him if so inclined

John Humphreys is the last man standing from those who fought with 1 Para Sqn RE at Arnhem Bridge. He also went on to achieve the rank of Lt Col (QM) which very few achieved in his era. Unfortunately none of our members are able to attend. However we pass on our best wishes and thanks for all he has done.

10 Treasurer's Report: Craig McQuade presented a very clear and defined financial report stating we are in a healthy financial position. He thanked all who submitted donations.

This Financial Report was passed as accurate by Brian Earl and seconded by Andy Gemmell.

Annual dues will be paid after this meeting. Details of Annual Subs and payment methods will be discussed further on in Section 12.00.

The members thanked him for his detailed report.

11. Webmaster's Report: John Donaldson informed us that various organisations are approaching him with a view to take over the running and presentation of our website, at a substantial cost.

It was agreed that John will continue to monitor and update our website. We are still receiving "hits" from visitors.

12. Future Meetings: All future meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month, on alternate months, commencing Sunday 16 January 2022. Meetings will commence at 1300hrs except for our AGM which will commence at 1230hrs. We will meet in the downstairs small lounge at R.B.L.S. 33 Rodney Street, Edinburgh EH7 4OQ.

13. Election of Office Bearers: Chairman—Gordon McLeod—Proposed by Andy Paterson and Seconded by Brian Earl---Approved Unanimously.

Secretary – Gil Nicol—Proposed by Andy Paterson and Seconded by Andy Gemmell—Approved Unanimously.

Treasurer—Craig McQuade—Proposed by David Henderson and Seconded by John Donaldson—Approved Unanimously.

The following Officials agreed to carry on for another year;

Auditor—Bob Hamilton
Webmaster—John Donaldson
Branch Rep (1)—Gordon McLeod
Branch Rep (2)—Andy Paterson.

14. Annual Subscriptions; It was agreed that Annual Subscriptions should be £15.00 per member to be paid annually.

This was Proposed by Andy Paterson and Seconded by Andy Nelson—this was a majority decision. Subs will be collected after this meeting

Anyone paying by cheque should make the cheque out to “The Airborne Engineers Association”

If you wish to pay by bank transfer the details are as follows;

Account Name; The Airborne Engineers Association

Sort Code; 82 70 21

Account Number; 00061094

Reference; AEA Subs/Name

Any correspondence should be forwarded to the following ;

Craig Mc Quade

37 Riverview Park

MANGERTON

Newcastleton

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15. A.O.C.B; (a) AEA Scotland 25th Anniversary. This is on 20 September 2023 and will be discussed in more detail on Sunday 16 January 2022

(b) Cromwell Lock Memorial Service 2021(Newark); This was held on Sunday 26 September 2021 after a last minute approval by The Rivers and Canal Trust.

(c) Cromwell Lock Memorial Service2021(Grangemouth); This was to have been held on Sunday 26 September 2021 at Zetland Park, Grangemouth however due to the area still being an ongoing building site and fenced off , it was agreed to postpone this ceremony until a later date. John Carter will supply the wreath, made by his wife and Gordon McLeod & Bob Hamilton will supply the centrepiece .Craig Mc Quade has forwarded , on our behalf ,the sum of £50.00 as a donation to R.B.L.Grangemouth as thank you for all their assistance over the years.

(d) AEA Scotland Annual Lunch; Gil Nicol has made a temporary booking for The Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh on Saturday 8 October 2022 (September is fully booked). It was agreed to make this a definite booking. G.N will find out the maximum/minimum numbers required by The Royal Scots Club. Craig McQuade asked if we are short of numbers can we supplement our numbers by inviting guests—this was agreed to unanimously. Craig also asked if we were still intending to invite widows of past members—this was agreed to unanimously. Craig will attend to these invitations.

(e) Date of Births; There are still a number of members who have not given Gil their Dates of Births-can they please do so A.S.A.P.He can be contacted as follows; Email address;

gilbertandmyra@gmail.com

House Address; 198 Ardenraig Road, Glasgow G45 0HR Tel Numbers; 0141 631 2092/07707468530

(f) Remembrance Parade, London—Sunday 14 November 2021; I have informed Steve Wallis (AEA Chairman) that we would not be represented at this event and to spread the ticket allocation amongst other branches. As far as I know they were taken up and we had a good representation on the day.

(g) PRA Lothian—Annual Christmas Dinner/Dance; This will be held on Friday 10 December 2021 at RBL Rodney Street , Edinburgh commencing at 1900hrs. The meal will be a buffet as in previous years. The cost is £10.00 per person and can be obtained from Kenny Rogers (PRA Lothian Branch Secretary). Gil Nicol and Craig Mc Quade (with wives) will attend to represent AEA Scotland.

(h) Garden of Remembrance, Edinburgh; On Monday 25 October 2021 Gil Nicol and Gordon McLeod attended the above ceremony held at Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh.

16. Date of Next Meeting—Our next meeting will be on Sunday 16 January 2022 , commencing at 1300hrs at RBL Rodney Street , Edinburgh—In the Small Downstairs Lounge

We wish all our colleagues “South of the Border” A very Merry Christmas and a Guid New Year.

The Meeting was brought to a close and the Chair was thanked.