



Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk

Chairman – **Douglas Archibald**

Secretary – **Gil Nicol**

Treasurer – **Craig Mc Quade**

Minutes of Ordinary General Meeting held at The Royal British Legion, Rodney Street, Edinburgh, EH7 4EL at 1300hrs on Sunday 15 April 2018.

1. **Members Present;** Doug Archibald, Gil Nicol, Andy Paterson, Mick Walker, John Donaldson , Gordon McLeod, Alex Cockburn, Bob Hamilton, Norrie Bishop, Andy Gemmell, Bob Masson and Ron McCartan.
2. **Apologies** Craig McQuade, Alex McWhirter, Andy Mullen, Brian Earl, Kim Panton, Willie Grant, Tom Ormiston, Eoin McIntyre, Eoghann maclachlainn, David Henderson and all overseas members.
3. **Chairman's Welcome;** Doug Archibald welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He also apologised for the cancellation of our March meeting due to adverse weather conditions.
4. **Welfare;** Brian Earl has suffered a stroke and hopefully he will make a full recovery. Andy Mullen still has an ongoing problem with his leg. Ronnie Drummond is having problems with his hips.
5. **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting;** The minutes of the last meeting were passed as being accurate by John Donaldson and seconded by Gordon McLeod
6. **Matters Arising;** No matters arising.
7. **Secretary's Report;**
 - (a) **Car Badges;** They are available from Dave Rutter at the AEA Shop costing £12.50 and £1.00 postage. If ordered in bulk we can save on the postage cost.
 - (b) **AEA Scotland Annual Lunch;** We have booked a room at The Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh for 1 September 2018 (1230hrs for 1300hrs).The price has not been finalised but we expect it to be similar to last year. Ron McCartan asked if accommodation can be made for a vegetarian meal. G. Nicol will contact The Royal Scots Club with this request.
 - (c) **Cenotaph Parade;** No one is able to take up the tickets on offer. G.Nicol will contact John Ferry to this effect.
 - (d) **Robert Hendry;** Gil Nicol has sent a letter of acknowledgement to Mrs Hendry re the DVD about Aden, Germany, etc.
 - (e) **29th AEA—AGM & Reunion Gala Dinner –Friday 12 - Sunday 14 October, 2018—**This event will be held at The King Charles Hotel, Gillingham, Kent, details available from Gil Nicol.

(f) Data Protection Act—It has been decided to wait until our Executive Committee produce working documents. John Donaldson has already submitted his details to Birmingham Branch ensuring he gets copies of their minutes.

- 8. Treasurer's Report;** In the absence of our Treasurer we are informed that we are still in funds and looking financially healthy.
- 9. Webmaster's Report;** John Donaldson informs us that all is ok with our website and we are still receiving hits.
- 10. Future Meetings;** All future meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month, every 2nd Month commencing 21 January 2018. Meetings will commence at 1300hrs with the exception of the AGM which will commence at 1230hrs.
- 11. A.O.C.B; (a) Memorial Site at Cromwell Lock;** It has been agreed that we will concur with the proposal put forward by Lt Col John Lee regarding the upkeep of the existing memorial at Cromwell Lock, Newark. This being that Mike Edwards and other volunteers will take on the responsibility for the memorial upkeep. His plan is to visit the site in the spring and do some early spring maintenance, after which he has a small shopping list of the plants required to re-furbish the memorial. They will then re-plant and upkeep the memorial at regular intervals. We at AEA Scotland are prepared to help out with the financial implications. Alex Cockburn was awarded a round of thanks for all his effort.
(b) Lt Colonel Chris Warhurst (Airborne Engineers) Army HQ Andover; He is the gentleman in charge of all the equipment used by the Royal Engineers and will give us a presentation at our 20 May 2018 meeting of his time in Afghanistan coupled with the current equipment and capability of the Royal Engineers. This meeting will commence at 1500hrs and last for approximately 1 hour. Members of PRA Lothian Branch will also be in attendance
(c) New Membership; We must keep trying to encourage new members. John Donaldson is weighing up whether or not its worth putting a webpage on Facebook as it's already covered on 131 Commando Squadron Royal Engineers Facebook.
(d) John Donaldson reminded us that Thursday 12 April was the 53rd anniversary of the "battle" at Al Milah, Radfan, Aden.
(e) Gordon McLeod has received a thank you letter from Mrs Hendry re the DVD of Aden, Germany, etc. which was taken by her late husband Robert.
(f) Doug Archibald suggested we look at continuing the invitations to widows of our late members.

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

12. Date of Next Meeting; OGM on Sunday 20 May 2018 (1300hrs) at R.B.L. Rodney Street, Edinburgh.