



# Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



[www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk](http://www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk)

Chairman – **Douglas Archibald**      Secretary – **Gil Nicol**      Treasurer – **Craig Mc Quade**

**Minute of meeting held in RBL, Rodney Street, Edinburgh at 1300hrs on 16 July 2017.**

**WELCOME:** Mick Walker welcomed everybody and said that very shortly before leaving home he had been contacted by Chairman Dougie Archibald who was unable to attend and Mick agreed to assume the Chair.

**PRESENT:** Norrie Bishop, Alex Cockburn, John Donaldson, Ronnie Drummond, Brian Earl, Andy Gemmell, Bob Hamilton, Dave Henderson, Bob Masson, Craig McQuade, Alex McWhirter, Kim Panton and Mick Walker.

**APOLOGIES:** As intimated above Dougie Archibald was absent having had an accident on Saturday. The previous day Gordon McLeod had been knocked down by a motor bike and suffered cuts which required 7-8 stitches and severe bruising on his shoulders. Frank Murray's wife had undergone an operation and Frank is confined to barracks as head cook and bottle washer. Members expressed their sympathies to all and hoped for a speedy resumption of normal service. Gil Nicol had lodged his apologies at our May meeting and those were taken as read from our overseas members.

**MAY MEETING:** The minutes were accepted as an accurate record on the motion of Kim Panton who was seconded by Bob Hamilton..

**MATTERS ARISING:** There were none.

**ANNUAL LUNCH:** The balance was scheduled to be paid. Gil had delegated Gordon to do this in his anticipated absence and Bob Hamilton had stepped forward in Gordon's unexpected absence and monies were paid at the end of the meeting..

**ARMED FORCES DAY:** There had been a good attendance by the AEA at the Edinburgh event but it was noted the overall number was in steady decline.

**AIRBORNE FORCES DAY;** This was being organised by the Airborne Alliance which is apparently a separate entity following a schism in the PRA Scotland. The event is being held in Dunfermline but our comrades in the PRA Lothian Branch are not supporting it and it was agreed that we as a Branch should do likewise. It is of course open to members to attend as Individuals.

**CROMWELL LOCK:** Alex Cockburn reported that he and the Chairman were in liaison with the RBL in Grangemouth about the parade held there annually to commemorate the young men from

that area who drowned at Cromwell Lock in 1975 whilst on a 131 Sqn exercise. Details will be advised at our next meeting.

**COLOURS PARADE;** Dave Henderson reported that he had taken part in a Colours Parade in Coldstream (his new home town) and he had been pleasantly surprised to at least 10 separate colours on display. His was the only red beret in the parade but once the bikers removed their crash helmets another was revealed.

**CPL SCOTT WILSON:** Bob Hamilton, at the Chairman's invitation, gave a short report on the graveside parade to commemorate the death of Cpl Wilson in the Falklands on the anniversary of that day. AEA members Charlie McColgan and Paul Moore had served with Scott at the battle for Mt Longdon – Paul was his 2 i/c - and they travelled up from the North East to be with us as Dougie gave a short oration and oversaw the laying of a wreath.

Paul and Charlie presented the Branch with a montage of Scott and out with the meeting Mick agreed a hanging place in the RBL for it.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Craig gave a verbal report on and breakdown of our finances which demonstrated we are in a healthy position.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 1345hrs with notification that our next meeting will be at **1300hrs on 17 September 2017** at the same venue.