



Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



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Chairman Frank Murray - **Secretary** Gil Nicol - **Treasurer** Mick Walker

**Minute of meeting held at 1300hrs on Sunday 16 September 2012 in Royal British Legion,
Rodney Street, Edinburgh**

1. Present were Frank Murray (Chairman), John Donaldson, Kim Panton, Gordon McLeod, Alex McWhirter, Andy Paterson, Tom Ormiston, Ronnie Drummond, Roy Kay, Brian Earl, Jimmy Simpson, Andy Mullen and Malcolm Walker.

2. Chairman Frank welcomed all to the meeting and indicated that as Secretary Gil was on holiday Mick Walker would assume his role for the day. He invited all to stand for a minute's silence in memory of those who had passed on: Frank made special mention of Joe Stoddart, our immediate past national Chairman who had succumbed to a heart attack last week.

3. Apologies had been received from Craig McQuade, Gil Nicol, Dougie Archibald, Ron McCartan and David Brock. They were taken as read from our overseas members but John Donaldson made particular mention of Willie Grant who apologises by e-mail from Thailand at each individual meeting.

Frank reported that Dougie Archibald had suffered from a stroke. Fortunately – if there can be good fortune in these matters – he had been in hospital at the time so got immediate attention. The Chairman had telephoned Dougie a few days earlier and said his speech was almost normal and Dougie himself said his recovery was continuing apace. He was touched by and most appreciative of all the cards, calls and visits

4. The minutes of previous meeting were approved as a true record on the motion of Tom Ormiston who was seconded by Gordon McLeod.

5. There were no matters arising.

6. Before going on holiday Secretary Gil had let the Chairman have a report. All the items are covered below.

7. Mick Walker submitted a financial report. Matters had been quiet on that front since the last meeting and we had generated a small surplus and remain in a healthy state.

8. Still on that front John Donaldson advised that he had been informed that the cost of maintaining our website was due to rise by 3%. All agreed we could cope with this. John added that apart from some weird and wonderful sites all over the world seeking to have links with us there had been little website activity.

9. The sad passing of Joe Stoddart, MBE was noted. Joe had been a comrade of two of our senior members – Jimmy Simpson and Tom Ormiston – in 9 Sqn and given that he was the immediate past Chairman of the national Association it was felt we should be represented at his funeral. Tom indicated he was going to attend in a personal capacity and it was agreed we should make a substantial contribution to his expenses and he would represent AEA Scotland. It was agreed that we should send a condolence card to his widow.

10. The PRA Bowls Sunday did not take place despite there being eight representatives from the Branch at Bilston. No doubt our members who are also in the PRA will get details and report back.

11. It was provisionally agreed that our golf outing will take place at Dunfermline Golf Club on Sunday 14 October at noon. Mick Walker will confirm details with those interested.

12. It was noted that Eoghann macLachlainn – aka Big Mac – had withdrawn from the Remembrance Sunday parade. We do however remain four in number and our Secretary has matters in hand.

13. John Donaldson reported that the Brach trip “Doon the Water” was well attended and had been thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The only downside was the one thing we could not control – the weather. The second half of the trip was rather windy and wet.

14. Ronnie Drummond anticipated that the PRA would be looking for numbers for their Xmas dance. It was agreed that we would take twenty tickets.

15. Interest had been shown previously in a visit to the Armed Forces Arboretum and the Chairman felt April would be a good time to do this. Norrie Bishop had previously explored hotel provision and he was in his absence volunteered to take matters forward.

16. The dedication of Edinburgh’s Field of Remembrance in Princes Street Gardens will take place at 1100hrs on Monday 05 November. A goodly number of members attended last year and those going this year should meet at 1030hrs at the Scott Monument.

17. Our next meeting is our AGM which will take venue on Sunday 20 November 2012 and the acting Secretary stressed that **it will start at 1230hrs**. He also urged members to think about the office bearer positions. Craig McQuade had volunteered to supply pies and it was decided two dozen would suffice.