



Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk

Chairman – **Gordon McLeod**

Secretary – **Gil Nicol**

Treasurer – **Craig McQuade**

Minutes of Ordinary General Meeting held on Sunday 18 July 2021 at
The Royal British Legion, 33 Rodney Street, Edinburgh, EH7 4EL (1300 hrs)

- 1. Present;** Gordon McLeod, Gil Nicol, Craig McQuade, John Donaldson, Bob Hamilton, Alex McWhirter, Alex Cockburn, Andy Nelson, Brian Earl, Norrie Bishop, John Carter, Andy Gemmell, Kenneth Wratten, Andy Paterson, Doug Archibald, Dave Henderson and Bob Masson.
- 2. Apologies;** Andy Mullen, Bill Pagan, Joe Davidson, Willie Grant, Mike Graham, Eoghann Mac lachlainn, Robert Stewart, Mick Walker, Ronnie Drummond, Ron McCartan and all overseas members.
- 3. Chairman's Welcome;** Gordon McLeod welcomed everyone present and thanked them for attending. He stated how glad he was that no members appear to have had problems related to Covid 19. He asked us to remember those who passed away last year; Robin Ward and Jack Braithwaite.
“We will remember them”
- 4. Welfare;** Andy Mullen is continuing to have health problems and Mick Walker has been unwell over the last few weeks but is on the mend. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope to see them soon.
- 5. Minutes from the last meeting on Sunday 15 March 2020;** The minutes were passed as accurate by Craig McQuade and seconded by Robert Hamilton.
- 6. Matters Arising;** There were no matters arising.
- 7. Secretary's Report;**
 - (a) AEA Executive Committee Vacant Post;** Our 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
 - (b) 2021 AGM/Reunion;** The 31st Anniversary Reunion and AGM will be held over 15 – 17 October 2021 at The Cedar Hotel, Harrogate. HG1 5AH. Details of Accommodation and costs have been issued in the latest copy of The Journal.
 - (c) The Journal;** Members will receive their last paper copy printed and issued in December 2021. Please remember to cancel any Standing Orders relating to the Annual charge as this has now been scrapped.
- 8. Treasurer's Report;** Craig McQuade presented a financial report stating that we are in a healthy financial position. He expressed his thanks to all who submitted donations.

9. Webmaster's Report; John Donaldson informed the members that all is well with our website and we are still receiving hits. He is still updating our website on a regular basis.

10. Future Meetings; All future meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month, commencing Sunday 18 July 2021. Meetings will commence at 1300hrs except for our A.G.M. which will commence at 1230hrs.

We will be meeting in the downstairs Small Lounge as some members are finding it difficult using the stairs to the Upper Room.

11. A.O.C.B. (a) Cromwell Lock Memorial Service 2021 (Newark); This will be held at Cromwell Lock on Sunday 26 September 2021.

(b) Cromwell Lock Memorial Service 2021(Grangemouth); This will be held at Zetland Park, Grangemouth on Sunday 26 September 2021 at 1045hrs. The format will depend on Coronavirus restrictions and also progress made by the contractor carrying out alteration around the memorials. At the moment we propose to hold the service along the same lines as previous years with everyone retiring to The Royal British Legion, Grangemouth for refreshments.

(c) Falkirk District Council – F..D.C. have designed a flag incorporating various organisations that use Zetland Park for various reasons. We are represented by a set of Parachute wings with the words “Royal Engineers (v) underneath.

There was no charge for this flag however AEA Scotland donated towards the cost of the alterations around the memorial.

(d) Erskine Homes; Brian Earl proposed we donate the sum of £100.00 towards this wonderful institution, this was seconded by Bob Hamilton. Accordingly our Treasurer will attend to this duty.

(e) Annual Branch Lunch; In view of the current situations regarding Covid 19 it was agreed to leave this until 2022. A venue and date will be decided at a later date.

(f) Rededication of Cpl. Scott Wilson's New Headstone; There will be a rededication service held at Edinburgh Eastern Cemetery on Saturday 31 July 2021 commencing at 1645hrs. After the ceremony we will retire to The Drivers Sports & Social Club (Taxi Club), 24 Beaverhall Road, Leith, EH7 4JE.

Dress Code will be Beret, Blazer (or suit) slacks, shirt and tie.

There will be a finger buffet served commencing at approx. 1900hrs the cost of which will be borne by AEA Scotland

Airborne Engineers Association Executive approached our committee and asked us to host this event on their behalf. They also offered financial assistance which we politely declined. We are pleased that they offered but we feel that we can manage this on our own.

The Committee members had put by a sum of money toward the overall cost, however, some of the Branch Members felt that the total cost should come from Branch funds and not from any individuals pocket. This was put to the members and they voted by a large majority that the cost should come from our branch funds.

The committee members have now donated the sum of money to the branch funds and it was agreed that our Secretary would be given a cash float on the day to cover costs.

The committee are organising 6 seater taxis to transfer members from the cemetery to the Venue (Taxi Club).

The evening will end at 2300hrs in accordance with Scottish Government Covid Restrictions.

(g) Scott Wilson-12 June 2021; Mick Walker and Douglas Archibald visited Scotts grave and had a minutes silence. We thank them for carrying out this duty on behalf of AEA Scotland.

(h) Remembrance Parade, London—Sunday 7 November 2021; There are 4 tickets available for

AEA Scotland members to attend the parade but no one took up the offer. Gil Nicol will inform Steve Wallis that we will not be represented at The Cenotaph in 2021.

(i) Date of Next Meeting; Our next meeting will be an Ordinary General Meeting to be held 1300hrs on Sunday 19 September 2021 at RBL Rodney Street, Edinburgh.

The meeting was brought to a close and everyone thanked the chair.