



Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk

Chairman – **Mick Walker**

Secretary – **Gil Nicol**

Treasurer – **Craig McQuade**

Minutes of Meeting at The Royal British Legion , Rodney Street , Edinburgh at 1300hrs on Sunday 19th January 2014

1. **Members Present** ; Mick Walker , Gil Nicol , Craig McQuade , Gordon McLeod , Bob Hamilton , Norrie Bishop , Kim Panton , John Donaldson , Frank Murray , Dougie Archibald and Brian Earl.
2. **Apologies** ; Tom Ormiston , Alex McWhirter , Kenneth Wratten , Andy Paterson , Andy Mullen , David Henderson , Ron McCartan , Raymond Drummond , Willie Grant and all overseas members.
3. **Welfare Report**; Mick Walker will contact Jim Simpson to see how he is keeping . Gil Nicol will contact Raymond Mannion for an update on his condition and Kim Panton will be in touch with Roy Kay enquiring as to his health.
Frank Murray has spoken to Robin Ward who informed him he is feeling fine , he is now 85 years of age and sends his best regards to all.
4. **Chairmans Welcome**; Mick Walker welcomed all present and wished them all the best for 2014. A minutes silence was observed in remembrance of David Forsyth , the ex 9 Sqn lad who was tragically killed last week on the A1 at Torness.
5. **Minutes of last meeting**; The minutes of the last meeting were proposed as accurate by Brian Earl and seconded by Gordon McLeod.
6. **Matters Arising** ; There were no matters arising.
7. **Secretary's Report**;
(A) The matter was raised about what to do regarding the September meeting as so many members will be at Arnhem .
We were asked to consider the following choices;
(a) Scrap the meeting altogether.
(b) Postpone to another date.
(c) Hold an informal meeting regardless of the numbers.
(d) Have a lunch in lieu of the meeting.
Members were asked to think about the options and come back, at our next meeting in March 2014 ,with some suggestions.
(B) As Mick Walker mentioned in his Welcome that David Forsyth was killed last week and we have

been approached by Paul Gough from Inverness PRA asking if we will be sending a representative to the funeral. Gil Nicol will liaise with Paul and inform him that there will be at least one representative from our branch. Gil will also contact Joe Davidson (Ex 9Sqn) to ensure that 9 Sqn are aware of developments as well as informing John Ferry (AEA Chairman)

Gil has already thanked Paul for his help up to this moment in time.

(C) The A.EA . A.G.M is proposed to be held in Blackpool later this year and it would be good to send a Scottish Representation this year. This will be discussed in more detail when final dates, venue and costs are known.

8. Treasurers Report ; Craig McQuade presented a detailed report on our finances and it is good to see that we are still in good health , financially.

This report was passed as accurate by Kim Panton and seconded by Dougie Archibald.

Craig also informed us we will have a £74.39 inc.VAT bill forthcoming from John Donaldson our Webmaster.

9. Website Report; John informed us that the website counter has been removed but a new one will be installed at a later date.

We received praise, from an external source , on the presentation of our website and were asked if we would like to link up with this other persons website (specialising in headstones).It was agreed by all present not to link up with this website.

10. The Shoebox Appeal; A general discussion took place regarding this appeal and it was agreed to leave it as it is.

In the meantime Frank Murray will contact 131 Cdo. Squadron R. E.and try and come up with some contact names.

11. Future Meetings; All future meetings will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month , every 2nd month , starting from and including January 2014. Meetings will commence at 1300hrs. In the event that a regular meeting has to be cancelled , postponed or resited then all members will be given due notice of such amendments.

12. A.O.C.B;

(a) Pies are supplied by individual members and it was proposed by Craig McQuade and seconded by Gil Nicol that in future we charge 50p per pie and all proceeds be contributed to branch funds.

(b) We attended the Xmas Lunch at The Royal Scots Club in Edinburgh and all agreed it was a good venue and also successful. It was agreed that Gil Nicol try and book again for our Xmas Lunch in 2014.The date will be circa 30th November as we have other things happening before and after this date.

(c) We also attended Lothian Branch PRA Xmas dinner dance which was held on 6th December and we had a really good time , winning nine raffle prizes. Mick Walker informed the members that we, as a branch, donate prizes annually for this event.

(d) On 8th December 2013 Gil Nicol, Gordon McLeod, Frank Murray and John Donaldson came through to Edinburgh and met up with Eoghann McLachlainn , who was celebrating his 80th birthday with his family. A pleasant afternoon was spent with “Big Mac” reminiscing and blethering as one does.

(e) Some members still have outstanding issues regarding the PRA Dance so could they take this note as a reminder and pass all monies due to our Treasurer Craig McQuade.

(f) Gil Nicol will check the itinerary for Arnhem and look into accommodation for overnight stays during our journeys to and from London.

13. Date of Next Meeting ; Our next meeting will be on Sunday 16th March 2014 (1300hrs) at The Royal British Legion , Rodney Street , Edinburgh