

**MINUTES OF THE THREE MONTHLY AREA MEETING HELD AFTER
THE AGM AT LINCOLN ON SATURDAY 20th MARCH 2010**

THE MEETING STARTED AT 1357

**1. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST AREA MEETING – LINCOLN 19TH DECEMBER
2009**

Page 1

S/M Mike Williams of Lincoln branch said that the Club Permit had not been received.

Page 2

S/M Ivan Batt -£290 to £300 for a lap top.Area President said that the treasurer was doing a good job so lets get him one.S/M Peter Skelton asked if the workload involved using a lap top and under whos insurance would it be covered.S/m Ivan Batt said a lap top would be very useful when dealong with the accounts and his insurance would cover the lap top even though the Area owned it.S/M Tony Denyer proposed a lap top be bought and it was seconded by S/M George Holmes,all were in favour.

Page 3

Area Chairman said that the Standards Bearers competition would be held at HMS Temeraire(Sat 24th April 2010).S/M Tom Rotherham mentioned that when HMS Nottingham de-commissioned the RNA were not asked to be involved.

Page 4

S/M Mike Williams said he was sorry the draft charity letter was a bit long,very passionate about the subject,he said he would re-draft it and send it around again.

Proposed by – S/M Peter Skelton

Seconded by – S/M Jim Fletcher

All in favour

2. MATTERS ARISING

NONE

3. CORRESPONDENCE

1. January and February HQ circulars.
2. Letter from S/M Denis Churchill – resignation as delegate
3. Letter from S/M Bob Johnson – apologies for not being able to attend meeting.
4. GSM 89.

E-Mails

1. S/M Pete Corby – ref New Sec at Sleaford.
2. S/m Brenda White – ref Battle of Britain Memorial Flight.
3. S/M Brenda White – ref ‘Crossing the bar’ of S/M Tom Gornall
4. Neville Ford – ref Charity function in aid of H4H
5. H4H –ref merger with Bmycharity

E-Mails Sent

1. S/M Keith Crawford – ref S/M Denis Churchill’s resignation
2. S/M Keith Crawford – ref New Newark Sec – name and address.

4. AREA TREASURERS REPORT

Statement of the accounts for the period ending 20th March 2010

Community Account	£ 565.49
Money Managers	£3689.44
Capitation Fees added	£ 523.00
Total	£4781.93

Proposed by: S/M Peter Skelton

Seconded by: S/M George Holmes

All in favour

5. AREA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Good afternoon Shipmates and welcome to the Area meeting. These past three months in the Area have been rather quiet, which for me has been quite welcome, as the RNA in general has been anything but. I trust you all had an enjoyable Festive period and that your bank balances were in a better state than the economy.

In late January S/M Fred Keen of Sleaford branch had a massive Stroke and remains in Grantham Hospital. Over the past few weeks he has had a couple of setbacks but is now on track with his recovery programme, I am sure you all want to join me in wishing Fred a lasting and successful recovery and hope that it is not too long before he is back home, and I am sure with Barbara's nursing we should soon see him here again. If you are in the area or take a mind to visit Fred he would love to see you.

I had concerns for Boston branch when I was informed by the secretary that they had called an Extra-ordinary meeting with the view of having to close the branch because they were unable to obtain a Chairman and Secretary. However the problem has now been resolved and the branch will continue, to the new incumbents of the posts I would like to express my gratitude to them in not allowing another branch to de-commission. Thank you very much to those shipmates concerned.

The Area membership is down by 14% or to spell it out in more awakening terms a total of 184 members and two branches, the second highest fall over the whole of the RNA in the year 2009. Shipmates if this scale continues next year at this time No 9 Area could well find itself in a very difficult situation, what is wrong with the branches in this Area, DO YOU WANT to be in this situation, I think not. Now is the time to get stuck in and reverse the slide, RECRUITMENT is the name of the game! I suggest that this Area spends some of its money to redress this situation. A one sheet 'flyer' is a suggestion, with all the important facts, and a facility for each branch to put its own details on, these can then go out in 'freebee' papers, they can be placed in Public buildings i.e. libraries, council offices etc. Even handed out in the street or at events in the local area, distribution as far reaching as you wish shipmates. Last year the RNA inserted a recruiting form in every copy of the Navy News for one month only, the increase in membership from that one issue more than paid for it. Many thanks to you all for attending this meeting today, and a very special thank you to the ladies of Lincoln for providing us with out tea today, they certainly do a wonderful job. That shipmates is the end of my Area Chairman's report.

6. AREA PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

He started his address by saying it had been slow since the December meeting and that it was nice to be back at Lincoln and hoped everyone had had a lovely Christmas.

He mentioned Boston branch and said that after the Extra-ordinary meeting S/M Jim Camping was now the new branch Chairman and that they had a new secretary who was an Associate member.

He mentioned the Standard Bearers competition in April and he and the Area Standard Bearer would be having a small practice after the meeting.

He ended his address by thanking everyone for supporting the area and their branches and it was still nice to know that people still thought a lot of the RNA. All the best for the next quarter.

STANDEASY 1446 – TURN TO 1520

7. AREA NCM REPORT

Shipmates the quarterly meeting of the National Council took place last Saturday at Portsmouth, it was a pleasure to have Shipmate Mike Williams at the meeting on his initial introduction to the meeting and its councillors. It was rather a long meeting and must surely take the record for the longest RNA meeting ever, lasting 10 hours.

General Secretary

The General Secretary Paddy McClurg is retiring from the association in June. The new G.S. will be S/M Paul Quinn, a retired R.N. Captain and will be joining and taking up his duties on the 12th April 2010, with succession on the 6th June 2010. I am sure you will join me in welcoming Paul and trust that he has a long and successful employment with the association.

MOURN.

The Command Warrant Officer has joined the National Council in the role of a Vice President and is the N.C. representative for the serving membership. The mentoring programme in HMS Raleigh continues to succeed and it is the wish of the Commandores of HMS Collingwood and HMS Sultan to commence the same. Talks on the RNA are now being given by HQ staff to various courses in the RN.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS.

These have now been adopted by the N.C. and will be presented at Conference for acceptance. HMRC have now repaid the association a considerable sum in VAT and there is a chance that a large amount will be forthcoming.

CONFERENCE.

At the Conference this year there will be 16 motions to debate and make decisions on, these are far ranging from changes in rules to the Standard Bearers Carrying Strap being carried on the opposite side, all branches will be informed of the motions in the very near future giving you all a chance to discuss them and advise your delegate accordingly.

BRANCH AMALGAMATION.

Aldenham and Luton branches have applied to amalgamate as neither can get sufficient shipmates to serve on their respective committees. This was agreed in principle by N.C. A move which hopefully will retain at least one branch but the shipmates of two.

R.N.V.R.

The RNVR Club in Paris has applied to the RNA for affiliation, on the basis of it this appears to be in order and further discussions will go ahead, it could be of interest to shipmates who wish to visit Paris or stage through.

RELOCATION.

The relocation working party continue to be actively engaged in locating and securing a permanent site for the association's headquarters. Experiences show that it was the correct decision to make, to move H.Q. to Portsmouth, the amount of visitors to Semaphore Tower has been overwhelming, given many shipmates the opportunity to meet the people who they employ. As and when the correct accommodation is acquired then we shall move, but until then we are quite happy to remain in Semaphore Tower.

AMC.

The committee continues to work hard and has a difficult and time-consuming task in bringing all the rules into the 21st century, these have not been brought up to date for many years, apart from changes brought about by conference, but even then some items have been amended but not to references made in other areas.

FAC.

Are likewise being kept on their toes by all the financial changes and the ever-unending changes with the likes of the Charity Commission etc. It is also a fact that with the recession life gets harder in balancing the books.

8. WELFARE REPORT

No report.

We are still awaiting a shipmate to take up this position. Until we do all welfare related items and enquires can be sort from the Area Secretary or the National Welfare officer.

9. AREA AND BRANCH FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2010

Area Secretary

(On behalf of Cleethorpes/Grimsby branch)

Armed Forces Day invitation to Area – 26th June 2010

Social at RNA Club – 22nd June 2010

RAFA dedication of new Standard – Sunday 18th April 2010 at 0900 at RAFA Club

Cleethorpes, all Area Standards invited.

For all the above please contact S/M Graham Reynolds.

Nottingham branch

Social at Club – 10th April at 2000hrs please contact S/M Tom Rotherham.

10. AREA MEETINGS 2010/AGM 2011

JUNE

LINCOLN – SATURDAY 19TH JUNE 2010 AT 1330

SEPTEMBER

LINCOLN – SATURDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 1330

DECEMBER

LINCOLN – SATURDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2010 AT 1330

AGM 2011

LINCOLN –Awaiting Date

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Area Secretary

Minutes posted – 16/2/2010

Minutes hand delivered to Cleethorpes – 16/2/2010

S/M Ivan Batt

As you can see from the paper article being sent around the Loughborough Sea Cadets HQ has been damaged by bad weather and are trying to raise £5.000 towards the repairs.

Area Chairman

It would be nice if we could donate some money to the Sea Cadets for the repairs from the Area.

S/M George Holmes

I would like to propose we send them £50.00.

(S/M Tony Denyer proposed £100.00 and this was accepted by the delegates, Spalding branch seconded the amendment, all were in favour for the Area to send £100.00 to the Sea Cadets)

S/M Mike Williams

Shipmates it is March now the Summer luncheon will soon be here again. We should be looking at arrangements.

(Spalding branch have said they will host this years Area luncheon and it will be held on **SUNDAY 22nd AUGUST 2010 at FOSDYKE VILLAGE HALL** details to follow when made known.

The venue was proposed by S/M George Holmes and seconded by Newark, all were in favour.

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS CLOSED AT 1620