

MINUTES

OF NO 9 AREA ROYAL NAVAL ASSOCIATION MEETING HELD

AT LINCOLN ON SATURDAY 19TH JUNE 2010

BRANCHES PRESENT 8

BOSTON,BOURNE,GRANTHAM,LINCOLN,NEWARK,NOTTINGHAM,SPALDING,WIGSTON

APOLOGIES: NONE

THE MEETING WAS OPENED AT 1343

The Silent Tribute was given by S/M Mike Williams and those shipmates that had crossed the bar were remembered including S/M Alan Beet. He welcomed the delegates to Lincoln and he hoped everyone would have a good meeting. He said that S/M Bernard Lloyd would be turning up later and was looking forward to seeing everyone.

Before the meeting started the following presentations were made:

Nottingham Branch awarded at conference the Briggs Rose Bowl for recruiting, S/M Tom Rotherham accepted on behalf of the branch.

Area Achievement Award presented to S/M Doug Atter (S/M Dave Watson received his at the AGM)

Area Membership Plate was presented to Nottingham branch.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST AREA MEETING AT LINCOLN 20th MARCH 2010

Page 1: Area Treasurer – Laptop not bought.

Page 2: S/M George Holmes – Has anyone seen S/M Denis Churchill? S/M Tom Rotherham said he had and was alright.

Page 3: S/M Peter Skelton asked how S/M Fred Keen was. Area Chairman said he had and that he was in good spirits although he was not getting much help from the NHS and was going to find out if he needed any help. S/M George Holmes proposed a gift be given to Fred and Barbara if they wanted it, this was seconded by S/M Tony Denyer, all were in favour. The Area Chairman will find out what they need.

Page 4: None

Page 5: None

Page 6: S/M Ivan Batt said that he had not heard anything back from the Loughborough Sea Cadets, not even a thank you for the cheque and would be getting in touch with them.

Area Chairman said that all the Area luncheon information had been sent out.

Proposed by: Grantham

Seconded by: S/M Mike Williams

All in Favour.

3. MATTERS ARISING

NONE.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

1. HQ Circulars and information about conference.
2. Branch reports from Newark, Old Clee and Mansfield
3. Record of decisions taken at the National Council meeting 13th March 2010

E – Mails

1. Bourne branch newsletter – placed on No9 Area website.
2. Wigston branch newsletter – placed on No9 Area website
3. S/M Mike Williams – Armed Forces Day flyer – placed on No9 Area website

5. TREASURERS REPORT

Community Account	£ 284.29
Money Manager Account	£ 4213.73
Total	£ 4498.02

S/M Ivan Batt said that he would not be buying a Laptop as it was not worth paying out all that money, approx £400, he thanked the delegates for the offer but would not be getting one.

A vote of thanks from all the delegates was given to Ivan for looking after the accounts.

The accounts were proposed by S/M Peter Skelton and seconded by Newark. All were in favour.

6. AREA CHAIRMANS REPORT

Good afternoon shipmates welcome to the Lincoln Club and the Area Meeting.

Firstly I must express my deepest sympathy to Iris and the Lincoln branch/Club on the occasion of the crossing of the bar of Shipmate Alan Beet. Alan was always a confirmed supporter of Lincoln and the Area. His time in the RNA at Lincoln spanned more than 50 years, during which time he held many various offices both at Branch level and Area. Alan could always be relied upon to give his utmost to the association, the help and advice he has given me over the years has always been knowledgeable and useful, and I like many of us will miss but not forget him.

The Area Annual Luncheon will be held at Fosdyke Village Hall on Sunday 22nd August 2010, time 1230 for 1300 and will take the form of a served Buffet. A bar will be available from 1230 to 1730. Entertainment will be provided by Stuart Barr on the keyboard. Cost will be £14.00 per head. Please advise numbers required at earliest convenience, before the 14th August. Payable on booking (All cheques to be made payable to No9 Area RNA) and addressed to the Area Chairman, 11 Rainwall Court, Sutterton, Boston PE20 2EG. Raffle tickets are being distributed today, all monies and counterfoils to be returned if possible by the 14th August. All cheques payable to No9 Area RNA and sent to the Area Chairman and not the Promoter. I appeal to all shipmates in the Area to support this event, come and meet old friends and make new ones.

Recruitment was mentioned shipmates at the last Area meeting and it was agreed that I look into some form of Flyers in an attempt to get new members into the Association. I did not attempt to do anything regarding this because two days after our meeting I discovered that one of the motions for conference was to make 2011 the "Royal Naval Association Year of Recruitment". This was debated at conference and accepted, the National PRO is working on this. During the debate a delegate from Frome branch advised that his branch had designed a Flyer that they were getting good results with, having achieved 8 new members in three months. The way they work is to ask the Local News Agent if they (the branch) can insert the flyer in various papers like the Navy News etc. Speaking to this shipmate later I managed to get a copy from him to adapt for my own use. If anyone wants a copy then I have some with me.

Our Area Standard Bearer took part in the National Standard Bearers competition, his first, but I do not think it will be his last. He will speak of his experiences later in the meeting. I admire and thank him for his efforts and "Have a Go" spirit which is sadly lacking in the RNA today.

Armed Forces Day 26th June 2010 is being celebrated in Towns and Cities throughout the UK. The National Event is being held in Cardiff this year, but many local ones are being held in this Area, if you are not involved with your own why not visit one close by, events are taking place in Lincoln, Stamford and also Cleethorpes that I know about but I am sure there are others.

Congratulations to Nottingham Branch for winning the Briggs Rose Bowl for the most new full members in the past year. Needless to say they also won the Area Recruitment plate.

To S/Ms Dave Watson and Doug Atter on winning the Achievements Trophy for their work on the Area Signal. Congratulations to S/M Jones of Bourne branch for winning the second prize in the conference raffle.

Finally Shipmates I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support here this afternoon, and trust that by the end of the meeting you leave a little more informed and a little wiser than when you arrived.

S/M Peter Wilderspin said in reply that Area meetings need to be supported, the Area Chairman said that there was a very low turn out all over the country, Branches only want to know the Area when they are after something. The Area Secretary said he would place the attending branches names on the minutes.

7. AREA PRESIDENT ADDRESS

Good afternoon shipmates my report will be a short one.I would like to thank S/M Maltby for a copy of the branch 'Buzz' very interesting.The problems at Boston branch we had at the beginning of the year have now been sorted,after the extra ordinary meeting we now have the branch officers in place.

On the 24th April I attended the National Standard Bearers competition,in Portsmouth and the whole weekend was very enjoyable,good social at HMS Nelson and our Area Standard Bearer did us all proud.

As the Area Chairman mentioned recruiting is a worry,it needs to be sorted.There seems to be a lack of interest in the branches these flyers are a good start,please spread the word shipmates.

I hope the Area luncheon is well attended,the venue is a very nice place and I look forward to seeing as many shipmates as possible.

It was sad to hear that S/M Alan Beet had crossed the bar we had been friends since 1947,he always enjoyed the conference weekends and was a great supporter of the RNA,he will be missed.

I would just like to mention before I end my report,the Seaman's service is being held on Sunday 18th July and the service starts at 1500hrs,standards are welcome please muster at 1430,there will be tea etc afterwards.

Thankyou all for attending today hopefully we may see more shipmates in the future.

STANDEASY 1436/TURN TO 1455

8. NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Good afternoon again shipmates.

The last meeting of the National Council was held on Wednesday 2nd June prior to our departure for National Conference in Ouistreham,France.

It was a short meeting on comparison with recent ones but with conference two days later I still have a lot to report.

VAT

On the reclaiming of VAT to date the RNA have reclaimed and received £16.5k,but has cost the Association approx £4k.However this still gives the Association £12k.Our accountants advise that we should be able to reclaim in the region of a further £32k.This is being investigated and may require to go to appeal,legal advice is being taken.

AMC & FAC

Members of both these committees will now serve for a period of two years this will provide for greater stability and is also good governance.AMC will also review the procedure for conducting Council Meetings in an attempt to speed up the process.It was agreed that the RNA hold a Standard Bearers Competition in the years when the National Competition is not held,this will be open to all Standard Bearers except the first three in the National Competition,it is designed to try and encourage more Standard Bearers to "have a go".

All Amendments and Motions for Conference were discussed and agreement made on councils views on each of them,it was also agreed who should speak on each motion with the council view.

The National Chairman S/M David White would be retiring at the end of conference and this would leave the the association without a Chairman until the next National Council meeting in September.It was agreed that the Vice Chairman would become the Acting National Chairman until that meeting when the matter would be resolved.

CONFERENCE 2010

The conference opened with a welcoming address from the Maire of Ouistreham,followed by the First Sea Lord Sir Mark Stanhope KCB OBE ADC.with an interesting address and update on the current role of the Royal Navy,its future ships and the role the RNA can play in the future.

Presentations were made as follows:

Sword of Honour	Area with Highest numbers of new full members.	No4 Area.
Briggs Dirk	Large Branches (Over 30 full members)	Plymouth.
Briggs Rose Bowl	Small Branches (under 30 full members)	Nottingham.
Tasker Bowl	Area achieving highest amount of Gift Aid	No4 Area.

69 delegates attended conference,the debate was lively with intersting points put forward from both sides resulting in the following decisions made.

Two amendments to the Royal Charter were discussed and voted on both of which Failed to be adopted.

1. To change the voting from 2/3 to "over half"
2. To change the voting from 3/4 to "over half"

Motions which are to be read in conjunction with the May Circular where the motions can be found.

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|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Withdrawn | 2. Carried | 3. Carried | 4. Carried | 5. Carried |
| 6. Withdrawn | 7. Withdrawn | 8. Carried | 9. Carried | 10. Carried |
| 11. Failed | 12. Carried | 13. Failed | 14. Carried | |

On the social side France Nord did the association proud with generally good organisation all round, (it must be appreciated that the best laid plans can and do go wrong). Plenty to do and some excellent outings were organised to the Battle Fields, War Graves, and to Bayeux to see the tapestry and take wine with the Maire of Bayeux. As conference coincided with the D Day anniversary weekend the whole area was very busy with much going on, this of course made for an excellent period of time in France in which the RNA played its part wherever it was invited.

The parade and march past on the Sunday morning were well supported and was led by the Corps of Drums from HMS Collingwood Volunteer Band, the parade was quite lengthy but timings were excellent and no one lost the step. Also on the parade were a company of French Marines complete with firearms.

On a somewhat sad note the end of conference saw retirements of our General Secretary Paddy McClurg, our association National Chairman David White, and our Honorary Chaplin, Chaplin of the Fleet John Green who retires in September. Fortunately we are not completely losing them as they remain members of the association.

Summing up shipmates an excellent conference enjoyed by all who attended, decisions made I feel were correct and should help in keeping the stability of the association. Sadly yet again the attendance could have been greater, hopefully this will be achieved next year when we are back on home ground in Plymouth.

That shipmates is the end of my report, thank you for listening. Have you any questions?

S/M Mike Williams asked where the conference venue in Plymouth would be?

The NCM said it maybe at the Guild Hall.

9. AREA WELFARE ADVISER'S REPORT

Once again there was no Welfare report as we are still trying to fill this position.

The Area Chairman mentioned that as we do not have Welfare adviser S/M Rita Locke can be contacted if needed.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Area Secretary

Minutes for the meeting were posted – 3/6/2010

Hand delivered to the branch Chairman Cleethorpes/Grimsby Branch – 3/6/2010

The Area Secretary asked how everyone was getting on with the website and said the minutes page would also contain the branch newsletters.

Armed Forces Day at Cleethorpes – 26th June

Area Standard Bearer

Thanks for accepting me, an associate member as your Standard Bearer I love doing the job.

The National Standard Bearers competition I really enjoyed I went in blind and made one mistake, no black drape, made one out of stockings!! Overall I came 9th in the competition and learned a great deal, it was a great weekend. (Showed the delegates some photographs).

Normandy was very enjoyable. (Showed the delegates some photographs).

Weymouth another enjoyable parade celebrating the Cadet Forces. On parade were 30 RNA Standards, 300 Veterans and 900 Cadets.

With your permission I would like to attend the following:

26th June - Cardiff – Armed Forces Day

27th June - Chatham Dockyard

1-5th August – 8th Destroyer Association – Scarborough

19th Sept - Weymouth – Portland/Weymouth Standard laying up and re-dedication service and Parade.
I hope to do proud shipmates.Thankyou.

S/M George Holmes

Big vote of thanks to Brian,very keen and I hope he can go to all the parades to represent No9 Area.

Area Chairman

I recommend that No9 Area is represented by Brain at these events.(The delegates all agreed)

S/M Jim Camping

We have let Brain go to these events we should help him out.

Area Chairman

It has already been agreed that if Brain is attending an Area/National event the Area will help Brain out with his expenses.The Area will not pay for every parade shipmates.

Newark Branch

The Sea Cadets Mini bus has been damaged after a blow out and have appealed for help.

S/M Ivan Batt

What are Newark branch doing to help?

Newark Branch

We are having a meeting to see what we can do to help them.

S/M Tony Denver

Shipmates I think the Area could help I would like to propose the Area donate £100 towards repairs etc.
(This proposal was seconded by Lincoln branch and all were in favour.£100 to be sent to the Sea Cadets).

S/M Mike Williams

I would like to thank everyone who attended S/M Alan Beets funeral,very well appreciated by us all here at Lincoln.

Our Branch Standard is becoming a bit tatty and needs replacing.Can we have a laying up and re-dedication service at the same time?I asked the Area Secretary and he said this would be ok.

Area Chairman

Yes you can do both at the same service as long as its in the same church!!!If you need any advice on a new Standard contact Newton and Newton,they are very helpful.

Area Chairman

Shipmates I would like to enter the National Vice Chairman's election and would like the Area's approval.
(Wigston proposed that S/m Keith Crawford enter the National Vice Chairman's election,Seconded by S/M Tony Denyer,all were in favour)Good luck shipmate!

S/M Peter Skelton

Shipmates please check your accounts with HQ as there has been some mix ups and HQ have been asking for money that is owed.

Area Chairman

Some branches do owe the Association money for goods etc and with the move to Portsmouth there was a mix up with some accounts.If your branch is contacted please explain if you owe any money and if you have already paid,please get your Treasurer to check accounts from HQ.£25.000 is owed to Headquarters at the moment.

Area Chairman

Please shipmates do not forget the Area luncheon,tickets and monies and also any raffle prizes would be gratefully accepted.

11. DATE AND VENUE OF THE NEXT AREA MEETING

**THE NEXT AREA MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2010
AT THE LINCOLN RNA CLUB, COULSON ROAD, LINCOLN STARTING AT 1330 Hrs.**

THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS CLOSED AT 1600