



Maritime Warfare School

Officers' Association
HMS COLLINGWOOD
Newgate Lane
FAREHAM
PO14 1AS

18 August 2016

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF HMS COLLINGWOOD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT HMS COLLINGWOOD 19 JUNE 2016

Present:

Cdre A. Whyntie	Chairman
Cdr GG Meekums	Vice Chairman
Lt Cdr J.R. Laurie	Hon Treasurer
Lt Cdr M Churchill	OA Sec
Lt Cdr J.R.D. Rouse	A/Sec
Lt Cdr T.C. James	Committee Member
Lt Cdr D.L. Howe	Committee Member

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Lt Cdr WE Legg.

2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 2 March 2016

The Minutes were accepted, proposed by Lt Cdr Churchill and seconded by Cdr Meekums.

3. MATTERS ARISING

- a. Confirmation that Lt Bray's name had been placed on the OA Sword Honours Board. It was confirmed.

Action Complete

- b. Lt Cdr James to investigate if a Remembrance event took place within Collingwood.

Lt Cdr James reported that he had asked if an event took place and had been informed that any wreath laying within Collingwood would probably take place at a division on the nearest Friday. In 2016, Remembrance Day would be a Friday. There was continued discussion on whether the OA should lay a wreath at the Fareham parade but it was decided to refer the decision to the next meeting.

Action Ongoing

4. SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

In his absence Lt Cdr Legg had sent a written report. He stated that everything had been booked for all the social events. The OA Sec was asked to check how many people had signed up for the Summer Ball and to send a hastening e-mail. The RMA Concert Band had been booked for the Winter Ball in January.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT

Lt Cdr Laurie, Hon Treasurer, presented the report for the period 1 Feb 16 – 31 May 16. Since the last report various transactions had taken place leaving the Association Funds at a total of £7369.27. The OA were now in possession of 3 swords so there would be refurbishment costs. It was agreed the prices for the Summer Ball would be £30/35 and for the Trafalgar Night Dinner £35/40.

Lt Cdr Churchill reported that the copying of the paperwork for the AGM had cost £18.

The financial report was accepted, proposed by Lt Cdr Howe and seconded by Lt Cdr James.

6. OA SEC'S CORNER

Lt Cdr Churchill, OA Sec, gave the following report.

a. Membership update

Membership to date 19 Jun16 was 442 comprising:

- Full/Associate - 21
- Active – 289 (+3 joiners on 1 Jul 16)
- Country – 125
- Honorary - 7

b. Minor Amendment to the OA Rules and Constitution

Paragraph 13 of the Rules and Constitution had been amended, as agreed, to read:-

“Commercial Practices. OA Members are reminded that private business and private commercial practice is not permitted within HMS COLLINGWOOD including the Wardroom, *via e-mail &/or the internet* without written permission from the Mess President.”

It was agreed that the change did not require ratification at the AGM.

c. Another Donated RN Officers' Sword

Lt Cdr Churchill reported that another sword had been generously donated to the OA, this time by the sister-in-law of Lt Cdr Mike Edmonds, who donated the last one earlier in the year. The sword was formerly owned by Lt Cdr John Turner, MBE, a former helo pilot, who passed away last October. His widow, Judith, when hearing about the donation of Lt Cdr Edmonds sword, thought it a most appropriate donation to make in order to keep her husband's sword in use within the Naval Family. Formal 'Thank You' letters had been sent to both families.

There were now swords for presentation for 2016 (Cdr Andrew Dent), 2017 (Lt Cdr Edmonds) and 2018 (Lt Cdr Turner). It remained unclear whether the donor/spouse of the 2017 and or 2018 swords would wish to attend ceremonial divisions and make the presentations.

d. Association of Retired Naval Officers (ARNO) Proposal

ARNO proposed that they could send individual emails to their 5,000+ membership, with a local post-code, encouraging them to think about joining the regional/specialised Officers' Associations. The OA is currently advertised in the ARNO Yearbook but ARNO suggested that an email was often more effective. ARNO also offered to advertise functions/social events. To reach officers who may be unaware of ARNO's existence, they sponsor a round of port at various reunions, mess dinners and general officer gatherings in return for a little gentle publicity (e.g. banner, literature on the night).

The Committee discussed the subject and agreed to accept the proposal.

7. REPORT FROM WARDROOM MESS COMMITTEE (WRMC)

Lt Cdr James reported the following:

Preparations for the Wardroom Summer Ball were going well, numbers were encouraging but spaces were still available.

The Jutland Dinner was held on 16 June and was a great success. The historian booked to give the speech was unavailable, so the First Sea Lord gave the address.

Mess improvements were progressing and approval to proceed with the upgrade of the Female RA Locker Room had been given.

The Main Bar AV System upgrade had seen, what was the St Vincent Bar Area, now set up for showing films/videos.

The third project which was to upgrade the upstairs TV ROOM by extending it from Woody's Bar had been costed and a bid for funding assistance would be made to the RNRMC.

Commissioning a bust of Admiral Collingwood remained under investigation and awaiting a response from the National Portrait Gallery.

A Wardroom Defence Connect site had been set up and the Mess Committee Secretary Lt Cdr Rob Driscoll, was keen that OA Members were included. Further discussion would be undertaken shortly.

Having approached the Logistics Advisor last week, there had been no further feedback from the DIO reference subsidies. It was, however, mentioned that budgets were extremely tight and the impression given was that the Logistics Advisor was not over optimistic that the status quo would continue.

8. UPDATE ON OA ANNUAL AWARD

Cdre Whyntie, Chairman, reported that they were awaiting nominations for the Annual award of the OA sword. He stated that Cdr Andrew Dent, the donator, would be presenting the sword at Summer Divisions in July.

9. AOB

Following a query from Cdre Whyntie, it was stated that all Wardroom Full Mess members were in possession of the new swipe card which had replaced bar chits.

10. DONM

Dates for the next meetings:-

Wed 7 Sep 16 at 1230

Wed 7 Dec 16 at 1230

Wed 1 Mar 17 at 1230

Sun 25 Jun 17 at 1030 prior to the AGM at 1130.

JRD Rouse
Lieutenant Commander, OA A/Sec

Distribution:

Committee Members
Wardroom Mess Treasurer
WRNB