



## Maritime Warfare School

Officers' Association  
HMS COLLINGWOOD  
Newgate Lane  
FAREHAM  
PO14 1AS

17 Sep 16

### **MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF HMS COLLINGWOOD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT HMS COLLINGWOOD 7 SEPTEMBER 2016**

#### Present:

Cdre A. Whyntie	Chairman
Cdr G.G, Meekums	Vice Chairman
Lt Cdr J.R. Laurie	Hon Treasurer
Lt Cdr W.E. Legg	Social Secretary
Lt Cdr T.C. James	Committee Member
Lt Cdr D.L. Howe	Committee Member

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from, Lt Cdr M Churchill and Capt J Palmer.

#### **2. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 19 JUN 16**

The Minutes were accepted, proposed by Lt Cdr Legg and seconded by Lt Cdr Howe.

#### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

Committee to decide whether a wreath should be laid, on behalf of the OA, at the Fareham Remembrance Parade.

It was decided not to lay a wreath at the Fareham parade but would take part in any Remembrance event within HMS Collingwood. (*See also Para 6b*).

#### **4. SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

Lt Cdr Legg reported that, to date, he had 42 booked in for the Ladies' Trafalgar Night Dinner, he said it was early days and hoped the target of 180 would be reached as it was last year. The RMA Band had been booked for the Winter Ball. Their quote was £1500. The Summer Ball this year had clashed with the Senior Rates Ball and caused delays at the gate. For next year's Ball, he would liaise with the Mess Manager to avoid the clash. Lt Cdr Legg said the Ian James Band would be booked for the 2017 Summer Ball.

The Committee discussed the feedback regarding the Summer Ball. In general there was little negative feedback, most people being very satisfied. Several had said that they would be quite content to pay more for the events. There were delays both at the bar and the buffet so the band was delayed in starting. Lt Cdr Legg said that the delays at the buffet were because there were only 2 serving points instead of the agreed 4. Lt Cdr James said that a lot of people left at around midnight and suggested that the times could be brought forward to 1900 for 1930. Also, some people had commented that January was not a good month for holding the event. After some discussion the Committee decided to change the timing and to investigate whether the Winter Ball could be moved to February and perhaps turn it into a Valentines event. Lt Cdr Legg said he would contact the RMA Band and talk to the Mess Manager with a view to changing the Ball to February.

**Post Meeting Note: The event has been moved to Thursday 16 February 2017 and will be called the Valentine Ball.**

## **5. FINANCIAL REPORT**

This report covers the period 1 1 June 2016 to 31 July 2016.

Lt Cdr Laurie reported that since the last report on 31 May 16 various transactions had taken place leaving a total of £5077.54 before allowing for the loss incurred from the Summer Ball. Taking into account the loss, the funds stood at £4034. The next injection of funds would be subscriptions at the beginning of next year. Lt Cdr Laurie stated that the profit of £63 from The Greenie, would be paid to the RNRMC before the next Committee meeting.

The financial report was accepted, proposed by Lt Cdr Legg and seconded by Cdr Meekums.

## **6. OA SEC'S CORNER**

In his absence, Lt Cdr Churchill, OA Sec, submitted the following written report.

### **a. Membership update**

Membership to date 1 Sep 16 was 443 a net increase of one from Jun16 comprising:-

- Full/Associate -21
- Active – 290
- Country – 125
- Honorary - 7

### **b. OA Wreath Laying at the Fareham Remembrance Day Parade**

Following his action from the June meeting Lt Cdr Churchill said that he had contacted Fareham Borough Council (FBC) to enquire about wreath laying at the War Memorial adjacent to Holy Trinity Church in West Street on Remembrance Sunday. He was advised that there were both formal and informal wreaths laid and the OA's would come under the 'Informal' heading. Essentially, all the formal wreaths were laid by dignitaries from military, police, fire service, etc. and then an announcement would be made for other wreaths to be laid and this would be the signal to stand in line and lay the OA's wreath around the base of the memorial wherever space existed.

*The Committee had already discussed the subject under Agenda Item 3 and decided not to take part in the Fareham parade (see paragraph 3).*

### **c. ARNO Proposal**

It will have been seen from the Newsletter and the e-mail sent to Simon Goddard (Membership Manager ARNO), the OA expressed their grateful thanks for his initiative to personally e-mail details about joining the OA to all ARNO members residing in all PO and SO postcode areas. Simon had put the OA's advertising piece in the ARNO Yearbook and Lt Cdr Churchill said he had reciprocated with an advert for ARNO in the OA's latest Newsletter. A copy of the Newsletter had been sent to ARNO for interest.

## **7. REPORT FROM WARDROOM MESS COMMITTEE (WRMC)**

Lt Cdr James gave the following report.

Work on refurbishment of the Female RA Locker Room and Shower was now almost complete.

A business case would be submitted to the RNRMC in November 2016 for funding to upgrade the upstairs TV Room by extending it from Woody's bar and to include the adjacent conservatory area.

The promulgation of RNTM 243/16 'Clarification of NS Policy on Mess Membership & Entitlement to Public Subsidy at Official Mess Functions' stated that unless an individual had an active role in the establishment they will not be eligible for Full mess membership status. Hence OA members who in the main do not fulfil the above would be eligible to be Associate members. Associate members should pay smaller mess fees than Full Mess members but, not being entitled to public subsidy, would expect to pay more for and have a lower priority at mess functions. The Committee agreed that there didn't seem to be a way around the policy statement.

With regarding the 'Wardroom Defence Connect Set up' Cdre Whyntie, Chairman suggested that Capt Palmer, the Website manager, should be involved in the early discussions.

Lt Cdr James said that because of their involvement in the event, the OA were expected to organise the film nights. He also reported that VAT was going to be added to food for 'Livers in'.

## **8. AOB**

a. Following a question from Lt Cdr Laurie, Cdre Whyntie stated that 2 swords were available for the OA prize. The sword for 2017 had been refurbished but the one for 2018 was awaiting refurbishment. He stated that the cost of refurbishment was going up but the quality was excellent.

b. Lt Cdr Legg stated that although there would be a break from using the Joe Loss Band he wouldn't rule out engaging them in the future.

c. Cdr Meekums asked who would organise the OA wreath for the Remembrance event in HMS Collingwood.

**Post Meeting Note: Lt Cdr James will check whether there is going to be a Remembrance event in Collingwood and will inform the Committee of his findings.**

d. Cdre Whyntie reported that Lt Matt Millyard was a worthy winner of the 2016 OA Prize. His wife and parents had attended the Summer Divisions for the presentation. Lt Millyard was away from the establishment at the moment but would meet the Committee on his return.

## **9. DONM**

Dates for the next meetings:-

Wed 7 Dec 16 at 1230

Wed 1 Mar 17 at 1230

Sun 25 Jun 17 at 1030 prior to the 2017 AGM at 1130

JRD ROUSE

Lieutenant Commander, OA A/Sec

Distribution:

Committee Members

Wardroom Mess Treasurer

WRNB