



HMS COLLINGWOOD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

HMS COLLINGWOOD
Newgate Lane
FAREHAM
PO14 1AS

13 December 2023

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF HMS COLLINGWOOD OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE ROYAL OAK, LANGSTONE WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2023

Committee:

Capt J.E. Palmer	Chairman and webmaster
Cdr D. Coombes	OA Sec
Lt Cdr D.L. Howe	Vice Chairman
Lt Cdr D.J Rook	Treasurer
Lt Cdr M.P. Carr	Membership and Social Secretary
Lt Cdr T.C. James	OA Liaison member on WRMC
Lt Cdr C.F. Brooks	Member
Lt Cdr J.R.D. Rouse	A/Sec

1. **APOLOGIES**

Nil, all Committee members were present.

2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 6 SEPTEMBER 2023**

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted, with no corrections.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**

There were no Formal Actions outstanding from the Committee meeting on 6 Sep 23 and no other items were raised.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FROM HIS MEETING WITH THE MESS PRESIDENT**

Capt Palmer, Chairman, reported that he had raised several subjects with the Mess president, who was very supportive and really concerned with the various issues, however the Mess President said that he was not in a position to resolve the specific problems raised. One of the subjects raised was the unavailability of overnight accommodation for OA events. Because some members and guests travelled from out of the area, the lack of the overnight facility reduced the numbers attending the functions, which several times recently resulted in the cancellation of the event. The Mess President explained that because the Junior Rates accommodation had been condemned, there was a severe shortage of space, so for the upcoming future, there would be no possibility of overnight accommodation for OA functions.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Lt Cdr Rook, Treasurer produced a written report.

- a. His last report for the September 2023 committee meeting, stated that the OA account formally stood at £5,027.35. The OA fund for the period now stood at £4,898.34.
- b. The only account activity of note was the £104 cost of the menus for Trafalgar Night.
- c. The final figures for Trafalgar Night had yet to be charged to the OA account, but a subsidy requirement of £1,496.80 was expected.

6. SOCIAL AND MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Report

Active 236

Full 9

Country 93

Honorary 7

Total 345

CANCELLED since last Meeting 2

DECEASED since last Meeting 1

<u>SURNAME</u>	<u>FirstName</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>DATE</u>
WHYNTIE	Adrian	Commodore	21 Nov 2023

Social

The main discussion of the meeting was the situation with the social events and the lack of support by members resulting in the cancellation of events. One of the reasons was the increased cost of events. Capt Palmer said he and Lt Cdr Carr, Social Sec, would meet with Diana Stephens, Mess Manager, to discuss costs of various functions and to ascertain the reason for the recent increases. Lt Cdr Carr reported that it had taken 3½ weeks to get the costing for the Trafalgar Ladies' Night Dinner, resulting in a delay in the promulgation of the details of the event. The survey which had been sent out to all members, asking the activities that they would support, had produced little response. It was agreed that an event would be arranged for early in 2024, possibly a lunch. The lunch would have to be arranged for a weekday as the WR Mess was now closed at weekends. Holding a joint event with the wardroom was also discussed. It was suggested that an 'OA table' could be arranged for the forthcoming WR Burns Night.

PMN – The details of the WR Burns Night Dinner on 25 January 2024 have now been promulgated to OA members.

7. OA SEC'S CORNER

Cdr Coombes, OA Sec produced a written report.

Since the last meeting, requests from members choosing to retain ID cards and car passes were one a week. About half the applications had been sent to his home address. Many AFs had been delayed in the last few weeks by a poor postal service and, for those sent to the Mess, new Hall Porters sometimes had failed to correctly deposit in the OA Sec's pigeon holes.

A steady pipeline for processing was therefore problematic.

The MoD security passes team in Atlantic block remained extremely cooperative.

8. REPORT FROM WARDROOM MESS COMMITTEE

Lt Cdr James, WRMC Representative, produced a written report of items discussed at the WRMC meeting.

- a. The Mess President had drafted new Mess Rules which were being reviewed by the Mess Secretary and the Vice-President.
- b. Livers-in were being encouraged to ensure the continued upkeep of utility spaces.
- c. Positive feedback had been received from the mess following the acquisition of two new coffee machines.
- d. Lt Macaulay had been welcomed as the new Social Secretary.

9. THE REVIEW OF THE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION

As time was short, discussion of the review was delayed until the next meeting.

10. AOB

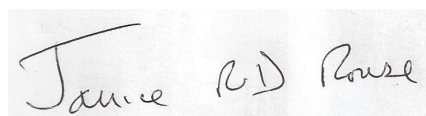
There was no AOB.

10. DONM

The dates of the next meetings: -

Wed 20 Mar 24 at 1230.

Fri 7 Jun 24 at 1100 followed by the AGM at 1130.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James R D Rouse". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name.

J R D ROUSE

Lt Cdr

A/Sec

Distribution: -

Committee Members

Wardroom Mess Treasurer

OA Website