



Royal Military Police Association Hull & East Riding Branch



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting Held on Wednesday 14th July 2021

Members Present: Bob Hare (BH); Andy Nelson Plews (ANP); Peter Watson (PW); Alison Sayell (AS); Rachel Love (RL); Jason McCoubrey (JM); Jon Wild (JW);

Apologies: Phil Cohen (PC); Dan Joyce (DJ); Jim Savage (JS); Shane Harle (SH); Paul Clark (PC2); James Nylan (JN);

Not Present:

Agenda for the 2021 Annual General Meeting

1. Remembrance
2. Members Present/Apologies Received
3. Absent Friends
4. Minutes of The AGM 6th January 2020
5. Matters Arising
6. Chairman's Report
7. Treasurers Report
8. Retirement & Election of Officers
 - 8.1. President
 - 8.2. Vice President
 - 8.3. Chairman
 - 8.4. Secretary
 - 8.5. Treasurer
 - 8.6. CESA Rep (Council of Ex-service Association)
 - 8.7. Standard Bearer
 - 8.8. Corps Journal Correspondent
 - 8.9. Web Master
9. Minutes of the Previous Branch Meeting
10. Matters Arising.
11. Communications
12. Reports
 - 12.1. CESA
 - 12.2. Standard Bearer
13. Social Events
14. Project 2020
15. Any Other Business
16. Close of Meeting & Date of Next Meeting

1. Meeting opened at 20.00hrs. AP gave an introduction and gave the act of remembrance and welcomed the members present.
2. Members Present/Apologies Received – Apologies received DK, JS, PC, DJ,
3. Membership Update – Total Members 36, Active Members 12, Dormant Members 4, Inactive 20.
4. The minutes of the previous AGM were made available. JW proposed that they are a true and accurate representation of the AGM. Seconded by RL. All in favour.
5. Matter Arising – None
6. Chairman's Report – AP Interesting 18 months, no AGM last year, very busy sorting out the National Reunion in 2022. First time the AGM has been held in July and we will continue to hold it in July moving forward. The Branch has had the misfortune to attend many funerals over the last 18 months.
7. Treasurers Report – AS stated that the accounts were in a good place and that she would be making available the full accounts shortly. No outgoings over the last 18 months with the exception of the Journal subscription. We haven't raised any money either and we need to make a concerted effort moving forward towards the National AGM 2022.
8. Retirement & Election of Officers
 - 8.1 President – This is a life appointment currently held by Fred Hemmerman
 - 8.2 Vice President – This is a life appointment currently held by Bob Hare
 - 8.3 Chairman – JW proposed that ANP be retained as Chairman seconded by RL, all in favour.
 - 8.4 Vice Chairman – PW proposed that JM be retained RL seconded, all in favour.
 - 8.5 Secretary – SR had proposed PW for Secretary in advance of the meeting. Seconded ANP, all in favour. PW accepted the position.
 - 8.6 Stand-In Secretary – JW volunteered to take up the position RL seconded. All in favour.
 - 8.7 Treasurer – SR proposed AS, seconded by PW, AS accepted the position, all in favour.
 - 8.8 CESA Rep – PW proposed that AS be retained in their positions as CESA Reps, seconded by ANP. All in favour.
 - 8.9 Standard Bearer – RL proposed that DK and AP remain as Standard Bearer, RL Seconded. All in favour.
 - 8.10 Corps Journal Correspondent – PW proposed RL. ANP seconded. All in favour.
9. Minutes of the previous meeting – AS proposed that they were a true and accurate record of events. SR Seconded. All in favour.
10. Communications – All published on line, and attached in Annex 1.
11. Social Events – A general discussion was held regarding the holding of events this year and the general agreement was as follows:

- 11.1 Summer BBQ – Need to speak to JW to see if he is able to host a BBQ. As he is in attendance he has confirmed that yes this is a definite possibility, he will have words with his long haired Sergeant Major and report back through the Facebook Group.
 - 11.2 Annual Dinner – as previously agreed, no Annual Dinner in 2021
 - 11.3 Christmas Dinner – We agreed that we would keep an eye on events and decide later in the year if this will be possible.
 - 11.4 Ad Hoc meet ups – PW stated that as pubs are now open, there's no reason why ad-hoc pub meetings. If anyone wants to set one up, please let members know on the Messenger Group.
12. Project 2022
- 12.1 PW stated that he had been in contact with the Royal Station Hotel and had received the following response regarding the question as to whether the Illegal Immigrants currently staying in the hotel would still be there at the time of the Annual Reunion 2022:
Thankyou for your email.

The inhouse guests that we currently have will have departed by the time your event comes around.

If you have any other queries, please don't hesitate to call.
 - 12.2 Deadlines – CivPol requires 12 month notice for the event, this has now expired. Can PC jump on this soonest? – PC has confirmed that this is booked.
 - 12.2 Hull Minster booking – PW will confirm that the Minster is booked.
 - 12.3 Planning Meeting – New venue contact. We should arrange a meeting with her as soon as possible, if Project 2022 committee members could let me know when they are available on a Saturday morning in June (except 11th June).
 - 12.4 VVIP's – ANP reported that the Chief Constable and The Lord Lieutenant have confirmed that they will attend the Reunion Dinner
 - 12.5 RSM(Policing) 150 Pro Coy RMP has agreed to attend and provide stands of interest for current military policing.
 - 12.6 Police Band – PC have approached the band and they have agreed to attend
 - 12.7 String Quartet – PC has approached a string quartet and have agreed to play.
 - 12.8 Hull Minster – Have confirmed that there is not an option to join their standard service, and have offered a 13.00hrs service, which is just not viable. PW stated that we may have to consider a service at the Cenotaph. JW suggested Trinity House Chapel and all those present thought that this would be a good idea.
- 13 Any Other Business –
- 13.1 Corps Journal – ANP asked whether an electronic version would be available to the Branch so that all members could view it.
 - 13.2 Corps Cravat – Members asked about Corps Cravats that were made available. PW stated that it was Sean Taylor of London Branch that was selling them and that he would contact him on the Branches Behalf.

- 14 The time being 20.46hrs and there being no further business, the meeting was closed by ANP. The next Branch Meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th Aug 2021 at 20.00hrs at the Hop Pole Hotel, Kingston Rd, Willerby, Hull, HU10 6LN. Members as usual, can meet up from 18.00hrs for food and drink.

Agenda for August's Meeting

1. Welcome
2. Members Present/Absent
3. Minutes of the previous meeting
4. Communications
5. Social Events
6. Any other Business

Communications Received – June 2021

1. An email was received from the National Secretary regarding a report given by the Pro SM updating the trustees of the serving Corps. The following is the report:

Update on the serving Corps activities as presented to the RMPA Trustees April 2021.

The Pro SM WO1 Danny Coombes RMP AGC

Gave the Trustees the following informative account of the 1 MP Brigade activity as follows: - March 2020 saw the British Army effectively having to "go home" to enable lockdown to be adhered to. However critical support had to be maintained by the Corps in relation to policing duties, both General and SIB based, as well as the need to supply a Close Protection element when called upon. The Army was stood to in readiness of support to the UK Covid response. The Corps had to undergo a daily assessment of deployment possibilities and capabilities. In addition, the UK standing commitment to overseas operations had to be maintained in a state of high readiness. The Covid crisis meant that the Corps had to adapt and adopt all sorts of basic day to day operational norms to meet the constraints – how to arrest, how to interview, how to search etc. All these challenges were met by the members of the Corps who faced them.

Summer 2020 saw the UK Armed Forces respond to calls for assistance from civil authority, the Corps stepped up and again answered the challenges:

Op Re-Script – the overall UK response to Covid was mounted

Op Broadshare – the UK operation to support its dependencies in fighting Covid overseas was mounted.

Corps members were deployed to Merseyside to police the 2000 troops used in the area to staff vaccination centres.

Members of RMP were deployed to Greater Manchester as part of the Covid Testing programme.

3 RMP deployed staff to mount lateral flow tests en-masse to schools and colleges in Lancashire providing education to key workers' families. This was hailed as a huge success brought about by the Corps.

In addition, the Corps had to carry on its support of the following operations

Op Toral the drawdown of troops and UK presence in Afghanistan

Op Cattalo – the UK support to the Oman

Op Tosca – the continuing UN presence in Cyprus

Op Trenton – a UK force deployment to South Sudan

Op Newcombe – the UK support of the UN lead initiative in Mali

In addition to those above the commitment to FCO Close Protection had to be maintained as it was to support Ministerial visits overseas.

Op Cabrit found UK troops supported by RMP being deployed as part of the NATO presence in Estonia and Poland.

Normal deployments to the Falklands had to be maintained. The British Army draw down from Canada continued but a corresponding uplift in training commitments in Kenya was undertaken.

In addition to all of the above normal policing and Garrison support was provided, along with support and liaison with Civil Police partners, including the Met Police along with whom RMP mounted a successful search and arrest in the Windsor area in relation to arms supply. Other high-profile cases took time and expertise as well including the investigation and eventual prosecution of the former Assistant Chief of General Staff who as a Major General was found guilty by a Courts Martial.

The Corps expertise has been recognised internationally particularly in the world of cyber-crime where the Corps specialist teams and individual therein were awarded high praise and accolades by counterparts in the law enforcement world, when they developed new investigative measures during a joint Northumbria Police and others investigation into child exploitation and distribution of banned material via the internet.

This was just one of the several operations undertaken by the team into indecent images and their distribution.

One member of the team, Sgt Stubbs, has been highly acclaimed for his use of innovative techniques never previously used anywhere in the world. Interpol and others are now hoping to utilise his techniques and skills base.

The Pro SM then made a mention of Operation Forth Bridge following the death of The Duke of Edinburgh.

The Trustees thanked the Pro SM for his report and insight, they made it clear to him that it was their wishes that he passes on the thanks and congratulations to those who serve from those who have served

The Trustees have agreed that a formal recognition of outstanding effort made by serving individuals, should be made a priority by the Association Trustees.

ENDS

2. The National Secretary emailed to give details of the death of Maj Bob Axup MBE as can be seen on the following page:

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS ROYAL MILITARY POLICE
THE OLD STABLES (POSTAL POINT 38),
SOUTHWICK HOUSE, SOUTHWICK PARK
NR., FAREHAM, HAMPSHIRE. PO17 6EJ



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BT - (023) 9228 4206 / 9228 4564
Or MIL (93835) 4206 / 4564

FAX (023) 9228 4406

e-mail: regsec@rhqrmpp.org
website: www.rhqrmpp.org



See Distributor

ne 2021

Dear Colleague,

It is my sad duty to inform you that Major Robert Rowland ("Bob") Axup MBE, died in France on Saturday, May 29th, aged 72.

Enlisting in the Royal Military Police in 1967 and training at Roussillon Barracks, Bob would go on to enjoy a full career with the Special Investigation Branch (SIB) and reaching the rank of Warrant Officer (Class 1) having served variously in the United Kingdom, in Germany with the British Army of the Rhine, in the Falkland Islands and Cyprus.

On gaining a Commission in 1987, a posting to Northern Ireland followed before he went on to command Western Region SIB on the mainland. Returning to Ulster in 1992, Bob was subsequently appointed MBE in 1993, before commanding 156 Provost Company, based in Colchester. His final assignment was as the first Officer Commanding of the Equal Opportunities Inquiry Team (EOIT). He retired from the Active List in 2001.

Bob's funeral will be held tomorrow, the 4th June in France, with Major R J Dennison representing the Corps.

Bob is survived by his widow Jackie and letters of condolence should be sent to:

Escourbaniers
19400 Monceaux-sur-Dordogne
Corrèze
France

J T Green OBE
Colonel
Regimental Secretary

Distribution:

ENDS.

3. An email was received from the National Secretary as follows: (16/6/21)

Good morning all, this in from the AGC today:-

Following the Government's announcement last night regarding coronavirus restrictions in England, a decision has been taken to postpone the Adjutant General's Corps annual Commemoration Service at the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) on Wednesday 7th July 2021.

It is planned to hold the Commemoration Service on Tuesday 28th September 2021 and details will be communicated following the Government's update in July.

Please disseminate accordingly.

ENDS

4. An email was received from the Western Australia Branch RMPA with their latest Newsletter, this will be put on the Branch Facebook page.
5. An email was received from the National Secretary as follows:

Good afternoon all Branches RMPA (PM(A) & RHQ copied in)

I attach a copy of a letter from Bob Eggelton our Chairman who as you will read has decided to step down from the role as of May 2022, a year earlier than his tenure would have normally run.

I am letting you all know now so that you may be aware of all that is happening in the Association.

The rules of the Association at section 5 are quite clear as to how we now seek to appoint a new incumbent into the role.

5.2.1 The National Chair of the Association & Trustees. The Chair, after being nominated and seconded in writing by the membership and has agreed to stand, is to be elected at an AGM for a period not to exceed five years by simple majority vote. Where there are two or more nominations for the position the election is to take place by a secret ballot until a consensus is achieved.

The Trustees will be meeting as soon as is possible to discuss this and other matters. Please pass out to all active branch members.

It is my belief that Bob has done an incredible job, one that started it has to be said against a backdrop of perhaps misunderstanding by some. I am keen that anyone appointed by due process to the role of Chairman should similarly be found from those within the Association who support it, are active within it and most of all understand it.

I shall be going out formally to all at a suitable time slot ahead of next years reunion and AGM to allow anyone who wishes to do so to enter their expression of interest in the role.

Regards

*Stewart
"Exemplo Ducemus"*

Letter below:

4th July 2021

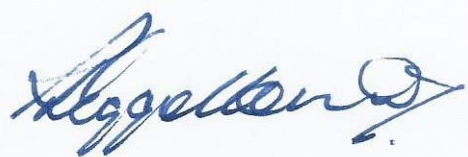
Brigadier and Trustees,

After much soul searching I wish to inform you that I will be standing down as National Chair with effect from the 22nd May 2022.

My reason for this decision is based on medical grounds, conditions which currently do not allow me to carry out the duties of Chair in a manner which I expect of such a position. I have always held the belief that if you are unable to perform 100% in a role then best to step down, sadly old age is catching up with me.

I am informing you now so that you can begin the process of procuring a replacement in time for the Annual general meeting due to be held on the 21st May 2022.

My kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Eggelton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'B' and a stylized 'E'.

*Bob Eggelton
National Chair*

ENDS

6. An email was received from Bob Potts regarding the Cenotaph Parade this year. Details will be added to the Facebook page and added to the minutes as an Annex.

THAT IS THE CONCLUSION OF THIS MONTHS COMMUNICATIONS.