



Royal Military Police Association Hull & East Riding Branch



Minutes of the Branch Meeting Held on Wednesday 2nd August 2023

Members Present: Andy Nelson Plews (ANP); Peter Watson (PW); Phil Cohen (PC); David Kennedy (DK); Jon Wild (JW);

Apologies: Bob Hare (BH); Jason McCoubrey (JM); Jim Savage (JS); Bernie Robinson (BR); Fred Hemmerman (FH); Alison Sayell (AS);

Not Present: Shane Harle (SH); Rachel Love (RL); Dan Joyce (DJ); James Nylan (JN); Paul DeLay (PD); Paul Clark (PC2); Paul Calderwood (PC3); Sandra Robinson (SR); Daz Young (DY);

Agenda for August 2023's Meeting

1. Remembrance
2. Members Present/Apologies Received
3. Minutes of the Previous Branch Meeting
4. Matters Arising
5. Communications
6. Reports
 - 6.1. CESA
 - 6.2. Standard Bearer
7. Social Events
8. Any Other Business
9. Close of Meeting & Date of Next Meeting

1. Meeting opened at 20.12hrs. AP gave an introduction and gave the act of remembrance and welcomed the members present.
2. Members Present/Apologies Received – Apologies received RL, BR
3. Minutes of the previous meeting – The last meeting was the AGM, the minutes have been published on our website: <http://hull-rmpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/0623-RMPA-Minutes-July-2023-AGM.pdf> . ANP proposed that they were a true record, seconded by DK.
4. Matters arising – JW still has to take ownership of the Treasurers briefcase.
5. Communications – All published online and attached in Annex 1.
6. Reports
 - 6.1 CESA – AS attended that last meeting on the 14/07/23. The following are notable:
 - 6.1.1. Eden Camp All Arms Parade and Service. This is an excellent day out and usually very well attended. Free entry to the Camp is included for Veterans and their families. 10th September 2023.
 - 6.1.2. Remembrance Parade 2023 – will be held on Sunday 12th November – there will be no formal remembrance at Hull Cenotaph on the 11th November.

6.1.3. VJ Day 15th August – Hull Cenotaph – 1030am for an 11am start

6.1.4. Merchant Navy Day 3rd September – Hull Cenotaph – 1030am for 11am start.

6.2 Standard Bearer – ANP confirmed that the Standard had not been carried during July.

7. Social Events – A general discussion was held regarding the holding of events this year and the general agreement was as follows:

7.1 It is impossible to discuss holding Social Events without a greater number of members 'buying in' to the event. Whilst it is absolutely the desired aim of the Branch to become more social in a bid to welcome additional members, the Branch is very much in a 'chicken and egg' situation, we cannot move forward, without the support of the Members.

7.2 Further discussions will take place when a higher ratio of membership is present at the Branch Meeting.

8. Any Other Business –

8.1 Field of Remembrance Branch Association Cross. PW proposed that we purchase a cross for the Field of Remembrance, seconded by PC, all in favour.

9. The time being 20.56hrs and there being no further business, the meeting was closed by ANP. The next Branch Meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th September at 20.00hrs at the Manor Farm Public House, 194 Willerby Rd, Hull HU5 5JW. Members as usual, can meet up from 18.00hrs for food and drink.

Agenda for September's Meeting

1. Remembrance
2. Members Present/Apologies Received
3. Minutes of the Previous Branch Meeting
4. Matters Arising
5. Communications
6. Reports
 - 6.1. CESA
 - 6.2. Standard Bearer
 - 6.3. Corps Journal Correspondent
7. Social Events
8. Any Other Business
9. Close of Meeting & Date of Next Meeting

Dates for diaries:-

Saturday 11th November 2023

RMP/ RMPA Remembrance Service at Westminster Abbey Plot.

Sunday 12th November 2023 Remembrance Sunday – RBL event Whitehall and Nationally.

Communications Received – July 2023

1. An email was received from the Association Secretary regarding the Covid Assistance Grants as follows:

All Branch Secretaries RMPA

In June 2021 you were all advised of the availability of Covid assistance grants – a scheme launched by the Trustees to directly assist in any financial loss to branches caused by Covid and it's affects on day to day business.

Two years has now elapsed and those branches that felt the need to apply were indeed granted financial assistance.

This now serves as the closure of the scheme. Let's hope we don't ever have to resurrect it or any such scheme again.

2. An email was received from the Association Secretary regarding the LGBTQ+ Review – Historical Cases and the way forward, as follows:

All Trustees RMPA / RMPA Branch Secretaries

Please find attached a letter from Brigadier SPS in regard to the recent and much publicised thoughts, feelings and findings on the historical treatment of our LGBT community.

Currently until I get guidance this is not for social media publication, I suspect it will be but hold onto those eager key strokes thanks.

(Please note that this has already been published on our Facebook page by the AssocSec and has therefore not been republished below)

THAT IS THE CONCLUSION OF THIS MONTH'S COMMUNICATIONS.



Provost Marshal (Army) Brigadier Sarah L Pringle-Smith

An Honours Graduate of Cardiff University, with a Postgraduate Certificate in Education, Brigadier Sarah Pringle-Smith was commissioned into the Adjutant General's Corps (Royal Military Police) from the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in August 1998.

An alumnus of the Advanced Command and Staff Course, and more recently the Higher Command and Staff Course, Brigadier Sarah has commanded at every rank both Regular and Reserve officers and soldiers. Her operational experience includes a millennium tour to the Former Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as deployments on Operation TELIC in 2003 and Operation HERRICK in 2012. During her second tour to Northern Ireland, she witnessed the end of Operation BANNER and was actively involved in the transition to Operation HELVETIC. She has served as Chief of Staff on three separate occasions, with consecutive appointments at 1 Military Police Brigade, the Directorate Capability (Army) and Headquarters Provost Marshal (Army).

With 26 years experience as a Royal Military Police officer, she has seamlessly balanced roles within the Special Investigation Branch; General Police Duties; and a range of wider Army, Joint and Defence appointments. Her last appointment as a Colonel was Director of the Advanced Command and Staff Course at the United Kingdom's Defence Academy before her appointment in June 2023 as the Provost Marshal (Army).

Sarah was acknowledged in the category of Outstanding Contribution in the Women in Defence Awards in 2017, for her role in delivering organisational change within 1 Military Police Brigade. She has been a Co-Chair and Executive Director of the Army Servicewomen's Network and has also been a mentor as part of the 30% Club, a global campaign led by senior leaders and Chief Executive Officers taking action to increase gender diversity at board and executive committee levels. She continues to demonstrate a personal commitment to diversity and inclusivity as an ally. Outside her professional life, Sarah enjoys spending quality time with her family and friends. She is married to Richard, and together they have two teenage daughters, two German Shorthaired Pointers and are season ticket holders for Swindon Wildcats.