



# Royal Military Police Association Hull & East Riding Branch



## Minutes of the AGM & Branch Meeting Held 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018

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- Members Present:** Bob Hare (RH); Fred Hemmerman (FH); Pete Watson (PW); Alison Sayell (AS); Terry Scholes (TS); Andy Plews (AP); Jon Wild (JW); Bob Boreland (BB); Frank Maunder (FM); Callum Garton (CG); Jason McCoubrey (JC); Phil Cowan (PC);
- Apologies:** Dave Emmerson (DE); Sandy Robinson BEM (SR); Tony Walker (TW); Mike Walker (MW); David Kennedy (DK); Darren Howlett (DH); Steve Johnson (SJ); Craig Hemmerman (CH); Capt. Whitehead RMP; Bernadette Robinson-Hutton (BRT); Jim Anderson (JA);
- Not Present:** Steve Woods (SW); Scott Jenkins (SJ2); Michael Sutton (MS); Brian Petch (BP);
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### Agenda

1. Remembrance
2. Members Present/Apologies Received
3. Absent Friends
4. Minutes of The AGM 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017
5. Matters Arising
6. Chairman's Report
7. Treasurers Report
8. Retirement & Election of Officers
  - 8.1. President
  - 8.2. Vice President – currently vacant
  - 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. Any Other Business
15. Close of Meeting & Date of Next Meeting

- 1.0 Meeting opened at 20.00hrs. RH gave an introduction and gave the act of remembrance and welcomed the members present.
- 2.0 Members Present/Apologies Received – Apologies received from SR TW, SH, who isn't very well, DK and SJ who are both at sea. PW asked whether we had heard anything from JA but nobody had RH
- 3.0 Absent Friends – As detailed in the apologies.
- 4.0 The minutes of the previous AGM were made available. TS proposed that they are a true and accurate representation of the AGM. Seconded by JW. All in favour.
- 5.0 Matter Arising – As per 6.0, the Secretaries Report has now been changed to the Chairman's Report for 2018. As per 8.2, the role of Vice President be retired. As per 8.4, role of Vice President has been removed for 2017, should it be included for 2018? As per 8.6, role of Stand-In Secretary was removed for 2017, should it be included for 2018? As per 8.9 the role of Welfare/PRO has been retired.
- 6.0 Chairman's Report – RH stated that 2017 was the first full year of the Branch after the reorganisation of the Branch. Generally, it has been a positive year and we have got new members into the branch, including AP, TW and RH welcomed Jason McCoubrey who is the current RSM of 150 Pro Coy RMP. We also lost a good friend of the Branch Derek Garton, who passed away suddenly late last year. RH thanked all those who attended Derek's funeral.

RH stated that he has looked back on the membership numbers since 2011 and was pleased to see that membership numbers had remained exactly the same, and contrary to many opinions the Branch is in rude health.

This evening as is customary, all Branch Offices are resigned as is customary before the election of new Offices and this gives an excellent chance for new blood to step up and take more of an active role within the Branch. This is particularly so with FH who has reluctantly stood as Treasurer for the last two years. RH went on to thank both FH and PW for their efforts over the year also with DK, AS and SR. Also PC for laying the wreath on Remembrance Day.

RH thanked members for their support.

- 7.0 Treasurers Report – FH gave an overview of the accounts, which are not published here. Members wanting further details should speak to the Treasurer. In general, the accounts are in good health. There is a slight short fall with stock being purchased, this stock will naturally be carried over to the next year.
- 8.0 Retirement & Election of Officers
  - 8.1 President – This is a life appointment currently held by Fred Hemmerman
  - 8.2 Vice President – currently vacant.
  - 8.3 Chairman – PW proposed RH as Chairman, seconded by PC. PW asked RH if he would accept the post of Chairman and he stated that he would be delighted to. Unanimously carried.
  - 8.4 Secretary – JW had proposed PW for Secretary in advance of the meeting. Seconded TS, all in favour. PW accepted the position.
  - 8.5 Treasurer – FH stated that he would like to propose AS seconded by PC all in favour AS stated that she would be pleased to accept the role.
  - 8.6 CESA Rep – PW proposed that SR/AS be retained in their positions as CESA Reps, seconded by FH. All in favour.
  - 8.7 Standard Bearer – PW proposed that DK remain as Standard Bearer. PW further stated that BB wanted to stand down as stand-in Standard Bearer and that he proposed AP as stand-in Standard Bearer. JW seconded, all in favour. PW wanted to record the branches thanks to BB for the role he has undertaken.

- 8.8 Corps Journal Correspondent – RH proposed that this position be carried out by the serving Secretary, seconded by MW. All in favour.
- 8.9 Webmaster – PW stated that he believed that the current website is now defunct, as without paying out for specialist software licenses and having someone to specifically look after the website, it can no longer be updated. On the converse, the social media platforms, such as Facebook and Twitter were going very well, especially our Facebook Group page, which is private and separate from the National RMPA Page. This page allows all members, currently standing at 38 members, to add anything they think other members would be interested in. It is also a great way to get information across to members as generally, they are alerted each time something is posted on the Group Page, this includes the Branch Minutes. PW proposed that the existing website be let run until such time as a renewal fee be required and then it should be retired in favour of the social media platforms. Seconded by PC All members were in agreement.
- 9.0 Minutes of the Previous Branch Meeting - FH proposed that the minutes from the previous meeting were true and an accurate representation. Seconded by AS. All in favour.
- 10.0 Matters Arising – None.
- 11.0 Communications –
- 11.1 An email was received from the Association Vice Chairman regarding The Lived Experience about British Forces in Germany. A leaflet about which was passed around.
- 11.2 An email was received from the Association Vice Chairman, giving details of the RAFFPA Annual Snowdrop Parade. This will take place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at the National Memorial Arboretum, as follows:  
*Dear all,*
- Next years Snowdrop Parade is to take place on the 14th March 2018 at the NMA. The timings are:*
- 1030 Meet for coffee*  
*1130 Parade and service at the RAFFPA memorial*  
*1215 Parade and service at the RMP memorial*  
*1245 End of parades*  
*1300 Buffet meal at the RBL Alrewas, £5pp.*
- Bob Potts will represent the RMP Association and I suggest to avoid any confusion you inform him, or Kathryn Potts (Derby Branch Secretary) of your intention to attend. You can find their e-mail addresses in the cc above.*
- It would be appreciated if we can boost our numbers this year.*
- Kindest regards,*
- Bob*
- 11.3 An email was received from Association Vice Chair as follows:
- Dear Trustees and Branch Secretaries,*
- I am just taking this opportunity to update you as to the current state of the Association.*
- It gives me great pleasure to announce that the last hurdle has been successfully overcome and Ron Campbell-Smith is now fully in the appointment as Treasurer. He can be contacted at [treasurer@btinternet.com](mailto:treasurer@btinternet.com) His home address is 10 Furzehall Avenue, Fareham, Hampshire PO16 8UD. All financial matters relating to the Association should be directed to Ron and NOT Regimental Headquarters.*

*Stewart Leach has settled in as Secretary and I know most of you are fully aware of his contact details. Joy will continue as Admin Secretary and will normally be at RHQ on a Tuesday morning only; if it is an urgent matter then please contact her via my address.*

*My kindest regards,*

*Bob Egelton  
Vice Chair  
RMP Association*

- 11.4 An email was received from the Secretary RMPA regarding the forthcoming SIB Branch Dinner, which will be held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2018 at the Holiday Inn in Bentley, Walsall. Tickets are priced at £27.00/head. Members who served as SIB who want to attend the dinner should contact the Branch Secretary in the first instance.
- 11.5 An email was received from Redcaps24, the Western Australia Branch RMPA, containing the December Issue of Redcaps Newsletter. This has now been placed on the Facebook Group Page.
- 11.6 An email was received from the Association Secretary as follows:

*All Secretaries RMPA*

*Good morning one and all – Happy New Year, may 2018 bring you all health, wealth and happiness.*

*A couple of points:-*

- You will recall that I wrote in regard to funding a farewell gift to Allan Barley on his retirement from the post of NEC. This met with a majority of positive feedback and an overall willingness to donate funds to the “pot”. However one or two branches made their representations and reasons why they thought it was not something they would wish to subscribe to. All of these were valid, perhaps, and all were valuable as an insight into the thinking of the Association. As a result of that we have decided that perhaps we should simply ask that any branch wishing to donate should do so, to any amount they feel able to commit to (£30 came back as the most viable of donations previously). May I ask that any donations are now sent to the RMPA treasurer as follows:-*

*Mr R Campbell-Smith  
10 Furzehall Avenue,  
Fareham,  
Hampshire  
PO16 8UD*

*treasurerrmpa@btinternet.com*

*Please make cheques payable to RMPA, a note stating that it is towards the AB fund would perhaps help.*

- The future of funding of any such farewell gifts is still under discussion but it seems that we may perhaps simply set up a “gift” fund this will allow for not only thankyou gifts for anyone suggested by the Association but also perhaps for formal gifts to be given to others outside of the immediate Association such as Civic Authorities or others who have supported us in some way. (I should add here that John Baber has informed me, that he feels that no gift is expected when he steps down as Chair this year, as the Association contributed handsomely to his gift when he handed over the reins of Regimental Secretary to Jeremy Green.)*
- It has also been made known to me that gifts should be practical such as picture frames or art work etc, and not perhaps based on statues etc.*
- As you are all aware the Association has for many a year been honoured to parade at the Tower of London in February, this to commemorate and indeed pay respect to the long association between the Corps and its predecessors and that venerable site. This has had various incarnations and*

modes of operation, however it has always been a shared experience between the serving Corps and the Association. It is a fact that numbers attending have fluctuated in recent years whilst costs have risen year on year.

- *I have had several requests for details of the event this year, may I ask please that you ALL let me know of how many of your members are confirmed as wishing to attend this year. The date again is 11th February. This will allow for the way ahead to be determined.*
- *May I again ring to your attention that the AGM and reunion are in May at Rotherham, and ask that a gentle reminder be put to members for those yet to confirm their attendance with Allan Barley - if they require dinner, and of course with the hotel - if they wish accommodation, to do so now please. After last year's event I had people saying that they did not know it was on etc etc.! So please do push it out and about.*
- *Talking of the AGM an agenda will be issued prior to the date, however in order that we have a managed meeting and are able where possible to provide answers etc, there will be NO means to raise ad hoc Any Other Business (AOB) on the day – so that means consideration now of questions to be asked and points to be made on behalf of your members perhaps. A good idea may be to have not only a main point but a supplementary question on the agenda that may then be used if required. Those points can come back to either Joy, Bob or myself or copied to all three if you wish, any time now.*
- *At the AGM all appointments are up for election and open to anyone from within the Association. As stated above, our current Chair John will stand down, and will not be seeking re-election, I have asked that he put together a role brief as he sees it, that will then be put before the Trustees who will either add or takeaway, that will then be put out to you all so that you know what we expect from the Chair. Traditionally the role of Chair has been fulfilled by a retired Senior Officer, this does not have to be the case, however, part of the perceived role currently is to act as both a sounding board to the serving Provost Marshal and to bring to their attention any matters that we the retired cohort wish to bring before them. The Chair is also an ex-officio trustee of the RMP CBF and Regimental Committee currently and will be expected to play full role in both. Therefore of course any person has to be up to the challenge and comfortable in the role so to speak.*
- *Any nomination for any of the posts (Chair – Vice Chair – Treasurer or Secretary) will need to be submitted/ copied to Joy, Bob & myself in writing, by the proposer and seconded with an affirmation from the nominee that they are indeed willing to take up the post!*
- *The thorny issue of Facebook still keeps cropping up – I have made my views on it clear and plain in the past – it is perhaps a great tool but can also serve as a curse attracting good and positive interaction on the one hand and negative and destructive views on the other, but it is there, and it is a mighty force to be reckoned with!. Many of our own former colleagues contribute to and indeed manage dozens of sites some of which I am on and do also contribute to, as do one or two of you as well. I do feel that if we can keep up with it, it is a useful tool to branches, may I again please suggest that each branch has someone who can peak into the murky world every now and again and promote and publicise what you are up to. I am delighted to note that it may be that we have sufficient numbers to be looking at another branch in the west Country further west than Taunton, this has come about by contacts on FB. I will keep you posted obviously on that one. .*
- *May I also please ask that your annual reports are sent to Bob & Joy before the end of this month if you have not already done so. Though I am told by Bob that we are on track (must get mine submitted!).*

*That folks as they say is about it for now.*

*Regards to all*

*Stewart*

*"Exemplo Ducemus"*

- 11.7 An email was received from Barry Dugdale informing us that Sgt. A. W. Bilton RMP (252) or Pc Bilton of Sunderland, Durham and Northumbria Police has just been diagnosed with Alzheimer's early onset and he has been put into a home near Newcastle as he is now unable to live alone.

Barry advised that he had advised Stevie Woods and through him Bob Boreland but should any of your members wish to send him a message he is at:

Melton House Nursing Home, Brandling Drive, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE3 5PJ.

## 12.0 Reports

- 12.1 CESA Report – . The following information was passed by SR who had attended the event:

12.1.1 A service of Remembrance is to take place at the Hull Minster on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2018 to commemorate the sinking of the Tug Boat 'Englishman'. The Tug was in service working as a Royal Navy Rescue ship off Scotland when it was attacked by the German Air Force and received a direct hit, sinking the Tug with all hands lost. Standard are requested to attend, and they will parade at 13.30hrs. A piper will also be in attendance.

12.1.2 Aden Vets – The Aden Vets dinner will take place on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018. This information was made available during last year and the following members indicated a desire to attend: RH+1, FH, PW+1.

- 12.2 Standard Bearer – PW confirmed that the Branch Standard was not carried during December.

## 13.0 Social Events –

- 13.1 Annual Dinner 2018 – Plans are carried over from 2017. Branches and special guests will be invited during January.

13.2 RH stated that the Social Events where the big disappointment for 2017, especially having to cancel the Annual Dinner. It is important that ALL members wherever possible, support the social events moving forward. Having said that the climax of the year was the Christmas Social event held at the Punch Hotel and all were in agreement that this was a very good event and the likelihood is that we will return to this venue in the first quarter of 2018. What this space!

## 14.0 Any Other Business –

- 14.1 PW proposed that Callum Garton CC be made an Associate Member seconded by BB all in favour.

14.2 PW stated that we will need to get a banking mandate sorted for AS the new Treasurer. FH will action this.

- 15.0 The time being 20.43hrs and there being no further business, the meeting was closed by RH. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 19.30 hrs. for a 20.00hrs start, St. Vincent's Social Club, Queen Road, Hull.

## Agenda for February's Meeting

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2. Members Present/Apologies Received
3. Absent Friends
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### Post Meeting Note from The Chairman.

*At the AGM, I was re-elected in the role of Chairman of the Branch. This is a role I have held since the Emergency General Meeting of 2015 and I have been proud to serve you all.*

*I now feel, that as new, younger members, are thankfully joining the Branch, that they would be better placed to carry the mantle of Chairmanship into the foreseeable future. It is therefore my intention to step down from my role at the 2019 AGM and I will not be standing for re-election.*

*I fully intend to see out my Chairmanship during 2018 and have full intentions of being a fully engaged member of the Branch for many years to come; but I feel a person with more youth and a better understanding of the current Armed Forces and that of the wider RMP family would be better suited to build a strong and future proof Hull & East Riding Branch of the Royal Military Police Association.*

*I would like to put on record, my sincere thanks for the continued support, that has been afforded me by the members, since taking office rather unexpectedly in 2015. The Branch has moved forward from that time and I am pleased to say that we are in a better and stronger place now, then we have been for some time.*

*Exemplo Ducemus*

*Bob Hare.*