



Royal Military Police Association Hull & East Riding Branch



Minutes of the Branch Meeting Held 6th June 2012

Members Present: Fred Hemmerman (FH); Pete Watson (PW); Steve Johnson (SJ); Mike Walker (MW); Sandra Robinson (SR); Ted Johnson (TJ); Joe Matthews (JM); Brian Petch (BP).

Apologies: Dave Mitchell (DM); Steve Woods (SW); Michael Sutton (MS); Bob Hare (RobH); Tony Steventon (TS); Adrian Marshall (AM2); Peter Ovis (PO); Darren Howlett (DH); Andy Jefferson (AJ); Pat Howlett (PH); Bob Boreland (BB); Frank Maunder (FM); Craig Hemmerman (CH); John Louis (JL); David Kennedy (DK); Derrick Garton (DG); Jon Wild (JW); Dave Emmerson (DE); Andy Doyle (AD); Keith Hill (KH); Trevor Goodfellow (TG); Phil Newton (PN); Andy Murdoch (AM);

Agenda

- 1.0 Remembrance
- 2.0 Members Present/Apologies received.
- 3.0 Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- 4.0 Matters Arising
- 5.0 Absent Friends
- 6.0 Communications Received
- 7.0 CESA Report
- 8.0 Website
- 9.0 Standard Bearer
- 10.0 Social Events
- 11.0 Any Other Business
- 12.0 Close of Meeting, and date of next meeting.

- 1.0 Remembrance – FH opened the meeting (as President as DM and SW away) at 20.04hrs. The Remembrance was observed by all members.
- 2.0 Members Present/Apologies Received as above. DM is on holiday. PW reported that he had received apologies from JL (at a meeting), RobH (has family down) and Pete Ovis (unwell). PW sent apologies for DG (see 3.0). JM reported that SW (ill), FM (ill) and BB (ill) and TS. SJ sent apologies PH & DH. FH sent apologies from CH.
- 3.0 Absent friends – As details in 2.0. An email had been received from Billy Garton the son of DG stating that his father had been admitted to HRI for a DVT scan and they had found three tears in his stomach and he now also has a problem with his hips and is bed bound. He is on Ward 7 should member want to visit him. A discussion was had with regard to members who are still suffering with ill health; the branch wants to be reminded to those who are in ill health.
- 4.0 Minutes Of Previous Meeting – SJ proposed that the minutes where correct. FH seconded. All in favour.
- 5.0 Matters Arising – PW stated that as per 11.3 of May's Branch Minutes, he had emailed RHQ for the stand display packs. As per 11.4, the date for the RMP Memorial Service and Parade at the NMA is the 16th June 2012, see 11.1 of these minutes. As per 11.7 of May's minutes, PW had received submissions from TS and he is currently editing them ready to send. This will be done this week.

6.0 Communications –

6.1 An email was received from Mike Seabourne as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen

David Long our present National Standard Bearer has indicated that due to health reasons he will be standing down later this year. He has been an excellent representative of the Association at many events, parades, services and unfortunately a number of funerals over the past four years. I would like to express formal gratitude to Dave for all his very hard work on behalf of the Association

His deputy Bob Adams is unable to take over the role.

We are therefore seeking a suitable volunteer for this very important and prestigious appointment – He or she must be available to take part in all the National Events – Tower of London Parade and Service in February; Snowdrop parade at National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) in March, annual reunion in May; RMP service and parade at the NMA in June and of course Remembrance Weekend in London. There are other events etc. which crop up from time to time. Travel expenses are refundable.

It is anticipated that the person appointed will take over the duties of National Standard Bearer in September this year with the first predictable event being at Westminster Abbey on 10th November.

Please will you raise this important issue with your branch members and establish if anyone wishes to volunteer for the appointment. If we have a number of volunteers then a competition will be held at Southwick Park in September

In due course will you please advise me of anyone in your branch who wishes to be considered for this role – if necessary Standard Bearer Training can be organised – I would appreciate a response by 31 July 2012.

*If you require further information please give me a call on ***** (removed by Secretary for security)*

With very best wishes to you and your branch members

Mike

JM proposed that PW nominate himself for the role, this was seconded by SJ. PW will email RHQ with his nomination this week.

6.2 The minutes of the RMP Association Annual General Meeting had been received and PW went through them with particular emphasis on the following points:

- 6.2.1 The sad news that Capt. (Ret'd) Atkinson had died on his way to the reunion (during which the RMPA AGM takes place) and that he was due to receive his certificate of merit during that evenings Annual Dinner. His family had asked that the presentation go ahead so that his grandson could have the certificate and Mr. Gormley agreed to accept the Certificate on behalf of Capt. Atkinson.
- 6.2.2 Rule changes to RMPA Rules to allow the General to retain links with the association but to relieve him of Association duties.
- 6.2.3 St. Peter Ad Vincula – An appeal to raise funds for the St. Peter Ad Vincula Chapel within H.M. Tower of London. The Secretary explained that the Military Police have a special and privileged place in the history of H.M. Fortress and Tower of London and that St. Peter Ad Vincula, where we have the honour of holding our Annual Church Parade and that the chapel has no Government or Crown funding. Branches were requested to consider a donation to the appeal. SJ proposed that a donation of £25.00 be sent, this

was seconded by MW and the majority of members were in favour and therefore the motion was carried. PW will contact RHQ to ascertain where donations are to be sent.

6.2.4 National Standard – other than the matter raised in section 6.1 of these minutes, the RMPA AGM also raised a question as to whether the National Standard required replacing, this matter is in hand with the Regimental Secretary and the National Standard Bearer. The matter of whether the National Standard should have a Union Flag incorporated within it, was also raised and it was agreed that the matter should be researched. The Chairman (Brig. Bell) added that if the National Standard is replaced it should be blessed and presented in an appropriate services at Southwick Park.

6.2.5 The next RMPA Reunion, Annual Dinner and AGM will take place at the Cedar Court Hotel in Huddersfield. This will be on the 11th May 2013. PW stated that as the event was so close that ALL members should consider attending the event.

7.0 CESA Report – No report as both DM and TS were not in attendance.

8.0 Website – PW stated that the website Minutes section had been upgraded and now they were a simple click system. He further stated that the website is in an on-going upgrade state whereby things will be tried and perhaps binned if not liked. Members are encouraged to get involved with the website as it is nothing unless Members and Guests interact with it.

9.0 Standard Bearer – SW was not present for the meeting but we are not aware that he had been engaged in May.

10.0 Social Events –

10.1 Ladies Night – A general discussion took place regarding the forthcoming Ladies Night on the 28th June 2012. TJ proposed that due to the low numbers in attendance and particularly the lack of Entertainment Committee Members, that we postpone the Ladies night until July and discuss it in more depth at the next meeting. Seconded by JM and all in favour.

10.2 Annual Dinner – PW reported that he had written to all Branches and that Birmingham (Midlands) had already booked 5 tickets. FH reminded PW to also contact Mick Coverdale, John Gormley, Shelagh and Mike Finley. PW stated that he would contact these people this week.

11.0 Any Other business:

11.1 PW reminded members that the next event is the RMP Memorial Service at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas on the 16th June. PW, FH, SJ and DM are attending.

11.2 TJ asked what thought had been given to the Beverley Armed Forces Day. PW reported that he had been speaking to Cllr. David Elveridge the councillor who is in charge of the event and had booked a stand. PW will re-contact Cllr. Elveridge to confirm the arrangements

- 11.3 BP reported that the Armed Forces Day Parade will take place in Hull. Forming up at Pryme Street at 10.00hrs on the 23rd June 2012. Troops will march from Wenlock Barracks through the City and pick up the Veterans en-route.
- 11.4 PW said that we need to sort out our stand for Hull Veterans as soon as possible. This is normally handled by DM who is not present at this meeting, but PW will contact him on his return from holidays.
- 12.0 The time being 20.50hrs and there being no further business, the meeting was closed by FH. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 4th July 2012, at 20.00hrs, at the Police Social Club, Inglemire Lane, Hull.

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And finally.....

A French and British General are talking at a 'do'

The French General says:

"My men are so perfectly trained, when asked to present arms, all you hear is 'Stomp, Stomp, Slap, Slap' all in perfect unison."

"Well" says the British General, "When my men present arms, all you hear is 'Stomp, Stomp, Slap, Slap, Jingle, Jingle.'"

"Jingle, Jingle?" says the French General.

"Well" says the British General. "They can't help it you see, it's the medals"

The reason the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marines squabble among themselves is that they don't speak the same language.

For example, take a simple phrase like, "Secure the building."

- The Army will put guards around the place.
- The Navy will turn out the lights and lock the doors.
- The Air Force will take out a 5-year lease with an option to buy.
- The Marines will kill everybody inside and make it a command post.

The Queen is inspecting 3 armed forces personnel, 1 from each of her fighting forces.

She asks each one what they would do if they woke up and found a camel spider in their tent on operations?

The squaddie says, "I'd reach over, grab my bayonet and stab it to death!"

The matelot says, "I'd reach over, grab my boot and batter it to death!"

The airman says, "I'd reach over, pick up my phone, call reception and ask....."

"Who the f*** has put a tent up in my hotel room?"