

5 March 2013

MINUTES OF AN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SHREWSBURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION, HELD AT THE REMAN SOCIAL CLUB ON MONDAY 4 MARCH 2013 AT 1230 HRS.

Present: J Burke President
P Sharp Chairman

And further 27 members:

J Asworth	B Beattie	R Dolton	R Downward	M Farmer	R Fildes
B France	J Garner	N Hall	D Hayward	J Henshaw	M Lewis
S Marston	D Matthews	D McGoogan	K McPhillips	H Nevett	M Parry
J Penny	A Poole	T Roberts	D Rowley	B Sidebotham	
P Small	R Smyth	J Tisbury	J Trotman		

And 7 Associate Members:

C Barry	P Burke	A Madeley	I Nevett	U Penny	A Sidebotham
O Trotman					

Apologies: 10 Members and Associates:

J Buckler	R Davis	D Hulton	H Lewis	J Moule	R Moule
T Poole	C Sankey	R Sankey	H Williams		

ITEM 1 – DEDICATION

1. The RAFALO, Sergeant K McPhillips, read the Dedication.

ITEM 2 – APOLOGIES

2. The Secretary received notification of the 10 apologies as listed above.

ITEM 3 – MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM

3. Copies of the Minutes of the last AGM, which was held in the Reman Club on 5 March 2012, had been circulated. It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by J Tisbury that the Minutes of the last AGM be accepted.
4. **Decision:** It was agreed unanimously that the Minutes of the last AGM be accepted.

ITEM 4 – MATTERS ARISING

5. There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

ITEM 5 – CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

6. A copy of the Chairman's Report is attached.

ITEM 6 – SECRETARY'S REPORT

7. A copy of the Secretary's Report is attached.

ITEM 7 – TREASURER'S REPORT AND CONSIDERATION OF THE AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

8. A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached, along with a copy of the Audited Accounts. No points were raised in relation to the Accounts. It was proposed by the President and seconded by A Poole that the Accounts be accepted. Approved by acclaim.

9. A vote of thanks to the Auditors was proposed by P Small who also proposed that Turner Peachy be reappointed as Auditors for the coming year; The Chairman seconded the proposal.

10. **Decision:** The vote of thanks to the Auditors, and their appointment for the coming year was agreed unanimously.

ITEM 8 – WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT

11. A copy of the Welfare Officer's Report is attached.

ITEM 9 – STATEMENT BY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

12. The Secretary passed the apologies of the Membership Secretary to the meeting and, on his behalf, read his report which indicated that the Branch had 196 members.

ITEM 10 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

13. In opening the election the President commented that he had been a member of the Association for 25 years and that he was honoured to serve the Branch as their President. He noted that there was a good atmosphere within the Branch with everyone participating, and that the Committee provided good leadership. The President thanked the Committee for their hard work over the year, and felt that their

efforts resulted in everyone looking forward to Branch Meetings. In closing the President advised that all of the Committee sought re-election. In addition Mr M Farmer had volunteered to join the Committee to serve as Web Master.

14. The following individuals had been proposed and seconded as shown:

<u>Appointment</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Seconder</u>
Chairman	P Sharp	D Hayward	H Williams
Vice Chairman	J Tisbury	D Hayward	H Williams
Secretary	J Tisbury	D Hayward	H Williams
Treasurer	P Small	D Hayward	H Williams
Committee Member	T Roberts	D Hayward	H Williams
Committee Member	A Poole	D Hayward	H Williams
Committee Member	R Dolton	D Hayward	H Williams
Committee Member	A Madeley	D Hayward	H Williams
Committee Member	P Martin	D Hayward	H Williams
Committee Member	M Farmer	J Tisbury	P Sharp

15. **Decision:** The nominees were elected unanimously.

16. It was advised that the following Committee Members had agreed to undertake the following portfolios:

Membership Secretary	-	P Martin
Acting Standard Bearer	-	A Poole
Welfare Officer	-	A Poole
Deputy Welfare Officer	-	P Martin
Wings Appeal Organiser	-	R Dolton
Assistant Wings Appeal Organiser	-	A Madeley

Social Secretary	-	T Roberts
ATC Liaison Officer	-	T Roberts
Web Master	-	M Farmer

ITEM 11 – ELECTION OF DELEGATE TO AREA AGM

17. Mrs A Madeley had agreed to attend the Area AGM at Torquay as the Branch Delegate. It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by P Small that A Madeley be elected as the Branch Delegate.

18. **Decision: The proposal was carried unanimously.**

ITEM 12 – ELECTION OF DELEGATE TO ANNUAL CONFERENCE

19. There were no volunteers at present to attend the Annual Conference at Eastbourne as the Branch Delegate. It was proposed by the Chairman that the Committee appoint a delegate in due course.

20. **Decision: The proposal was carried unanimously.**

ITEM 13 – RATIFICATION OF THE FEE TO BE CHARGED TO BRANCH ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

21. It was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by J Tisbury that the fee for Branch Associate Membership be increased to £5.50.

22. **It was agreed unanimously that the fee for Branch Associate Members rise to £5.50.**

ITEM 14 – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

23. No other business had been notified.

ITEM 15 – NEXT MEETING

24. The next AGM of the Shrewsbury and District Branch of the RAFA will take place in the Reman Social Club on Monday 3 March 2014.

J A TISBURY
Secretary

P SHARP
Chairman
Mar 14

Enclosures:

1. Chairman's Report
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Financial Statements (File copy only)
5. Welfare Report

RAFA - AGM – CHAIRMAN'S NOTES - 2013

Mr President, Ladies and Gentlemen. It seems to Annual General Meetings must work in a different time zone from the rest of life as they do seem to come round awfully quickly.

I am delighted to see so many of you here and I hope that we will be able to conclude our business quickly so that we can return to the important social side of our meetings. However, now is the perfect time for any one of you to comment on things that concern you or the direction you would like to see you Branch take in the future; or possibly even volunteer for a role on the Committee or as Standard Bearer!

I hope that you will all agree that we have just completed a very successful year which has run in parallel with significant Royal events and of course the Olympic Games. Your Committee has worked extremely hard to provide us all with activities to look forward to and meetings that are an enjoyable experience. For certain members of your committee this is only a small portion of the time they dedicate to the Royal Air Forces Association in the wider arena and we are very lucky to have all of them on board. And at this point I would like to offer my personal thanks to each and every one of them.

Once again our Branch meetings continue to be the focus of our activity with the regular attendance remaining strong. We remain grateful for the friendly support that we receive from Steve Harris (Club Steward) and his team including Di and the girls who have continue to provide us with excellent catering services at our meetings. We have planned another full year ahead, in particular the 70th Anniverasy Lunch, of which more about later.

You may have noticed that my attendance at meetings has not been as regular as I would have liked and with my current work and family commitments that situation is unlikely to improve over the next 12 months ,however, should you wish me to continue in the role of Chairman I would be honoured to do so.

SECRETARY'S STATEMENT – AGM 2013.

President, Chairman, Ladies and Gentleman it falls to me to report on the activities of the Branch during 2012; however, as I encapsulated all of that detail in the Annual Newsletter, I'm sure that you do not need me to go through it all again. I would make a couple of points, however. Firstly, to highlight that your Branch has again had a very successful year in support of the Associations aims and objectives. You will recall that there are three, Comradeship – our meetings have been well attended, Tecwyn has kept us all engaged, and there isn't anybody who has not won at least one prize in one of his raffles; or previously heard one of his jokes! Secondly, welfare, well as Alan Poole will tell you shortly he has been very busy with the Association's welfare team in delivering that to those in need. But we should not forget that none of that welfare could have been delivered without funding, so we must thank Alex and Roy for ensuring that the Branch increased its Wings collection during 2012. And finally, the third pillar of the Association, Help, well there has certainly been a buzz around the meetings where all of you fine folk have been involved in providing that to each other.

Also, as you will have noted from the Newsletter we were present at all the major RAF related events in Shrewsbury and District through the year, and kept the RAFA flag flying.

In closing, however, I would pay tribute to one individual who has kept us all on track over the past year, despite his busy work schedule, our Chairman, Paul Sharp. Thanks Paul.

Ladies and Gentlemen, thank you very much.

ROYAL AIR FORCES ASSOCIATION
SHREWSBURY & DISTRICT BRANCH. AGM 4 MARCH 2013.

At the beginning of 2012 we received a Membership Rebate from Central Headquarters of £501.60. This was followed by £280 in memory of Ernie Jones. Throughout the year other donations were received resulting in a total of £387.50. Unfortunately the rate of interest on our deposit accounts remained unchanged.

Regarding expenditure, in May a donation of £325 was made to RAF Shawbury's Contact House, with an equal amount donated from our Welfare fund, together a total of £650 for the purchase of a Dishwasher, Table and Chairs and a new Vacuum Cleaner.

Later an Association portable Pull-Up Banner was purchased for £75, which was used during our Wings Appeal, and will be used for other functions in the future. Again a celebratory lunch was held at the Lord Hill Hotel to commemorate our Queen's Diamond Jubilee, which was subsidized by using the Dave Law Fund. Other expenditure covered the general administration of the Branch throughout the year.

Wings Appeal 2012 was slightly down on the previous year in line with other charity collections, despite the efforts of Alex, Roy and their collectors. In March a RAFA Awareness Event was held in the Square, where £762 was collected, RAF Shawbury Wings collection raised £244.35, and the sale of Wings Lotto Draw tickets brought in another £85. The final total was £4904.25, 20% of which was added to the Branch Welfare Fund.

Social Fund. A successful year £317 being added to the fund. Donated raffle prizes were appreciated, as the cost of purchasing prizes has slightly increased. Once again our thanks to Tecwyn for his hard work, culminating in an enjoyable Christmas event at the end of the year.

We now look forward to celebrating the 70th Anniversary of our Association with a lunch next month, which will again be subsidized.

Welfare Officer's Report – Annual General Meeting 4 Mar 13

The Welfare team have had another busy and successful year. There are now 3 HWOs within the branch. Alan Poole (HWO), Frances Martin (AHWO) and Paul Martin (AHWO). During the year all of us have either been trained or undertaken refresher training. Additionally, all 3 of the team attended the Annual Welfare Seminar at the RAFA Club, Wolverhampton.

Branch records show that we carried out some 30 visits to clients, of which, 4 were subsequently referred to social services for further assessment and support. Additionally, we disbursed nearly £3000 of grants from the Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund.

Turning to the future we are aware that welfare funds are getting tighter but I remain optimistic that we will still be able to support those in need in the coming years. The focus on saving money has also meant that a pre-planned review of our respite homes scheduled for 2014 has been brought forward to this year. It is a good time to remind ourselves of the valuable contribution that these homes provide and I encourage all members to seriously consider a stay if they feel it is appropriate to their needs.

Alan Poole

HWO