

# ***FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION***

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c/o Fly Navy Heritage Trust R.N.A.S. Yeovilton,  
Ilchester, Somerset BA22 8HT

## **Annual General Meeting 8th April 2017**

### **Shire Hotel Kettering MINUTES**

#### **Attendees:**

#### **Committee**

Brian Bingham – Re Union Organiser	Terry Lowden - Committee
Arnold Thompson – Chairman	Ben Worship – Treasurer
Peter Murray – Secretary	Gordon Pinkney – Committee
Margaret Gidman – Newsletter Editor	Fred Wadley – Vice President
Gordon Appleby – Standard Bearer	Mike Foote - Chairman

#### **Branch Delegates**

Daedalus	Essex
Ferndown & District	Ford
Greater Manchester	Hanworth
Kent	North East Hants
Solent	Telford & Wrekin (proxy)
Yorkshire	

#### **Branches**

26 Members signed in the Gangway book

#### **Apologies**

Committee Members: Alan Key, Dave Fairley, Bob Ridout  
Gerry Jackson Secretary Ford Branch

#### **1. Opening Prayers and Remembrance**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 1100 with the Association prayer.

The Chairman then gave a reading of Names in Remembrance of our Members who have Crossed the Bar since the last meeting:

Clive Barnett	S/Lt(A) Pilot	Daedalus	February 2016
Gerald Hutson	RELMN1	Solent	February 2016
Maurice Geere	LAM	Solent	2016
Alan Somers	LEM	Daedalus	March 2016
Thomas Barnden MBE	CEL	Daedalus	January 2016
Ben Brooks	AM	Daedalus	January 2016
George Bice	POAF	Bristol	January 2016
John Gamlin	LREM	Essex	2016
Harry Butler	WO EL	Daedalus	April 2016
Roy Pounds	CEL	Daedalus	April 2016
David Andrews	CEL	Ferndown	2017
Paul Pedrick	CPO AEA	Solent	March 2017
Jack Moore	POAF	Yorkshire	2017
Ernest Collins	WO AH1	Daedalus	January 2017
Mike Tunley		Essex	January 2017
Lawrence Ratcliffe	A/POAF	Yokshire	April 2017

## 2. The Loyal Toast

The Meeting toasted Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth

## 3. Officers Reports

**Chairman:** My first year in office as your Chairman has been a relatively busy one. In May I attended the Aviation Observance at Eastchurch, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Boyce along with Sir Adrian Johns attended and our Association was well represented. Then it was on to Lee-on-Solent seafront for the Fleet Air Arm Remembrance Service, again a very good attendance by Association members, some who had travelled from well out of the area. By the 18<sup>th</sup> I was at RNAS Yeovilton, invited by 825 NAS to attend their Wings Parade, followed by lunch in the Wardroom.

In June I attended the Eastchurch Observance Committee meeting as the liaison between Eastchurch Parish and our Association. This is a commitment that was established during FN 100 when the Observance was first celebrated, throughout the year meetings are held to arrange and organise the event.

September saw the NFAAA Committee make their way to Derby for a General meeting, besides Committee members and their partners only four other people attended. This I am sorry to say is unacceptable and the situation is under review by your Committee, a proposal was put forward at the January 2017 General Open meeting in Hanworth, a final decision has yet to be made.

In mid December I attended the UK4U Christmas Box Launch and Lunch at the Grosvenor Offices of The Westminster Foundation in London. I have been fortunate and honoured to attend these events and represent our Association in the past; I am so pleased that we are able to support this worthy cause.

As mentioned earlier the Open Meeting was held at RNA Club Hanworth and again it was mainly the National Committee who attended.

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Early February I attended the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration of the Channel Dash at RNAS Yeovilton. With a service at St Barts at which I laid a Poppy Wreath on behalf of the Association, followed by a mess dinner that evening in the wardroom.

Sadly this last year Watford Branch has been forced to dissolve due to falling numbers in their membership, happily the remaining members have transferred to the Daedalus Branch.

The one thing I have realised over this year is a failure in communication between the National Committee and our members. The information sent out by the National Secretary to the Branch Secretaries is not being fully relayed to Branch

The one thing I have realised over this year is a failure in communication between the National Committee and our members. The information sent out by the National Secretary to the Branch Secretaries is not being fully relayed to Branch members. This problem is down to the Branch Secretaries and not the National Committee, we provide them with the information and it is their responsibility to pass it on.

At some point in the future I believe we will only have the Daedalus Branch and possibly an AGM and one other reunion per year, this I hope is yet a long way off.

**Treasurer:** The Treasurer went through the Association Annual Accounts for the period 1 March 2016 to 28 February 2017. Including the Welfare Accounts and the FAA Memorial Parade Account. A copy of these accounts was given to all Branch delegates. Accounts audited by Ray Wrigglesworth and Geoff Owens.

**Copies are also attached to these minutes as an appendix.**

Ben pointed out that Capitation income was down due to the Membership having fallen by 120 since last year.

Peter Westbrook asked for clarification regarding insurance of Standards under the Association insurance cover. Ben advised that only the National Standard is covered and that Branches may insure their Standards via the RNA at an annual cost of £8. Contact him for details.

Ben advised that there had been one claim on the Welfare Account in January which was approved and the £250 was granted. A letter of thanks has been received from the recipient saying that the money was a great help and a boon and knowing it is donated by retired friends and colleagues is just as important.

**Secretary:** The Secretary reported that 9 Members Paraded at the Whitehall Cenotaph and a wreath was laid at the Cenotaph. A wreath was also laid at the Feet Air Arm Memorial on the Embankment. This Parade always follows the main Cenotaph Parade.

An invitation from the Not Forgotten Association for 10 of our Members to attend the Buckingham Palace Garden Party had been received. Only one Member applied to attend.

**Standard Bearer:** The Standard has only been paraded once since the last meeting in January. This was at the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the sinking of the South African troopship SS Mendi sunk in the Solent by an RN Destroyer. The parade took place on 17<sup>th</sup> February at the Pyramid Centre in Southsea.

**Reunion Organiser:** Brian Bingham reported that this numbers were down this year from 96 2016 to 74. The 2018 AGM/Reunion will be held again at the Kettering Shire hotel and the Sunday visit will be to Duxford Aircraft Museum.

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Brian advised that he had received apologies from Vice Admiral Adrian Johns who cannot attend due to a pending grandchild birth and from Rear Admiral Keith Blount (RA FAA) who cannot attend due to unforeseen duty calls.

The VIP Guest this evening is Commodore RN Rtd OBE Jock Alexander. Jock will also be giving a presentation on Navy Wings after the AGM at 1500.

**Newsletter Editor:** Margaret reported that all newsletters are on the Association website [www.faaa.org.uk](http://www.faaa.org.uk) . More input and items of interest are still needed.

I pass on to Navy News details of members you have crossed the bar for publication. Recently I have been informed that there are some delays due to the volume on entries needed, a sad sign of the times.

**Membership Secretary:** The latest membership report for 2016-17 was handed out to attendees and is shown below:

## FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION 2016-17 MEMBERSHIP TOTALS

Branch	Full Members	Associate Members	Assoc. Life Members	Assoc. Hon. Members	Branch Life Members	Branch Hon. Members	Total Members
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Branch	Full Members	Associate Members	Assoc. Life Members	Assoc. Hon. Members	Branch Life Members	Branch Hon. Members	Total Members
Bristol	28	4			1		33
Essex	21	49	1	1		4	76
Fernedown	9	5					14
Ford	16	1	2				19
Gt Yarmouth	6						6
Gtr Manchester	27	1		1		4	33
Hanworth	10	1	3				14
Kent	12	9					21
North East Hants	10	9					19
Solent	87	2	1				90
Southdowns	21	9					30
Telford & Wrekin	13	23					36
Yeovil	24	16					40
Yorkshire	30	3					33
Patron	1						1
President	1						1
	316	132	7	2	1	8	466
Daedalus	150	41	6	2	0	0	199
							665
Total Members	466	173	13	4	1	8	665

Total  
Membership

ballot were re-elected. There were three forms sent in error by Daedalus Members to the National Secretary which were deemed not valid.

**Ford Branch proposed Brian Bingham for the vacant position of Vice Chairman, this was seconded by Gordon Pinkney.**

The Chairman asked Brian was he prepared to take on the role he replied Yes.

**This was then voted on by Branch Delegates and Brian was elected Vice Chairman by a unanimous vote of all 11 delegates in favour.**

#### 4. Branch Proposals

- i) **Payment of Capitation by online and /or PayPal – Solent Branch Proposal was seconded by Bob Haydon Yorkshire Branch.**

This had been discussed by the Committee. Only one Member tried to pay using Paypal and this payment went to the webmaster. There is also a cost to using PayPal. The Solent Branch proposer did not know about these PayPal costs and no one else in the meeting did. The simplest way to pay on line is via on-line direct bank money transfer. As far as we know this a free service.

The Chairman then proposed that capitation be paid by Direct Debit/ Standing order, Cheque or on- line direct bank money transfer.

This was seconded by Mike Pomeroy.

**The proposal was accepted by 9 Delegates voting in favour.**

- ii) **That Number 2 account as identified in the Chairman's open letter, be under the control of the Association treasurer. – Solent Branch Proposal was seconded by Bob Haydon Yorkshire Branch.**

**ii) That Number 2 account as identified in the Chairman's open letter, be under the control of the Association treasurer. – Solent Branch Proposal was seconded by Bob Haydon Yorkshire Branch.**

Peter Westbrook made it clear that there were no accusations of misappropriation of monies. He went on to say that the account had only just become known about although the account had been set up over 20 years ago. Questions to be cleared are who controls the account, who audits and checks the account, what is its purpose, what is the income and expenditure. All financial dealings need to be transparent.

Bob Haydon expressed very similar concerns regarding the control and administration of this account and that as things stood it was not acceptable practice.

The Chairman then explained that the number 2 account set up over 20 years ago initially with a £200 float for the reunion organiser. The account has been passed from organiser to organiser and is now with the current incumbent Brian Bingham. Brian explained the accounts is used to buy gifts for raffles, visit potential venues and so forth. There was no doubting the need for transparency of the account as requested by the proposer, but to put the account under the direct control of the Treasurer would make the job of reunion organiser much more difficult.

The Chairman proposed that the Number 2 Account remains under the control of the reunion organiser but that he produces a full account of all income and expenditures to be presented to the AGM. These accounts will be 1 year in arrears covering the period April to May due to them being in use up to and including the AGM.

This proposal was seconded by Terry Lowden.

**The proposal was carried by Delegates voting 8 for and 3 against.**

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**iii) That the Committee be limited to agreeing any sum of money be taken from Association funds that exceeds£100, without the approval from their respective Branches – Solent Branch**

Proposal seconded by Charlie Bett Solent Branch.

Peter Westbrook outlined concerns that the Association was spending too much money and that which was spent was not properly approved by the Membership. He quotes an example from 2009 that association income was £1900 and expenditure was £18918.

The chairman explained that all donations and expenditures were approved at either the AGM or General Open Meetings. The minutes of these meetings are always distributed to all Branches together with the Accounts.

What became apparent as Peter Westbrook spoke is that an annual budget of income and expenditure is required to ensure “overspending” does not occur. This idea of a spending budget was supported by Bob Haydon of Yorkshire Branch.

The Committee fully understand the need to control expenditure and in the latest accounts it shows that this year the Association ran at a small profit.

Due to the generosity of Dr Rotman's legacy in 2008 the Account stood at £66250 in 2008.

Donations in excess of £100 are listed below:

National Arboretum FAA Memorial	£5000	2009
Fly Navy Heritage Trust	£5000	2009
Donations to Branches	£4800	2009
Pembroke House	£2000	2010
RNA Memorial Garden	£200	2010
UK4U	£500	2011
UK4U	£500	2012
Ferndown Branch Start Up	£200	2013
UK4U	£500	2013
UK4U	£250	2014
UK4U	£250	2015

UK4U	£250	2014
UK4U	£250	2015
Fly Navy Federation	£500	2016
UK4U	£250	2016
Add donations/expenses less than £100	£2217	2009/16
	Total	
£22167		

Much more heated debate followed regarding budgeting and expense control and administration until the Chairman called for the proposal be put to the Delegates for a vote. **The proposal was defeated by 8 votes against and 3 for.**

### **5. Any Other Business**

The Chairman stated that this will be the last meeting at which AOB will be an agenda item. Items or proposals are to be submitted 14 weeks prior to a meeting for time to distribute and consider.

This is set out in item 4.9 of the Association Constitution and Rules.

**The Chairman Proposed that the Daedalus Branch Secretary should be a member of the Committee. The Daedalus Branch is the biggest Branch and is growing.**

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This was seconded by Peter Murray.

**The Delegates voted in favour of the proposal. 8 votes for and 3 against.**

**Peter Westbrook proposed that item 3.7 of the Constitution and Rules revert to the 2008 version.**

**He also proposed that the 14 weeks specified in item 4.9 be reduced.**

It was explained that as these would be changes to the Constitution and Rules they cannot be proposed until the 2019 AGM, this is set out in Rule 4.7.

The Chairman explained that the current Constitution and Rules dated 05/10/2015 were ratified and came into effect at the 2016 AGM.

They were circulated to the Branches for comment in October 2015. No feedback or request for change except for one minor change from Yeovil Branch (which was included) was received. The Committee at the January 2016 Hanworth meeting therefore resolved that the revised version would become effective at the 2016 AGM. (refer to 2016 AGM Minutes Item 5)

Peter Westbrook intends to carry these proposal forwards.

He was advised that they could not be submitted to the AGM Agenda until the 2019 AGM.

Peter Westbrook also proposed that every Full Member of the Association be entitled to vote at the AGM.

The Chairman explained that Members vote by means of their Branch Delegate who attends the AGM to represent the Branches' position and vote accordingly for the Branch. By doing it this way, all Branches carry the same voting weight.

Gordon Pinkney told the meeting of a Member who has been give the French Legion de Honour and a Russian commendation. Gordon wondered could anything be done to recognise this Members service.

The Chairman told Gordon that the Branch should make a proposal for Life Membership for this Member.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 1420.

He reminded the meeting that Commodore Jock Alexander RN Rtd OBE would be giving a presentation about Navy Wings at 1500.



Sale of Stock	£904.75	£507.75
Raffles	£139.00	£216.30
Interest Nationwide Account	£94.38	£89.51
Donations	£77.00	£35.00
Buffett Donations	£76.70	£73.66
Donations Airey Fairey	£80.50	£709.50
Daedalus Admin	£32.50	£33.25
Donations FAA Memorial Service	£320.00	£190.00
Wreath (TAGA)	£25.00	£25.00
Overpayments	<u>£7.00</u>	<u>£34.00</u>
	<b>£4,570.83</b>	<b>£4,780.97</b>



**EXPENDITURE****2016-2017****2015-2016**

Purchase of Stock	£792.90	£728.96
Raffle Prizes	£101.00	£111.00
Catering Meetings	£70.00	£100.00
Wreaths	£134.00	£140.00
Standard Insurance	£8.00	£8.00
Royal Maritime Club	£60.00	£60.00
Public Liability Insurance	£544.88	£547.50
Postage Airey Fairey	£0.00	£275.05
Stationery Treasurer	£88.20	£17.99
Committee Buffett Hanworth	£50.00	£50.00
UK4U Thanks	£250.00	£250.00
Hayley Bone	£0.00	£780.00
Metro Printers	£0.00	£840.00
Donation Eastchurch Parish Council	£50.00	£50.00
Donation Blendworth Band	£100.00	£100.00
Technical services	£132.00	£132.00
Rev P. Chamberlain	£50.00	£50.00
Overpayments	£21.50	£34.00
Isle of Wight Tours	£198.00	£0.00
Hobbycraft	£8.00	£0.00
Pickets @ Pursers	£220.00`	£0.00
Horizon Publications	£300.00	£0.00
Fly Navy Federation	£500.00	£0.00
Expenses: Secretary	£159.12	£25.00
Treasurer	£66.39	£76.89
Daedalus Branch Secretary	£244.06	£516.76
Webmaster	£30.62	£0.00
Standard Bearer	<u>£234.50</u>	<u>£578.05</u>
	<b>£4,413.17</b>	<b>£5,471.20</b>

**Credit: Income/Expenditure****£157.66****Accumulated Fund**

**Credit: Income/Expenditure** **£157.66**

**Accumulated Fund**

Nationwide Account @ 29 - 02 - 2016 £43,856.19  
Current Account @ 29 - 02 - 2016 £346.63  
Cash in Hand @ 29 -02 - 2016 £113.45  
**£44,316.27**

**Profit** £157.66  
**£44,473.93**

**Represented by:-**

Nationwide Account @ 28 - 02 - 2017 £44,133.39  
Current Account @ 28 - 02 - 2017 £238.35  
Cash in Hand @ 28 - 02 - 2017 £102.19  
**£44,473.93**

**Value of Stock @ Cost**

Ties	32	£9.30	£297.60
Gold wire Blazer Badges	20	£13.95	£279.00
Silk Blazer Badges	2	£7.36	£14.72
Beret Badges	14	£8.10	£113.40
Baseball Caps	7	£8.30	£58.10
Ladies Head Squares	9	£9.99	£89.91
Gilt Lapel Badges	105	£3.53	£370.65
Chrome Lapel Badges	172	£1.41	£242.52
Life Lapel Badges	55	£0.64	£35.20
Car Stickers	42	£0.81	£34.02
Members cards	149	£0.11	£16.39
Medal Holders Large	6	£4.92	£29.52
Medal Holders Small	3	£2.40	£7.20
Cumberbands	6	£22.35	£131.10
			<b>£1,719.33</b>

***FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION***

***WELFARE ACCOUNT***

***ACCOUNT No's 50739987 and 62083930***

**Account No 50739987** opened 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2015 invested in 2 year Money Market Account. Matures September 2017. ( £10,000.00)

**Account No. 62083930.** Opening balance 01 March 2016 596.42

Deposit 15 – 03 - 2016 255.00

Deposit 15 – 03 - 2016	255.00	
Interest to 07 – 05 – 2016	0.13	
“ 07 – 08 – 2016	0.15	
Interest from Acc 50739987 04 – 09 – 2016	90.49	
Deposit 26 – 09 – 2016	62.00	
Interest to 07 – 11 – 2016	0.13	
Deposit 16 – 01 – 2017.	185.00	
Interest to 07 – 02 – 2017.	<u>0.09</u>	
	<b>1189.41</b>	
<b>Returned cheque (Deceased)</b>		10.00
Charges for returned cheque	<u>4.00</u>	
	<b>14.00</b>	
<b>Closing Balance at 28 – 02 – 2017.</b>		<b>1175.41</b>

***FLY NAVY FEDERATION***

***FLEET AIR ARM MEMORIAL SERVICE***

***ACCOUNTS FOR SUNDAY 15th MAY 2016.***

***INCOME******EXPENDITURE***

Brought fwd from 2015	58.00	Public Liability Insurance	154.95
Donation FAAOA	250.00	Blendworth Band Donation	100.00
Buccaneer Association	40.00	Technical Events	132.00
Aircrewman's Association	30.00	Rev P. Chamberlain	
<u>50.00</u>			
Fleet Air Arm Association	<u>50.00</u>		
<b>£436.95</b>			
	<b>£428.00</b>		

**Balance Loss £8.95**

