

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION



MINUTES OF GENERAL OPEN MEETING Held on the 24th September 2016 at Derby RBLClub

Attendees:

Dave Fairley	Peter Murray
Gordon Appleby	Mike Foote
Gordon Pinkney	Ben Worship
Peter Westbrook	Brian Bingham
Arnold Thompson	Gordon Appleby
Geoff Owens – Kent Branch	
Shelia Styles – Daedalus Branch	
Sue Halladay – Daedalus Branch	
Ivor Hall – ex Derby Branch	
Billie Fairley	
Pat Westbrook	

Apologies: Fred Wadley, Ron Golightly, Terry Lowden, Alan Key, Margaret Gidman.

A buffet lunch was taken between 1230 and 1330.

Mike Foote the Association Chairman opened the meeting at 1330 with the Fleet Air Arm Prayer. He welcomed everyone attending and thanked them for coming. The Chairman read out the names of Members who have Crossed the Bar since the last meeting and the meeting observed one-minute silence in their memory:

Clive Barnett – Daedalus	George Bice – Bristol
Ben Brooks – Bristol	John Gamlin – Essex
Gerald Hudson – Solent	Maurice Geere – Solent
Colin Ramsden – Yorkshire	Doug Lawrence – Manchester
John Lawrence – Manchester	Eric May – ex TAG

Agenda

As there were no items for the Agenda submitted by the Branches the same Agenda used for the Committee Meeting was used. All Items are covered either in these minutes or those of the Committee Meeting.

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Also to avoid duplication and confusion most items in these Minutes will refer to the Committee Meeting Minutes which will be distributed together with these General Open Meeting Minutes.

Item 1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Aztec Hotel Bristol on 11th April 2015

The Minutes were accepted as read by the meeting.
There were no matters arising.

Item 2. Officers Reports

The Officers reports for the Chairman, Secretary, Standard Bearer, Daedalus Branch secretary and Airey Fairey Editor, were read out. For full details refer to the Committee Meeting Minutes.

The Chairman also read out a letter from Sue Halliday regarding the 2016 Reunion. A copy of this letter is attached to the Committee meeting minutes.

Treasurer

Ben handed out copies of the Accounts for the period 1/3/2016 to 30/6/2016 and went through them in detail.

Ben confirmed to Gordon Pinkney that Manchester Branch had paid their capitation. The only outstanding Branch now is Southdowns.

Ben also advised that the Public Liability insurance is due for **renewal at £389**. It was proposed that Ben goes ahead by Mike Foote and seconded by Arnold Thompson. A copy of the policy will be sent to all Branch Secretaries.

Ben reminded the meeting about the UK4U Christmas Boxes for the overseas service personnel and proposed that **we donate £250 to UK4U** towards these boxes. This was seconded by Dave Fairley and unanimously agreed by the meeting.

Ben read out a number of items from the Fly Navy Federation Meeting Minutes. These minutes are circulated to Branch Secretaries.

Item 3. AGM/Reunion Review - Refer to Committee Meeting Minutes

Item 4. Airey Fairey Distribution and Website - See Also Committee Meeting Minutes.

Peter Westbrook was concerned that members not on line to the internet did not receive the AF, but are charged in their capitation fees. There are 34 members without internet out of a total membership of 212 which equates to 16%.

Different types of Newsletter or small magazine were discussed similar to those produced by other associations.

This subject will be resolved at the next Committee meeting in January 2017.

Also Sue Halladay said she and the other ex-Birmingham transfers had not received anything from the Daedalus Branch. Peter Westbrook will look into this.

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Item 5. Welfare Fund Bi Annual Review

Mike Foote explained that the Welfare Fund has not yet had any claims made for assistance. Mike stressed that its purpose and procedure need to be made known in the Branches. Each Branch should have someone in the position of Almoner who can assist any Member who needs Support.

The Secretary read out the letter received with the original donation for welfare. It would appear that welfare can be interpreted in a broader sense than limited to hospital travel expense. For example, money for maintenance of memorials could be possibly be considered as a welfare expense as could the expense for the Fleet Air Arm Memorial Parade at Lee on Solent.

In the current policy the fund is not being used and suggestions how to change or allocate welfare funds would be welcomed.

The Treasurer advised that the fund now stands at £10851.

Item 6. Fleet Air Arm Memorial Plinths Donation

This is covered in the Committee meeting minutes and the Committee recommend to the meeting that **a donation of £500 is given.** This was proposed by Dave Fairley and seconded by Gordon Pinkney. The proposal was unanimously accepted by the meeting.

Peter Westbrook suggested that this was a possible expense that could be considered welfare as all FAA members benefit.

Item 7. Ford Heritage Site – See the Committee Meeting Minutes.

Item 8. AOB

Arnold Thompson gave an update on the Fly Navy federation meeting. The new carrier Queen Elizabeth is now in fit out at Rosyth and visits to the dockyard are possible but not going on board. She will be in Portsmouth next May and a visit on board may then be a possibility. Also there are now two serviceable Swordfish in the Flight.

Mike Foote thanked Arnold and Ben who both travel down to Yeovilton to represent our association at the Federation meetings.

Ben reported on the latest CONA meeting. There is now a veterans counselling service for any veteran or family member born before 1950. Support may be available with the veteran's personal circumstances whether practical or emotional in nature. Typical examples are loneliness, bereavement and depression.

This is a new government initiative. Contact details are:

Phone Number 0300 0120247 Website www.agedveteranscounselling.org.uk

Enquiries enquiries@agedvereranscounselling.org.uk

Ben also mention Project Semaphore which is designed to assist veterans become familiar with using PC's and the Internet. For more information, follow:

www.royal-naval-association.co.uk

Project Manager Lt Sharon Brown RNR at sharon@royalnavalassoc.com

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Mike Foote raised the question of the attendance at this meeting, which apart from Committee member amounts to 4 members.

This northern meeting has been discussed before due to low attendance and the location and frequency of meetings will be on the agenda for the next Committee meeting.

Peter Murray proposed that the Membership Secretary is a Member of the National Executive Committee as defined in Rule 2 of the Constitution. This proposal was seconded by Mike Foote and accepted unanimously by the meeting.

The next General Open Meeting will be the AGM on the 8th April 2017 at the Shire Hotel & Spa Kettering.

Peter Murray
National Secretary
27th September 2016