

FLEET AIR ARM ASSOCIATION

www.faaa.org.uk



**National Committee Meeting held at
Court Barn Conservative Club, Court Barn Lane, Broom Way, Lee-
on-Solent PO13 9NZ on Saturday 7th October 2023
Commencing at 1100**

Minutes

Attendees: Dave Smith (DS) Peter Murray (PM)
Jim Moulson (JM) Mick Wyatt (MW)
Alan Key (AK) Mike Foote (MF)
Ben Worship (BW)

Apologies: Jeff Cooke, Fred Wadley

Visitors: Doug Carrington - Solent Branch

The Chairman opened the meeting at 11:00

The meeting then stood for a one minutes silence in remembrance of the following who have Crossed the Bar; Brian Powell (Solent) Philip Rosier (Solent) Barry Davies (Kent).

Item 1. Minutes of the AGM 13 May 2022

The minutes were accepted as correct by the meeting.

Item 2. Officers Reports

Chairman:

DS attended the Royal Naval Associations parade in Whitehall, London in September. It was a most enjoyable day and well attended with a good number of FAAA members mainly from the Portland & Weymouth. It was also a good opportunity to do some networking and get to know

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other members and FNF Associations and particularly the FNF Secretary, Phil Carpenter. Other than that, it has been a quiet period.

Vice Chairman:

JC was unable to attend the meeting or the Royal Naval Association s parade in September, we hope to see him back shortly. However, JC was very active in recruiting members for the Royal Navy Parade and the Cenotaph parade in November.

Treasurer:

AK gave a summary of the accounts as they currently stand.

Bank Accounts:

HSBC Current Account	£607.62
Nat West Main Account	£38,942.84
Nat West Welfare Fund	£10,590.42

AK reported that in general the new arrangements were working although MF as one of the signatories was having difficulty gaining access to the account to act as an authorising signatory.

MF asked if the Sue Halliday estate had been wound up yet? At this moment in time there is no word of the estate being finalised yet.

Slops: Baseball caps are now available at £12.50 each.

Secretary:

Since taking over as Secretary there has been no correspondence received including the Not Forgotten Association, JM will contact the organisation to ensure that the correct contact details are held for the Association.

JM attended the Lee-on-the-Solent, Festival Victory parade, on Saturday 23 September. The festival was a whole weekend affair, including Flying activities and events on the Daedalus airfield. The parade involved about 500 participants and the Solent Branch were invited to take part with a marching platoon. About 15 took part with some RNA members, RAF and Army vets joining us. A most enjoyable day and letting the local population know that the FAAA was alive and kicking in the Solent area.

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Membership Secretary/Standard Bearer

MW said that there had been little or no enquiries regarding the Association, but hopefully with attendance at some local events there may be a change in the near future.

MW paraded the Standard for the Royal Naval Associations parade in September.

Item 3. NatWest Bank Signatory

Mike Foote has relinquished his role as one of the Online Bank Signatories, due to continuing issue with logging on. It is proposed that Jeff Cooke now obtains authorisation. Proposed by Jim Moulson, Seconded by Mick Wyatt, all voted in favour.

Item 4a. 2024 Reunion Status Update.

DS gave an update on the current situation, since the last Zoom meeting on 4th September. He had spoken to SF Events, but unfortunately, they were unwilling to take on the organising of the event unless we could guarantee a minimum of 40 people.

DS said that he and Jan were looking at venues along the south coast, with Bournemouth and Southampton as the most probable locations. The return to Isle of Wight Tours is considered as an alternative for organising, MW suggested looking at the CONA website as there is an organisation, which also organises for Naval Associations.

It was agreed that the event should cover just 2 nights, with the option for anyone who wished to stay longer, do so through their own arrangements. Should it be formal or informal? The consensus was that that it should be informal but smart.

The proposed dates for the reunion are to be either 12-14 April or 19-21 April. DS will also investigate combining the reunion with other Associations.

Item 4b. Reunion Work Group

JC had earlier shown interest along with Jim Mussendon from Weymouth & Portland Association of leading a working group to organise the reunion, however due to personal circumstances they are unable to carry out the task. Meanwhile DS and Jan will pursue the options.

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Item 5. Website Status

DS stated that the website was continuing to evolve. A yearly subscription to have a latest news “ticker tape” on the welcome page has been purchased. To allow new members to join via the website we will need to purchase a business account with wix.com our server provider. The purchase of the business account was put to the meeting, and it was agreed by all.

PM suggested that some items on the website should sit behind a “members only” wall. DS agreed and stated that this should be possible once the site has purchased the business account.

Item 6. Remembrance Parades 2023

RBL Cenotaph Parade will be on the Sunday 12th November, there are 17 members who wish to attend and will receive their tickets by the end of October. For reasons unknown, the RBL are not releasing a further batch of tickets this year. JM said that the Poppy Cabs (London Black Cabs) will be running a free shuttle service from all Mainline stations and the UJC.

JM will make enquiries with regards the usual free rail travel to and from London on the day and will advise by email prior to the event.

POST MEETING NOTE: Phil Carpenter, FNF Secretary, has been in touch with the DfT, as yet, 19 October, no decision has been reached.

JM advised that the memorial service at the FAA Memorial, Lee-on-the-Solent will go ahead and will include a guard from HMS Sultan, a volunteer band and the usual contingent of FAAA and WRNS vets.

Both benches at the Memorial have been refurbished by the Gosport Shed and are secured in position. It was agreed that up to £2000 would be budgeted for replacement/refurbishment of the benches. The Association has contributed £1200 for the work. JM will forward an article regarding this work for inclusion in the FAAA Association Newsletter, along with a reminder about the FAA Memorial weekend (ex-TAGs) service on 12th May 2024

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Item 7. AOB.

DS raised the issue of recruitment of new members from both the veteran community and the current serving members of the FAA. There is a need to get into HMS Sultan and to be able to advertise and promote the Association and rejuvenate the presentations for the Dr Rotman Trophy. Probably the best opportunity would be to get information out to those who are being discharged, however currently we have no publicity fliers etc. AK said he would approach some contacts he met at Lee Festival through the Navy Wings and could possibly do some PR at Dartmouth!

PM had looked at the Constitution, regarding Meetings, the first paragraph requires rewriting to make it much clearer about a meeting being Quorate. JM to provide an amendment for approval at the next meeting.

PM thanked DS and Jan for the improvements he has made to the website and thought it was an excellent piece of work.

DS suggested that we look at purchasing either a per occasion, monthly or yearly subscription to Zoom meeting platform to enable us to have meetings of the committee online when urgent items or those that cannot wait until the next in person meeting, it could also be used to include those members that are unable to attend in person meeting. DS to look at costs.

There being no other business to discuss the meeting closed at 12:45.

The date of the next meeting will be **20th January 2024** at Court Barn Conservative Club.

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PATRON: Vice Admiral Sir Adrian Johns KCB. CBE. ADC. PRESIDENT: Rear Admiral Tom Cunningham CBE.
VICE PRESIDENTS: M. Worship F.Wadley Thompson