



# Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



[www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk](http://www.airbornesappersscotland.co.uk)

Chairman – **Frank Murray**

Secretary – **Gil Nicol**

Treasurer – **Mick Walker**

## **Minutes of the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held at The Royal British Legion, Rodney Street Edinburgh at 12.30hrs on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

### **1.0 Members Present ;**

Frank Murray ,Gil Nicol ,Mick Walker , Norrie Bishop , Ronnie Drummond , James Simpson, Kim Panton ,Doug Archibald, John Donaldson, Ross Stevenson, Andy Paterson , Andy Mullen, Craig Mc Quade , Hugh Mc Phee , Kenneth Wratten , Roy Kay , Gordon Mc Leod , David Brock , Ron Mc Cartan , Brian Earl , Raymond Mannion and Alex Mc Whirter.

### **2.00 Apologies ;**

Eon Mc Intyre , Tom Ormiston and all overseas members.

### **3.00 Welfare Report ;**

Kim Panton informed the members present that he managed to visit Jimmy Wilson M.M. before he sadly passed away. This was appreciated by all members.

### **4.00 Chairman's Welcome ;**

Frank Murray gave a warm welcome to all 22 No members and invited everyone to be upstanding for a minutes silence to remember departed friends and colleagues whom we have lost from our Association (Ian Mc Lellan and Jimmy Wilson MM) and the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Frank invited everyone to attend the Presidents Commendation award and buffet, to be held downstairs after the meeting.

He also thanked everyone for their attendance over the last week (Garden of Remembrance in Edinburgh and The Remembrance Parade , The Cenotaph , London).

### **5.00 Minutes of previous A.G.M ;**

The previous minutes were proposed as being accurate by Kim Panton and seconded by Doug Archibald.

### **6.00 Matters Arising ; There were none**

### **7.00 Secretary's Report ;**

Gil Nicol thanked Mick Walker for taking notes and later issuing minutes of the September Branch Meeting , in his absence.

On Thursday 27/10/11 members of the branch and PRA Lothian Branch attended the funeral of Jimmy Wilson MM.

A Sympathy Card , on behalf of the AEA Branch , has been sent to Mrs Pauline Page (Jimmy Wilson's daughter)

We have received an apology from Poppy Scotland for the omission of our cross at the Garden of Remembrance and have been assured this will be rectified.

Some members have been to the Garden since and our cross is planted.

### **8.00 Treasurers Report ;**

Mick Walker (Treasurer) gave a detailed report stating that we are in a good position financially (£460.00 was from The Shoebox Appeal) .

This report was proposed as accurate by Andy Mullen and seconded by Andy Paterson.

Mick also informed us that Jimmy Wilson's family were pleased with the turnout at the crematorium and also receiving the Sympathy Card.

### **9.00 Website Report ;**

John Donaldson (Webmaster) informed the meeting the website has been updated by adding 176 photos , specifically pages 3 ,8 & 9 with more to follow. The photographs were supplied by Gordon McLeod. The website is all in order

Please bear in mind that John is aware of no back up to run the website.

Frank Murray proposed that , an understudy , to John be confirmed in January 2012.

Doug Archibald said that if time was available at the end of the A.G.M., a decision should be made then rather than waiting until 2012. This was agreed unanimously.

It was agreed that financial help should be available from Branch Funds to assist in the running of the website.

Andy Mullen then offered to assist John Donaldson . Gil Nicol proposed this offer be accepted and this was seconded by Mick Walker thus carrying the motion.

### **10.00 Shoebox Appeal;**

Craig Mc Quade informed the meeting that 20 boxes have been sent to current Engineer Regiments presently in theatre .

No details have been received back yet , probably because it is a new Sergeant Major in charge.

Craig also informed us that funds were depleted and refinancing is required. It was agreed , unanimously, this would be addressed after the meeting.

Boxes will not be issued until early 2012 because of the Christmas rush.

Gil Nicol suggested a show of appreciation be given for Craig and his wife Kathy , this was duly responded to by all present.

Hugh Mc Phee suggested that we contact 299 Sqn. website regarding details of goods to be forwarded to troops.

### **11.00 Election of Office Bearers**

Before Office bearers were elected Doug Archibald suggested that one Office Bearer(Chairman) should serve 3 years and other Office Bearers 2 years . This proposal was seconded by Jim Simpson.

The position of Branch Representatives was discussed in detail and Craig Mc Quade suggested anyone intending to assist should contact either Jim Simpson or Tom Ormiston.

However Mick Walker offered to assist Jim Simpson and it was agreed to take this matter to a vote.

Before relinquishing the chair Frank Murray thanked Gil Nicol (Secretary) for work carried out during his first year of office.

Frank Murray then handed over the chair to Mick Walker who returned the chair accordingly once Frank was re-elected as Chairman for 1 more year.

There being no other candidates forthcoming the following Office Bearers and Officiados were duly elected ;

- (a) Chairman ; Frank Murray ---Proposer – D.Archibald / Seconder – J.Simpson
- (b) Secretary ; Gil Nicol ----- Proposer – F.Murray/Seconder – B.Earl
- (c) Treasurer ; Mick Walker -- Proposer – H.Mc Phee/Seconder –C.Mc Quade
- (d) Auditor ; Jim Simpson -----Proposer – C Mc Quade/Seconder – D.Archibald
- (e) Webmaster ; John Donaldson –Proposer – D.Archibald/Seconder –A.Paterson
- (f) Shoebox Co-ordinator ; Craig Mc Quade –Proposer –H.Mc Phee/Seconder—K.Panton
- (g) Branch Representatives ; Jim Simpson – Proposer -- A.Paterson/Seconder – A.Mullen  
Mick Walker --Proposer – C.McQuade/Seconder – D.Archibald

#### **12.00 Subscriptions ;**

The Treasurer proposed that the annual subscriptions remain at £6.00/annum. And this was seconded by A.Mullen.

The Treasurer then asked us to remind those members not present , at the A.G.M. , to please consider this as a request for payment of the yearly subscriptions.

**Cheques should be made payable to “ The Airborne Engineers Association” and sent to Mick Walker at the following address ;**

**1 Halbeath Road  
Dunfermline  
KY12 7QZ**

#### **13.00 Date for Future Meetings ;**

Meetings will continue to be held at The Royal British Legion , Central Branch , Rodney Street , Edinburgh on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every alternate month commencing in January 2012.

#### **14.00 A.O.C.B.**

Frank Murray reminded all member to remain behind , downstairs , as a presentation will be made to Messrs.John Donaldson and Jimmy Simpson on behalf of the President of The Airborne Engineers Association. A light buffet will be available.

We as a branch , have sponsored the siting of a 2 crosses in the Edinburgh Garden of Remembrance.

One is in remembrance of SSM John Lonergan who was tragically killed by insurgents while attending annual overseas camp in Aden in 1965.

The other one is in remembrance of the 10 sappers who sadly and tragically lost their lives whilst taking part in an exercise on the River Trent, at Cromwell Lock , in 1975.

**“We shall remember them”**

On 7<sup>th</sup> November 2011 members attended the service at The Garden of Remembrance ,  
Edinburgh

Four branch members (Frank Murray , Craig Mc Quade , Doug Archibald and Gil Nicol)  
had the honour to attend the Remembrance Day Parade at The Cenotaph in London on  
Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

This was a very moving and memorable occasion.

The PRA Christmas Dance will be held at R.B.L. Central Branch , Rodney Street , Edinburgh  
on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2011. Tickets can be purchased after the meeting.

The meeting was brought to a close at 1400 hrs with a vote of thanks to the chair after which  
we adjourned for a group photograph of our largest (22 ) turnout at any meeting held at our  
branch.

**15.00 Date of Next Meeting ;**

Our next meeting will be Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2012 at 1300 hrs at The Royal British Legion ,  
Central Branch , Rodney Street , Edinburgh.

**“ WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND  
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR “**