



# Airborne Engineers Association Scotland



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

Chairman – **Mick Walker**

Secretary – **Gil Nicol**

Treasurer – **Craig Mc Quade**

## **Minutes of Ordinary General Meeting held at The Royal British Legion, Rodney Street, Edinburgh, EH7 4EL at 1300hrs on Sunday 17 January 2016**

1. **Members Present;** Mick Walker, Gil Nicol, Frank Murray, John Donaldson, Gordon Mc Leod, Bob Hamilton, Alex Mc Whirter, Alex Cockburn, Doug Archibald, Kenneth Wratten, Norrie Bishop, Eoghann maclachlainn, Bob Masson, Brian Earl and Ronnie Drummond.
2. **Apologies;** Willie Grant, Tom Ormiston, Eoin McIntyre, Craig Mc Quade, Kim Panton, Andy Mullen, George Doak, Andy Paterson, Andy Gemmell and all overseas members.
3. **Chairmans Welcome ;** Mick Walker welcomed all present and wished them all the best for 2016. He thanked them for attending on such a wintry day. He also thanked, and made welcome, Bob Masson (Ex 9 Squadron), who found us through our Website and travelled from Kilwinning for his first meeting.
4. **Welfare;** There are no welfare issues
5. **Minutes of Previous Meeting;** The minutes of the last meeting were passed as being accurate by Brian Earl and seconded by Alex McWhirter.
6. **Matters Arising;** There were no matters arising.

### **7. Secretary's Report.**

(a) **Royal British Legion Scotland;** 8 branch members took up membership of The Royal British Legion, Central Branch, Edinburgh and membership cards have been distributed.

(b) **Renaming of Kingsbury Barracks;** The renaming of the barracks will take place on 12 April 2016. They are being renamed as “Lonergan Lines” in memory of 300 Squadron's, SSM, John Lonergan who was tragically killed in action whilst attending camp at Al Milah, Aden in 1965.

Mick Walker has managed to arrange transport and also accommodation for the 10 members who contacted him prior to our January meeting. He has managed to keep the cost below £100.00/person. Anyone else who is interested in attending this ceremony please contact Mick (email [address-balvaig@btinternet.com](mailto:address-balvaig@btinternet.com) or Tel No; 0138-3723925 ) A.S.A.P. Frank Murray has been in contact with “The Lonergan Family” who are absolutely delighted that, after 51 years, John Lonergan's name still lives on and that he will be remembered in this manner.

Gordon McLeod has sent a montage of photographs to Olaf Dudley, who was delighted to receive them

- (c) **AEA (Scotland) –Xmas Lunch-Saturday 28 November 2015;** Once again our Xmas Lunch was held at The Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh and everyone who attended had a wonderful time. Discussions on a new venue and alteration to dates will be discussed later under A.O.C.B.
- (d) **Cenotaph Parade, London 2016;** This parade will be held on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and we have been allocated 5 tickets. Anyone interested in attending this event please contact Gil Nicol (email address: [gilbertandmyra@gmail.com](mailto:gilbertandmyra@gmail.com) or Tel. No. 0141-631-2092).
- (e) **PRA Xmas Dinner Dance 2015;** This event was held on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at R.B.L. Central Branch, Rodney Street, Edinburgh. Unfortunately no members from our branch attended this event. Mick Walker expressed his concern as we normally support our colleagues from PRA Lothian Branch and asked us to give it some thought for this year's event.
8. **Treasurer's Report;** In the absence of our Treasurer, the Chairman (Mick Walker) gave us a verbal report stating we have £912.77 in the bank so we are still in a healthy position.
9. **Website Report;** John Donaldson informs us that all is ok with our website and we are still getting hits. John had written to Easyspace.com for a quote and they agreed to host our website for £48.00, £30.00 cheaper than our current provider Fasthosts.co.uk. However, when he contacted Fasthosts they agreed a reduction of £30.00 and we are now paying Fasthosts £47.00 for their computer services instead of £78.00.
10. **Future Meetings;** All future meetings will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, every 2<sup>nd</sup> month, starting from and including January 2016. Meetings will commence at 1300hrs.
- 11. A.O.C.B.**
- (a) **Annual Lunch 2016;** It was discussed and agreed to hold an Annual Lunch, in lieu of a Xmas Lunch, at a later date. Mick Walker has agreed to look into alternate dates and venues. He will report back at our next meeting.
- (b) **Battlefield Tours 2017;** Gil Nicol presented details of various tours provided by Tours International. Gil will look into other tour groups and report his findings at the next meeting. Our Treasurer, Craig Mc Quade, will look into methods of banking for whatever trip is decided upon.
- (c) **Aden 1965 –G.S.M ;** John Donaldson had written to the Prime Minister in 2014 and eventually got a reply in 2015 (18 months later)—they are still under the impression that he is looking for a personal bravery award for himself, which he is not as he only wants recognition for those who served in Aden/Radfan in 1965. He has also had replies from a person (Mr No Name) who is in The People Defence Secretariat but still has the same problem. There will be an article printed in The Sunday Post Newspaper, hopefully, this coming Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> January 2016, including some photographs.
- (d) **Aden 1965—**Eoghann McLachlainn asked the members if anyone knew of a person called Robert Brown from 24 Sqn. R.E. John Donaldson remembered him from Aden. Robert Brown, who was severely wounded, had sent Eoghann McLachlainn a photograph with himself, Gibby Earl, Tony Sanders and another at Khormaksor Hospital, Aden. John Donaldson informed us that this photograph is already on our website. Eoghann McLachlainn also presented a copy of a newspaper article relating to “the incident” at Al Milah, Aden.
- 12. Date of Next Meeting;** OGM on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2016 (1300hrs) at R.B.L. Rodney Street, Edinburgh.