



## The Armourers' Association

### Annual General Meeting

**Date:** 02 September 2017  
**Time:** 17:00 hrs  
**Venue:** Marsh Farm Hotel, Royal Wootton Bassett  
**Members Present:** 33

**Presiding Member:** Mr Nigel Brown – Chairman

#### Item 1 – Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were read and passed as a true record of the proceedings:

**Proposer:** Ted Holroyd

**Secunder:** Bill Hayles

Carried

#### Item 2 – Statement of Association Accounts

The Secretary showed members the current status of our accounts.

Cash at Bank            £2,230.55

Savings Account       £3,181.07

#### Creditors

**Marsh Farm Hotel**   £1,349.00

**Proposer:** Del Longstaff

**Secunder:** Richard Mabbitt

Carried

#### Item 3 – Venue for 2018 Dinner

The discussions covered a wide range of areas that could possibly be used to find a suitable venue, including as far away as Edinburgh:

The Chairman mentioned the work that Gary Holden had done to look at Nottingham as a possible venue and thanked him for his efforts.

Richard Mabbitt has also been looking at the Livery Halls in London as possible venues, but so far the costs would be in excess of what the Association can pay.

The institutes in London were mentioned as possible venues, but again the viability is unknown.

The Royal Armouries at Leeds was mentioned, but as we had made a loss at the dinner held there, it was not considered further.

The reasons for holding this year's dinner at the Marsh Farm Hotel were put forward as a possible reason to again hold the dinner at this venue.



For future dinners, we need to try and boost the attendance from serving members and it was thought that conversations with our guest of Honour Col. Heal might be a way forward. This was left to the discretion of the President.

The Chairman proposed two votes:

- i) Which area would members prefer to see the dinner held, North or South. South received the majority of votes.
- ii) That members would provide feedback on the evening to committee members. This was carried unanimously.

#### **Item 4 – Resignation of Vice-Chairman – Ben Houghton**

The Chairman informed members that Ben Houghton had stood down as Vice-Chairman after two years in the post. Ben had initially boosted the membership by bringing in many of the currently serving armourers. Since then this has tailed off and the main source of new members is from the courses attended at DSEME.

Ben stated that the demands of his role were greater than he initially thought they would be and that he is unable to give the Association the time that is needed in the role of Vice-Chairman. He also said that he would brief his successor in the role of 'Weapons Champion', but that it will be up to the new incumbent to decide if he is able to support the Association.

This leaves the Association with two vacant posts:

Vice-Chairman

Vice-Secretary

The Chairman said that he will approach serving armourer/weapons personnel within DSEME to see if there is someone willing to take up the post of Vice-Chairman.

#### **Item 5 – Membership Card**

At the last AGM the Secretary agreed to look into the viability of a membership card for the Association. On researching the subject on the web, it quickly became apparent that without charging a membership fee, costs for obtaining the necessary equipment and consumables, plus postage, would not be sustainable by the Association.

Some members at the meeting also questioned the need for us to have a membership card. No further action will therefore be taken.

#### **Item 6 - Any Other Business**

- a) Jimmy Dowling proposed a vote of thanks for the committee for all their hard work. Carried Unanimously.
- b) Bill Hayles proposed a vote of thanks to the instructors from DSEME who gave up their own time to provide an excellent visit to the facilities here at Lyneham. Carried Unanimously.

The meeting closed at 17:37hrs.