



## The Armourers' Association

### Annual General Meeting

**Date:** 03 September 2016  
**Time:** 17:00 hrs  
**Venue:** Trafalgar Room – Victory Services Club, London  
**Members Present:** 29

**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:** Richard Mabbitt

**Secunder:** Jason Cheetham

Carried

#### **Item 2 – Victory Services Club – No longer viable as a venue**

The Secretary explained that costs for the use of the VSC are rising so much that it is no longer a viable venue to hold our annual dinner. The cost for hiring the room has now risen to £1,000 since the VSC carried out their refurbishment programme. That is before we pay for food, drink, accommodation and travel. We asked to use a projector and screen for our guest speaker, but were told that the VSC has given them away to charity. They now provide 80” plasma screens at a cost of £150 for two, which we had no choice but to pay. This was an additional cost for the dinner, which will come out of our funds.

#### **Item 3 – Venue for 2017 Dinner**

The discussions then turned to other suitable venues for future dinners:

- a) No reports have been received from members looking at Edinburgh as a possible location.
- b) Ben Houghton and Guy Page will be holding a meeting with the Corps ASM at Lyneham, to find out if the Mess can be used. This will encourage more serving members to attend the dinner and the thought is to combine it with the annual Armourers' Conference held at Lyneham. They will report back after the meeting to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016.
- c) Other venues, such as Shrivenham, were mentioned as possibilities, but Gary Holden stated that he was actively using venues in Nottingham for other dinners and would report back on the associated costs if we were to use them.



- d) The possibility of using local golf clubs around the Lyneham area were also discussed and the Chairman together with Dave Leuty will report back on suitability.

#### **Item 4 - Association Web Site**

The Secretary explained that the software currently used to build the Association web site was no longer supported and was now out of date. A search for other suitable software has found a programme called Dreamweaver, but the cost for this is £205.72 per annum. The Secretary had been paying for the hosting of our web site on the 1&1 servers at a cost of £187.04 per annum, but now felt that the two combined costs were too much. Discussions with the committee had resulted in the following compromise:

- a) The Association will take on the cost for hosting the web site and reimburse the Secretary the quarterly charges of £46.76.
- b) The Secretary will pay the annual costs for the software of £205.72.

The Secretary also took the opportunity to introduce members to the “new look” web site that has been produced using the new software.

#### **Item 5 - Statement of Association Accounts**

The Secretary took the opportunity to show members the software used to control our accounts. The programme is called Moneydance and allows every transaction to be clearly seen, ensuring the our accounts can be balanced to the penny.

Cash at Bank	£1,836.23
Savings Account	£3,179.50

#### **Creditors**

**Victory Services Club** £1,848.25 (Will be less the £600 paid as a deposit).

**Proposer:** Ted Holroyd

**Secunder:** Gary Holden

Carried Unanimously

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

- a) During discussions, the possibility of providing members with a membership card was requested. This is a cost to the Association and would need to be looked at closely, bearing in mind that we do not charge a membership fee. The Secretary agreed to investigate and report back with findings.
- b) The President updated the members on the status of Eric Stratford our Vice President, who has now moved into a Masonic care home in Bournemouth, together with his wife Betty. Both of whom are in their 90's.
- c) The President also informed us of one of our members, Arthur Maddock, who has been reunited with his medals after they went missing whilst stationed at 12 Command Workshop, Liverpool, in 1958. They were



advertised earlier this year by a medals dealer in Liverpool and his Daughter and Son-in-law were able to buy them back. They ask if this is a record?

- d) The Chairman took this opportunity to inform the members about some controversy surrounding the logo for the new REME museum. Some irresponsible people have taken it upon themselves to send abusive emails because of their dislike for the logo. As an Association we must not condone this type of activity.

The meeting closed at 17:50hrs.