



## The Armourers' Association

### Committee Meeting

**Date:** 18 April 2017  
**Time:** 10:30 AM  
**Venue:** Private Residence – Steeple Ashton

**Committee Members Present:**

President: Mr. Chris Dennis  
Chairman: Mr. Nigel Brown  
Secretary: Mr. Bob Cotter

**Apologies:**

Vice Chairman: WO2 (AQMS) Ben Houghton

**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.

**Item 2 – Association Finances**

**Accounts**

The Association accounts for 2016 will be available for all to see as normal when the news letter is published in May. The main figures for end of year are as follows:

Cash at bank:	£464.08
Investment Account:	£3,180.43

Outgoings exceeded income for 2016 by £72.67. There were several reasons for this:

- a) Purchase of 50 old style ties to replace depleted stock (£461.15).
- b) Payment of the deposit for the 2017 dinner (£290.00).
- c) 2016 reunion dinner income less than expected.

**Dinner Income**

The income from last year's dinner was disappointing, because not as many members attended as were expected, so we didn't break even on costs. Also, we paid for wine/port at the table and our guest of honour's food and presentation. The good news is that we received £430.00 in donations from our generous members and received £265.50 from the raffle, so overall we were better off.

**Presentation Piece**

The Chairman stated that he has received some requests for a presentation piece representative of the Association. The President agreed to look into the



possibility of providing a pewter Armourer, though this will need to be looked at closely as the cost could tie up too much of our funds in stock. Budget agreed to be £1,000.00. **Action: President**

### **Item 3 – Association Membership Database & Web Site**

#### **Membership**

The Secretary provided a list of members who have passed on since last year; this list will be published in the upcoming news letter and is also on the web site. We now have 571 active members in our database.

#### **Ghurkha Armourers**

The Chairman spoke about the Ghurkha armourers who are attending the trade courses run at Lyneham. Because they are completing exactly the same course as REME and RM armourers it was decided that they should be recognised as members of the Association in their own right. The Secretary was asked to add the Ghurkha cap badge to the web site and the Association rules are to be appropriately amended. **Action: Secretary**

### **Item 4 – Annual Dinner 2017**

This year's dinner will take place at the Marsh Farm Hotel, Royal Wootton Bassett. The dining room has a capacity of 80 and so the numbers for this year's dinner will be restricted to that number. The Secretary will treat members on a first come first served basis. **Action: Secretary**

There will be a seating plan for the dinner due to the range of meals available. Members will be invited to inform the Secretary should they have a preference for other members/guests to be seated with. **Action: Secretary**

The guest of honour, Col Heal and his wife will be presented with a glass tankard and wine goblet. **Action: Secretary**

### **Item 5 – Venue for 2018 Dinner**

The success or otherwise of this year's dinner will determine if we move to another venue or stay within the Lyneham area for future dinners. Members will be given the opportunity to discuss the 2018 dinner at the AGM on the night of the 2017 dinner. **Action: Secretary**

### **Item 6 – Association News Letter**

#### **News Letter Cost**

The News Letter continues to be a drain on our funds, printing costs last year of £175.00 and postage of £88.00 (including purchase of envelopes). The number of members who don't provide and email address is slowly dwindling and as these are the only members who receive a hard copy of the news letter, it was decided that members must register for a hard copy of the news letter, rather than it be sent automatically. Members will be asked to register for a hard copy on receipt of the next news letter. **Action: Secretary**



### **Item 7 – Resignation of Vice Secretary, Guy Page**

Guy Page has tendered his resignation as Vice Secretary due to work commitments (and promotion to Capt. – Well done Guy). The Committee would like to thank Guy for his hard work during his tenure and wish him well in the future.

This leaves a vacant post on the committee and if any of the serving members feel that they have what it takes to serve the membership, please let any of the committee members know.

### **Item 8 – AOB**

#### **Committee Members Tenure**

Whilst the President's tenure is for life as stated in our rules, the Chairman indicated that we don't have any rules regarding the Chairman and Secretary's tenure and felt that we should discuss this with the membership at the AGM. Therefore the following will be put to the AGM:

The tenure for the Chairman and Secretary roles (including Vice) is to be 5 years. Candidates may stand for re-election. **Action: Chairman**

#### **Stock items for the female armourers**

The president stated that we don't have any suitable stock items for the female members of the Association and that we should look into this. The Secretary was asked to canvas the female armourers on a preference and look into the availability and cost. **Action: Secretary**

**The meeting closed at 12:30 PM.**