



ROYAL ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION LEWES BRANCH

Minutes of the Lewes Branch of the Royal Artillery Association Monthly Meeting – 28th August 2020 - St Marys' Supporters Club Meeting Opened at 20:00

Members Present: Michael Hobden, David Harding, Mark Harding, Darryl Twinch, Lee Harding, Steve Winter, Mark Eve, Peter Godding, Paul Hughes, Ray Metcalfe, Peter Marcantonio, Robbie Parker, John Shill and John Talmey.

Apologies for Absence: Peter Wyatt, Alan South, Mick Bird, David Collett, Michael Taylor, Rev. Judith Egar, Des Foord, Jack Neil, Mick Norris, Simon Odey, Ray Talmey, Brian Walter, Steve White, Colin Kemp and Doug Raynsford.

Chairman's Report: Michael Hobden welcomed all Members to the Meeting and wished Budge (David) Harding a Happy Milestone 80th Birthday for Sunday 30th August. A total of 14 Members attended.

Treasurer's Report: Colin passed on the following accounts to Mark. Total to pay in £71.70, total to pay out £208.00. This leaves £783.75 available in the bank as of today.

Welfare Report: Lee advised that all Members had been contacted during the previous month and there was nothing to report.

Secretary's Report:

1. Mark asked for any comments from the Members with regards to the Minutes for our Monthly Meeting held on 31st July 2020. With no comments reported, the July 2020 Minutes were voted on and passed as correct with no comments. Proposed by John Talmey and seconded by Mark Eve. Carried.
2. Mark advised that he had provided the return to RAA HQ for the Chairman of the RAA to cast our Vote by proxy at the RAA AGM (via video conference) due on 2nd October 2020.
3. Mark provided copies of the Forecast of Events, the new RAA GAI's and the 2019 RAA HQ Accounts for Members to read.
4. Mark provide a copy of Her Majesty the Queen's reply and The Master Gunners Letter regarding The RAA Centenary and Our Foundation Day.
5. Mark provided an email and photos that he had received from 43 Bty providing a Bty update.
6. There is no update with regards to our Branch having to become Members of St Marys' Supporters Club. Mark discussed with the bar staff and they advised that this would not now be looked into until their next AGM in February 2021. Mark will update Members as and when.
7. Mark handed out the RAA Lewes Branch Polo Shirts to those Members who had ordered them. Lee thanked Mark on behalf of all Members for arranging these.
8. Mark showed Members the Souvenir Coasters to Commemorate the RAA Centenary that we have purchased.
9. Mark advised that there is no update with regards to being able to hold our Annual Dinner and it was agreed that all Members believe that this will not happen this year due to the current situation. Mark will keep Members updated with and changes/news etc.

10. Members thanked Budge Harding for Laying Our Wreath of Remembrance in Lewes to Commemorate 75 Years since VJ Day on 15th August 2020. Budge advised that it was a very sombre event due to restrictions in numbers but was attended by a few and went very well. Budge asked Mark to write to the Bugler to thank her for her attendance. Mark will liaise with Jack Neil to obtain her details.

11. Mark reminded Members that we do hold a Branch Scrapbook where any Member is able to add to this. This can be anything that keeps our history going. Please feel free to bring along anything to add.

12. Mark kindly reminded Members with regards to the importance of keeping up to date with emails sent, our website and our Facebook page as much information is emailed and/or posted on these platforms.

13. Mark discussed the issue of paying subs in another form rather than cash. As our Treasurer was not in attendance, Mark suggested that this be discussed at the next Meeting. Mark advised Members that if they are uncomfortable in paying cash subs, Mark will pay this on their behalf, and they can send Mark a bank transfer for the time being.

AOB:

1. Mark Eve asked if Remembrance/Armistice Parades are still going ahead this year in Lewes. Mark confirmed that at the last Meeting, Jack Neil advised: It is expected that Remembrance and Armistice Parades will continue as normal. However, Jack will provide further updates.

2. John Shill confirmed that the Charlton Remembrance Parade is due to go ahead as planned this year.

With no other business, our August 2020 Meeting of the Lewes Branch of the RAA closed at 20:40.

The next RAA Lewes Branch Meeting will be held on Friday 25th September 2020 at St Mary's Supporters Club.

Would Members please wait for Mark to contact them to ascertain numbers for this Meeting as we are restricted to a maximum of 20. Please do not turn up on the day with no confirmation of attendance.

Mark will contact all Members and the following Members have confirmed that they would like to attend this August Meeting to date.

Mark has confirmed the attendance of the following:

Michael Hobden, David Harding, Mark Harding, Darryl Twinch, Lee Harding, Steve Winter, Rev. Judith Egar, Mark Eve, Peter Godding, Paul Hughes, Ray Metcalfe, Peter Marcantonio, Robbie Parker and John Talmey.

There are currently 14 Members wishing to attend which leaves 6 available spaces. Would any Members wishing to attend please contact Mark to advise soonest?

Mark will confirm attendance soonest.

Timings: 19:30 for 20:00 start.

Dress: Casual.

Subs: £7.50

Patron: Her Majesty The Queen

Chairman: Michael Hobden

Treasurer: Colin Kemp

Secretary: Mark Harding

39 Dunstall Avenue, Burgess Hill, West Sussex. RH15 8PJ

Tel: 01444 871 885 Mob: 07903 702 767

Email: theraalewes@gmail.com