



Military Survey (Geographic) Branch

A member of the
Royal Engineers Association



MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING held at the

WOs' & Sgts' Mess, Hermitage, at 1900hrs 15th July 2014

In Attendance:

Chairman:	Angus Cross
Treasurer:	Alf Isherwood
Event Organiser:	Mick Perry
Webmaster:	Dave Johnson
Welfare Officer:	Noel Grimmett
Secretary:	Rod Siggs

1. **Welcome and introduction** - The Chairman welcomed all present and opened the meeting. **Apologies for absence** - Apologies were received from Bob Avenell, Ken Hall and Alan Gordon.

2. The Chairman noted that there had not been a response from the Regiment, other than a telephone conversation between Rod and the RSM, reference nominating a representative to our Committee. The Chairman will write to the CO suggesting his representative should now come from the RSMS.

Action: AC

3. After a short discussion it was also noted that no one had any telephone contacts at either Hermitage or Wyton. Secretary to obtain.

Action: RS

4. **Matters arising from the previous meeting(s)** –

Rod looked back at the previous Committee Meetings of the 6th February 7th May 2014 and the AGM held on 14th March:

- **Stable Belts** - Rod has chased the Regt a number of times reference the unpaid bills for at least 3 (+) stable belts presented at the graduations of the Class 2 Students. It was decided that Rod should direct his efforts to the RSMS SSM, WO2 Marshall, to try and clear the outstanding bills.

Action: RS

- The project to digitise and archive the Mil Svy Photos; see under separate heading.

Action: Ongoing

- **Unpaid Subs** – There have been a number of members who have still not paid the 2013 subscriptions despite being chased by Rod. There followed discussions where it was agreed that our Branch TOR would in future be followed and that members whose subs were not paid by 1st July will be chased by the Secretary. If the subs are still not paid by the September of that year the member is to be removed from the active members list and receive no further correspondence

from the Branch. Alf said that he had only received two outstanding subscriptions from Rod's chasing and agreed that he would again forward names to Rod for further action as appropriate.

Action: AI / RS

From the AGM –

- **Review of TOR** - Following the majority vote to change our name back to that of a "Branch" Angus said that the Committee would undertake a "root and branch" review of our membership and TOR. The Chairman requested all Committee members look at the latest TOR and compare against the REA Rules that Dave has sent out to us, with a view to making comments and suggested amendments to him ASAP so that it can be discussed at the next Committee Meeting.

Action: All

5. Current Statement of the Account - The Treasurer, Alf Isherwood, gave out the printed "Worth of the Branch" as at 11th July.

Savings a/c	£4,623.76	Current a/c	£3,839.25
Cheques to clear	£742.59	Combined Bank Accts	£7,720.42
		Geo Support Fund	£2,572.42*

Alf was asked to show £2,000.00 as a "**Commitment to Digitising the Historic Photos**" as a separate line item.

Action: AI

*It was also noted that Alf still needed to reduce the amount shown against the **GEO Sup'rt Fund** by a £1,000.00 to read £1,572.42, reference the last minutes.

Action: AI

6. Welfare – Noel had nothing to report but requested, as he was to replace Alan Gordon as Editor, he be relieved of his Welfare Officer duties. He further submitted that as most welfare items initially passed through the Secretary's hands he should be dual hatted. This was agreed by a majority decision.

7. Editors Update – Alan had asked Rod to remind all that the next edition of the Newsletter was due at the end of July and he had hoped to include all about the Regt's Farewell to Newbury in it. All contributors were requested to submit their copy ASAP please.

Action: All

8. Web-site Update – Dave said that irrespective of the Football World Cup the website hits continued to rise and he gave the Committee the latest printout.

9. Mil Svy History Digitisation – Dave and Alan have agreed to be on the Management Team along with John Fitzgerald who would head up the team. There was a plan that the project team plus one or two others from both the DSA and our Branch would meet in early August to kick off the process. It was hoped that the team would be in a position to start loading up a system with photos before the end of this year.

Action: DJ/AG/JF/AC et al

10. Regiment's Farewell to Newbury Weekend – Mick said the weekend went

off very well with only a few minor hiccups and the organization generally worked well. He had received a nice “thank you” from the CO. Gus asked if we would receive a break down of the expenses that we had contributed towards. Mick hoped so and he had heard that there might have been a slight underspend.

Gus thanked Mick, Dave, Alan and the other Committee members for their support over the weekend. **Action: NFA**

11. AOB –

- Noel had attended an Archive Ambassador Training Day at the Hampshire Record Office, Winchester, which for £18.00 each was a very good insight to archiving with follow up support available. He said they used the “Brighton Software” package and suggested it was money very well spent. Angus suggested this be discussed at the Historic Photo Archiving Team Meeting to be held in early Aug.
- Angus thanked Noel for undertaking his duties as Welfare Officer and for volunteering to relieve Alan as Editor, whom he also thanked for his fantastic efforts in producing the Newsletters.
- Brian Kinnear had contacted Noel and said that he could not receive anything about the Sunday Parade through Newbury on IPlayer. Mick suggested that he be informed to try the local paper or directly to ITV or the BBC South.
- Angus asked Rod to investigate the cost of production of the hardcopy newsletters through one of our ex Printer Surveyors (Allan Bishop) who has recently joined our Branch and who owns his own print business.

Action: RS

- Rod said that there were still a number of the commemorative “Farewell To Newbury” covers available. He would produce a small article for the next newsletter. **Action: Rod**

- Rod said that sadly he had received the immediate resignation of Mick Nottage as one of our Branch Standard Bearers and had been notified of his intended cessation as a member of our Branch, WEF from next Jan. There followed discussions about this and the support we give to our Standard Bearers. Angus said that he was saddened to hear of Mick’s decision but would write thanking him for all his support in the past. He said he was fully aware of how relatives and friends of deceased members were so appreciative of the Bearers presence at funerals. Rod said he had already written to Mick on behalf of the Branch.

NFA

11. Date of next meeting – The date of the next meeting is proposed to be held in the WOs’ & Sgts’ Mess at 1900hrs on Tue 7th Oct 2014. **Action: All**

Rod Siggs

Honorary Secretary
Military Survey (Geographic) Branch