

QRA/AGM

11 March 2017

See Distribution

MINUTES OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE LONDON UNIVERSITY OFFICER TRAINING CORPS 10 MARCH 2018

Attendance:

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| Chairman | Colonel Anthony Beattie |
| Secretary | Major Alasdair Goulden |
| Association Members | 57 |

| Serial | Issue | Action |
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| 1 | <p>Chairman's Opening Remarks</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed those present, especially Cpl Alan Brunger our Chelsea Pensioner attached to the Association.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that this year there were 182 attending the reunion slightly down on last year but significantly more than previous years. He thanked the staff of the UOTC for all their hard work in organising the AGM and reunion. He also thanked all those who had worked hard during the year to make the Association a vibrant organisation again and exhorted members to continue the good work and to try and contact all those who were not registered and had not made it to the reunion.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2015 AGM and any points.</p> <p>The minutes of the last meeting had been posted on the website for viewing by members. No additional points were made and so it was unanimously agreed that they were an accurate reflection of the AGM and the decisions made. The minutes of this meeting would be published on the website once written.</p> <p>Points arising</p> <p>The only matter arising is with regard to what was called The Queen's Regiment Memorial Woodland. As requested they have changed their name to the 'Quick Reaction Memorial Woodland' and applied for their own charitable status. As their aims diverge from those of the Queen's Regiment Benevolent Fund, there is no longer a direct link between the two organisations. The individuals running the Woodland of course remain members of the QRA.</p> | Secretary |
| 3 | <p>Update on Queen's Regimental Association Activity</p> <p>The Chairman noted that there has been considerable activity during the year. Events and activity drawn attention to were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. The Association's support to the PWRR at their Presentation of Colours Parade at the Spitfire Ground in Canterbury. He was delighted that as an Association we provided the greatest number of veterans with over 1,150 Queensmen and their families attending.b. A plaque was dedicated to the memory of Col Toby Sewell in the Queen's Royal Regiment Chapel, Guildford. The service which was | |

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| | <p>attended by a number of Association members and was followed by a reception in the Royal Oak Pub next door to Holy Trinity, where Colonel Toby's memory was honoured.</p> <p>c. The Chairman noted that the Queen's Regimental Riders Association had yet again put on a fantastic three day fundraising event which broke all the records for attendance and raised £7,600 for the Benevolent Fund. This had not been an event attended by the biking community; it was also open to everyone and the Chairman urged everyone to go to the next one being held over the weekend of 29 June-1 July 2018.</p> <p>d. The Chairman reported that the Drums have been performing during the year and have raised over £1,500 this year. They are beginning to get quite a reputation and were congratulated for the efforts they have made to spread the name of the Regiment. This was particularly noteworthy as four of them have been suffering from cancer over the period and been having treatment. He explained that Tony Philpott had put off having another operation until Monday following the AGM so that he could attend the AGM. Special thanks were given to Amy Holden for all her support to the Drums.</p> <p>e. The Association has increased its overall numbers with more registering with the Association than are falling off the end so the Association now stand at 2,536 members - over 100 up on last year. It is hoped that another branch will open in the Midlands which may be known as the Midland Branch, the Dunstable Branch or the 'North of the Watford Gap' Branch. Details will be promulgated in due course.</p> <p>f. Members were asked to encourage anyone they knew who was not registered to do so in order that the Association can keep in touch.</p> <p>g. The website continues to be developed with the support of Lindsay Parsons. Grateful thanks go to her.</p> <p>h. The Association Database has been completely revamped to comply with the new regulations regarding data protection. A note was sent out with the Journal and a Consolidated GDPR Policy has been placed on the website for anyone interested.</p> <p>i. A number of trips have been made to commemorate our forebear comrades who fell during the First World War.</p> <p>j. The Chairman informed the meeting that it had been agreed in the Executive Committee that a headstone would be funded to honour Cpl Spencer MM at a cost of £1,000. The Secretary will make the arrangements and post details in due course.</p> <p>k. The Chairman was not aware of anyone receiving a mention in either the Birthday Honours or the New Year's Honours Lists but requested that if any member heard of an ex-Queensmen awarded for whatever reason in either list to inform the Secretary. That way a note of congratulations can be sent out to the recipient.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Finance and Benevolence</p> <p>The Secretary provided a detailed brief on the tabled and attached copy of the Queen's Benevolent Fund Income and Expenditure Account. The Association had a total income of £62,680. This was in the main from investment income and donations. Total expenditure for the year was £106,230. The main elements of this were for our share of Benevolence</p> | |

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| | <p>payments, Journal costs, Association Secretary’s salary and office running costs. Therefore, in the day to day running costs, there was an excess of expenditure over income of £43,550 for the year. However, the investments increased in value by £94,317. As at 31 December 2017 the total fund stands at £1,448,561 an increase in value of £159,021 over 2016. The President expressed satisfaction with the current state of the fund. A question was yet again raised as to what would happen to the Association funds once the Association closed. The Chairman reiterated that all funds of the Queen’s Regiment resided in the corporate funds of the PWRR to be administered by the Trustees of which he is one. The funds are ring-fenced although not restricted and will be managed by the QRA until such time as the balance of dependency weighs more in respect of those who have also served with or are serving with the PWRR. He was confident that there will be sufficient funds to support all members should they require assistance.</p> <p>Benevolence</p> <p>During the year a total of 86 cases were submitted and 80 individual grants were approved covering requests totalling £98,614. The 6 cases not receiving grants were declined because; other service charities had already met the required need, service was not verified or they did not meet the benevolence criteria such as the qualifying length of service. The majority of cases received grants for household items (22) and rent arrears (13). Financial assistance was also provided for 8 funerals and 8 individuals with deposits and initial rent payments. 7 cases received a grant for basic needs, 6 for priority debts and 3 for hostel fees. The Benevolent Fund also provided grants for 4 individuals to undertake training courses and to assist 2 people with business start-up expenses. 2 riser/recliner chairs were purchased along with 1 electrically powered vehicle (EPV) and a pair of spectacles. 1 individual was also granted assistance recommended by Combat Stress to help cope with PTSD. The final grants were made for removal fees and a balloon flight for a terminally ill wife’s wish.</p> <p>The Benevolent Fund paid out £31,937 although it will be seen the accounts state that £29,722 was paid out. The reason for this is that £2,215 had been returned from recipients last year as not being required.</p> | |
| 5 | <p>The Journal</p> <p>The theme for the 2018 Journal is “Loan Service”. The Secretary has already contacted various people to provide the main articles but he needs more material. <i>The Journal</i> is now recognised as-a prime source of our history, comprehensively supporting the official Regimental History produced by Jonathan Riley. In the future it will form part of primary research for anyone looking into the history of our Regiment. To that end it is important that we record people’s memories now. Members were requested that if at any time between the period 1966-92 they served on Loan Service they write about it. All members were requested to support the Secretary/Editor and provide any amusing stories about their time in the various places the Regiment served. He also suggested that there be a broad spectrum of contributors representing all</p> | |

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| | <p>battalions including the reserves, those at ERE, attached personnel and the wives of the Regiment who, tongue-in –cheek, had also been on loan service..</p> <p>The meeting was informed that the Trustees had expressed concern about the cost of <i>The Journal</i> – £19.5K. The Chairman’s view was that it is an important part of keeping the Association vibrant, is fundamental to communication within the Association, contributed overall to the moral component and thereby served benevolence and was complementary to more formal histories of the Regiment. He welcomed views that he could pass on the Trustees. Positive feedback was provided by the meeting with the desire that the Journal continue to be produced and remain free to all members with the hope that those who could donated money towards the costs. The Chairman advised that next year’s Journal was likely to be the last of its kind and would concentrate on Northern Ireland covering the 36 tours that the Regiment carried out especially as it will be the 50th anniversary of the 1st and 2nd Battalions being deployed. It was noted that the Secretary is exploring ways in which the Association can consolidate all the Journals into a book in effect producing Soldiers of The Queen Volume II – The Personal Stories. Ideas were requested as to how the Journal should develop after the 2019 edition</p> | All |
| 6 | <p>Dover Castle Museum</p> <p>The complete renewal of the Queen’s and PWRR Museum in Dover Castle is continuing. As reported last year it is intended that one third of the museum will be devoted to the Queen’s Regiment, a significant improvement on the current situation, with the remainder of the museum being devoted to forebear regiments and the PWRR. However, without artefacts there will be no museum and no amount of creative thinking will make up for a lack of items. It was requested that Branches encourage their members to go back to their homes and dig out their lofts and collections and donate those items that they possess that illustrate the life of our Regiment. It was emphasised that if we don’t do this and support the Heritage Committee, of which the Secretary is a member, the Regiment will not have a museum worth its name.</p> | All |
| 7 | <p>Amendment to The Association Rules and Regulations</p> <p>The adoption of the following amendment to the Association Rules and Regulations was discussed:</p> <p>‘8.5.3 The President of the Association, for the time being, is empowered to remove Branch status from any Branch that fails to uphold the Rules and Regulations of the Association. This can be appealed by the Branch at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Association.’</p> <p>There was much discussion with concern being expressed that individuals would be disenfranchised by having their Branch excluded. Although it was explained that this amendment was being made following legal advice and the President’s assurance that no hasty action against a Branch would be made there was a requirement for a vote. The amendment was proposed by Richard Thornton , seconded by Peter Hitchcock and passed by 47 votes to 10.</p> | |

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| | <p>The Chairman agreed that the issue should be further debated at the subsequent AGM where, again, the decision to promulgate the amendment was passed.</p> <p>The amendment will be recorded and a new copy of the Rules and Regulations will be made available on the website</p> | Secretary |
| 8 | <p>Branch Reports</p> <p>Each of the Branches provided a report of the activity that had taken place during the year and provided a forecast of events.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>The Chairman gave an update on PWRR Activities</p> | |
| 10 | <p>Diary of Events 2018</p> <p>The Diary of Events 2018 was detailed at the back of the Journal. Contact should be made directly with the organisers of the event.</p> | All |
| 11 | <p>Date of Next Reunion</p> <p>9 March 2019 at London UOTC subject to confirmation</p> | Secretary |
| 12 | <p>Any Other Business.</p> <p>a. The question of charging for attendance at the AGM was raised as to whether it was legal so to do. It was explained that the charge raised was for the cost of the meal and hire of the location. It was agreed that the position would be investigated.</p> <p><i>NB: Although it is not statutorily correct that there may not be attendant costs accruing to membership for attendance at a charitable organisation's AGM, it is agreed that a levy will only be made against catering and extraneous costs. Accordingly, should any member who has paid for attendance in either 2017 or 2018 and not been fed wish to reclaim, personal details should be addressed to the Secretary.</i></p> <p>b. It was requested that the AGM restricts its time to that allocated in the programme. The Chairman pointed out that had there not been a healthy, prolonged, democratic debate, the meeting would have been expedited more swiftly.</p> <p>c. There being no additional business raised the meeting closed at 12.50pm</p> | Secretary |

Alasdair Goulden

A M Goulden
Association Secretary

Distr:

President
Secretary
Branch Secretaries
Website

Attachments:

Income and Expenditure Account Year End 31 Dec 17

QUEENS REGIMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|
| <u>INCOME</u> | | £ |
| Donations | 13,331 | 21,822 |
| Drums Donations | 1,500 | 0 |
| QRS Charities - Grant Tigers 25 | 4,000 | |
| DCMS Memorial Grant | 0 | 4,496 |
| Investments Dividends | 40,584 | 49,247 |
| Deposit Acct Interest | 4 | 0 |
| Reunion Income | 2,992 | 2,686 |
| NAM Memorial Tickets | 0 | 3,455 |
| Stock Sales Cartoon Books | 269 | 752 |
| | 62,680 | 82,458 |
| <u>EXPENDITURE</u> | | |
| Investment Management Fees | 2,192 | 8,026 |
| Just Giving Fees | 161 | 780 |
| Welfare Grants | 29,722 | 26,645 |
| Grant - Farnham Branch | 0 | 250 |
| Grant - Middlesex Branch | 964 | 977 |
| Grant - Chichester Branch | 600 | 695 |
| Grant - Horsham Branch | 1,325 | 1,050 |
| Grant - 3 PWRR Adv Trg | 600 | 0 |
| Grants - misc | 275 | 131 |
| Remembrance | 695 | 381 |
| Presentation Costs | 76 | 78 |
| Journal and Postage | 19,514 | 19,779 |
| Association Website Improvements | 0 | - |
| Association Website Hosting | 185 | 937 |
| Queens Reunion Functions | 3,024 | 2,752 |
| Digitise Archives | 0 | 540 |
| Memorial | 0 | 27,696 |
| Memorial Event | 0 | 8,167 |
| Gen Reynolds Plaque Dedication | 0 | 587 |
| Stock Purchases Cartoon Books | 0 | 239 |
| Corps of Drums Uniforms | 1,200 | - |
| Tigers 25 | 10,895 | 0 |
| Database | 6,733 | |
| Travel Expenses | 122 | 86 |
| Association President Expenses | 284 | 568 |
| Association Secretary | 24,340 | 26,275 |
| Association Office Running Expenses | 2,952 | 3,737 |
| Insurance | 131 | 114 |
| Accountancy Fees | 240 | 1,138 |
| | 106,230 | 131,628 |
| NET EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR | -43,550 | -49,171 |
| Gain/Loss on Revaluation of Investments | 94,317 | 149,856 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | 50,767 | 100,685 |

QUEENS REGIMENT BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| <u>Assets</u> | | |
| Investments | 1,446,394 | 1,281,721 |
| Stock - Paddy Ryan Books | 542 | - |
| Bank | 1,549 | 7,931 |
| Debtors | 76 | 347 |
| Prepayments | 0 | 274 |
| Accrued Income | 0 | 2,755 |
| | | |
| Total | 1,448,561 | 1,293,028 |
| | | |
| <u>Liabilities</u> | | |
| | | |
| Creditors | 0 | 3,488 |
| | | |
| Total | 0 | 3,488 |
| | | |
| Net Worth of Fund | 1,448,561 | 1,289,540 |
| | | |
| <u>Investment Reconciliation</u> | | |
| Value at start of year | 1,281,721 | |
| Investment Sales | -30,000 | |
| Investment Gain | 94,317 | |
| Value at end of year | 1,346,038 | |

Benevolence Summary

86 cases were submitted of which 80 were successful
£98,614 was paid out of which £31,937 came from the Benevolent Fund
£2,215 was returned from the previous year.