



The Royal Green Jackets Regimental Association (RGJA)

Winchester & District Branch

www.greenjackets-net.org.uk/winchester/branch/htm

Minutes of the Branch Meeting Held on Tue 9th January 2018

In Attendance

President: Brig (Retd) Nicholas Prideaux
Chairman: Maj (Retd) Roy Stanger
Treasurer: Lt Col (Retd) Brian Scott
Secretary: John Fritz-Domeney

The meeting opened at 19.30hrs with 13 members present.

Item 1: Apologies

Apologies were received from the following: Messrs John McMullan, Del Milam, Peter Hyde, Stephen Horsley-Grant, Derek Randell, Brian Craven, Vic Osmand, Lyndon Harper, Chris Mitchell, Andy Gray, Tony Cottrell, Ken Lindsay, David Lindsay, John Pearson, and Steven Chalder

Item 2: Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the previous meeting held at 1930 hours on the 6th November 2017 were read and approved.

Item 3: Matters Arising

The Chairman stated that there were no specific items that required further comment under this heading as many would be further clarified under the meeting agenda. However before moving on he thought it appropriate to record his sincere thanks for the following:

1. For the support given by the branch and various other organisations (cadets, scouts etc) at the 60th Memorial Service on Remembrance Day.
2. To Terry Young who had individually raised over £1k for C4C during the year and being in the running for the position of Winchester Town Crier.
3. To John Harper for his tireless work as Branch Secretary for the last 6 years.
4. To Brian Scott for organising the successful Remembrance Lunch at the SWGC.

Item 4: The President

The Chairman invited the President to open the agenda with a short address. His *condensed* comments were as follows:

As this is my first meeting as your President I would like to take this opportunity to explain how I see my role which is to be your voice which bridges the gap between the branch and all higher regimental matters. A role I am more than happy to take on; so if there is anything I can do or sort out for you on any regimental matter please do not hesitate to contact me direct. My contact details are at the bottom of these Minutes.

There is no doubt we have a vibrant and active membership which has an enviable reputation for getting things done for the branch and the regiment. and for that I thank you all. My second thank you goes to John Harper who has recently stood down as our Secretary. John has done a sterling job throughout his 6 years in office keeping us all informed and now fully deserves his relaxed retirement on the back benches of the branch.

I would also point out that we as a branch have created a little bit of history in that my predecessor John FD and I have shared the platform of President of this branch for the last 'goodness knows how many years' and for that I sincerely thank him too.

And finally I would take this opportunity to wish you all and your families 'good health and happiness for 2018 and beyond'.

Item 5: Treasurers Report

The Treasurer opened his report by stating that a full and comprehensive statement of accounts (1514) will be submitted at the AGM in February after its annual audit (18th Jan 18) and that his report tonight will consist simply of a liquidity statement. The detail of which is:

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| Cash in Hand | £51.32 |
| Cash in Bank | £2417.12 |
| Total | £2468.44 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Remembrance Lunch was over budget by | £29.00 (diner's failure to turn up) |
| Christmas Dinner was under budget by | £245.38 |

Subscriptions for 2018 are due wef the February meeting and will remain at £15 for Full Members and £10 for Associate Members. Prompt payment would be really appreciated.

Item 6: Welfare

Brian Craven is now out of hospital and at home but continues to receive treatment as an Out Patient.

John Pearson is at home and continues to receive appropriate home care and treatment for his condition.

Chris Mitchell is at home and the latest information from his brother Bill is that he is recovering well from his operation.

The Chairman will contact all 3 over the next 24 hours to offer assistance and of course our best wishes.

Item 7: Memorial Garden

The garden remains in good order albeit a little water logged and wind-blown. No plans are in place to carry out any work on the garden until at least March when volunteers will be called for to assist.

Item 8: Activities

Despite running a busy and demanding business Tiny Adams our 'Activities' member is more than happy to continue finding the time to organise all sorts of visits to a whole range of interesting and quirky places and events. However the one noticeable thing in all of the activities he has organised is the low numbers that participate. It would be really good therefore if this year we could give him the support his efforts as our activities member deserves.

Coming up:

1. A formal guided tour of Winchester Cathedral for all members of the branch and their wives/partners. Brian Scott suggested that the best time to do this would be sometime later in the summer after the internal and external renovation is completed and all areas can once again be accessed. This was accepted as being a better option. Details to follow.
2. Due to his business contacts within various 'blue chip' companies he is also looking at the possibility of organising a visit and guided tour of Fawley Refinery on the other side of Southampton. Possible meal and drinks on site (tbc) or failing that definitely in an adjacent New Forest country pub. Dress for members on this occasion regimental blazers please (if held). Details to follow.

Item 9: Proposals

There were none.

Item 10: AOB

Christmas Dinner & Dance. With over 60 plus attending the general consensus was that everybody had a thoroughly enjoyable festive evening. However it was at *this* meeting that the comment was made that one table was unhappy with the quality of their meal in that parts of the main meal appeared to be either cold or even undercooked. The Chairman in reply commented that as unfortunate as that was, it is now too late in the day to investigate and put the matter right., and that as a paying customer it is up to the individual at the time to bring the matter to the attention of the serving staff. Nevertheless he will take it up with the golf club social manager as soon as he is able. Watch this space.

Item 11: Chairman's Points

The Chairman spoke on the following:

1. On the 19th January he together with the President and Secretary will be attending the next planning meeting for the RGJA Reunion in July 2018. Any salient points of interest will be promulgated at the branch AGM in February.

2. A copy of the 2018 programme of social and formal branch meetings will once again be attached to these minutes. The Chairman then went on to explain that although the listed 'social' evenings are primarily meant to be a quiet interlude from the normal military business of the branch, they can if any member wishes be used for a larger organised function such as quiz or games night. The proposer however is to organise.
3. The 2018 branch BBQ is now definitely confirmed for the 29th July at the ATR Winchester WO's & Sgt's Mess. Peter Andrews who is organising it will shortly send out a covering letter and return. As numbers are expected to be high and to assist planning please respond at the earliest opportunity.
4. Vacancies exist at the SWGC for 'marshals' at various golfing tournaments throughout the year. A free round of golf, plus pay and a possible meal are on offer. Contact Roy in the first instance for further details if you are interested.
5. Although not mentioned at the meeting the Chairman now wishes to point out that due to the earlier than normal retirement of the Secretary (normally at the AGM in February) the current President and Secretary are only temporarily holding their appointments until the branch elections in February. As a consequence he wishes to remind members that in accordance with Branch Rules & Guidance, sub heading 'Branch Management Committee', the tenure of the President and Secretary will expire at the AGM in February 2018. Therefore any member of the branch wishing to stand for election in either of these two offices is freely encouraged to do so. Names to the Secretary before the AGM please.

Item 12: Secretary's Notes

1. Attached is a copy of the Branch Rules and Membership Application form. Please retain and use for any potential new member of the branch you may come across.
2. Frustrating isn't it when you wish to send a number of unaltered photos/documents as an attachment to an email and you can't due to the memory limit on attachments? Well now you can. Below is a link to a Free Transfer programme that will allow you to send whatever you want for FREE. Add it to your 'favourites' on whatever search engine you use (Google or whatever). When you are ready to send something just click on the link and when the page comes up just click on '**take me to free**' and follow the very simple instructions. Couldn't be simpler! Here it is: <https://wetransfer.com/>
3. A reminder: If you are out and about somewhere or taking part in an activity that may be of interest to the branch and wider association please take a photo and send it to the Secretary together with a short description. If suitable it will be included in either S&B or eZine. At the very least it will be uploaded to our branch website.
4. For medal mounting and repair contact GA Medal Services, PO Box 734, Winchester, SO23 7XQ. Email: sales@gamedals.co.uk. Tel: 07974 690603.

Item 13: Next Meeting

The next formal meeting (AGM) will be held at **19.00hrs (please note earlier start)** on Tuesday 6th February 2018.

There being no further business for the good of the branch the meeting closed at 20.40hrs.

Chairman: Dated.....

Secretary: Dated.....