

QRA/Exec

02 Mar 20

See Distribution

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HELD BY ZOOM ON 6 MARCH 2021

Attendance

| | |
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| Col Anthony Beattie | President and Chairman |
| Dave Tilley | Chichester Branch |
| Amy Holden/Tony Philpott | Drums |
| Dee Hutchison/Ken Bowden | East Surrey Regiment |
| Nigel Ferris | Frimley and Camberley Cadets |
| Jeremy Davison | Queen's Golf Society |
| Colin Hurd | Horsham |
| Dennis Sharrocks | London |
| Trevor Canton | Middlesex |
| John Edwards | Queensman Lodge 2694 |
| Howard Copsey | Queen's Regimental Riders |
| Steve Parsons | 1 QUEENS |
| Richard Morgan | Ramsgate |
| Steve Wall | Scotland |
| John Grinham | Weald |
| Capt Anthony Bolton | Wessex |
| Graham Bigwood | West Surrey |
| Maj Alasdair Goulden | Secretary |

Observers

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| Col John Powell | Regimental Secretary PWRR |
| Col Tony Ward | Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment Combined Charity |
| Lt Col Peter Swanson | Queen's Royal Surrey Assoc |
| Barry Lane | Royal Sussex Assoc |
| Col John White | Hon Col London and Middlesex |

| Serial | Issue | Action |
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| 1 | Opening Remarks The Chairman welcomed those present and in particular Ken Bowden and Dee Hutchison representing the new East Surrey Branch who have now joined us as a new branch; also Barry Lane from the Royal Sussex Association who wants to see how we run things, and Cols Tony Ward, John Powell, John White and Peter Swansonq | |
| 2 | Apologies – John Redfern from the East Kent Branch which has now folded. | |
| 3 | Previous Minutes No comments were received by the Secretary regarding the accuracy of the Minutes and so they were approved. | |
| 4 | Points Arising Nil | |
| 5 | Update a. The Chairman noted that this had been a difficult and frustrating year for the Association although we were lucky | |

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| | <p>to be able to hold our AGM and Reunion in March before lockdown commenced. As usual it was well attended although it would be good to see more officers attending.</p> <p>b. Sadly, the QRRA One Aim Rally, currently our major fundraising activity, had to be cancelled. We have come to rely on the Riders’ amazing efforts and so this was a great blow not only to our fundraising for the Benevolent Fund but it also the loss of an opportunity and venue for members to gather.</p> <p>c. The Association has increased its overall numbers with more registering with the Association than are falling off the end, so it now stands at 2,669members - up 49 on last year. It means though that there are still some 7,500 ex-Queensmen out there who are not registered, and all were encouraged to make contact with any known so that we can keep in touch and the Secretary can send them notices of those who have died as well!</p> <p>d. The website continues to be developed with the fantastic support of Lindsay Parsons. Our grateful thanks go to her.</p> <p>e. The Association Database is working well but please note that if members unsubscribe from emails they will not be informed of members’ deaths – a couple of members complained that they were not informed of a close friend dying and it turned out that they had unsubscribed.</p> <p>f. There have been a couple of occasions when funerals have taken place, where the Regiment was represented but the details had not been passed on to the Secretary. As a result people who would have liked to attend were not able to. As soon as anyone hears of a member of the Regiment dying, the Secretary needs to be informed unless, of course, the family has asked for no Association involvement. Better that the Secretary receives multiple notifications rather than none.</p> | <p>All</p> <p>All</p> |
| <p>6</p> | <p>Finance and Benevolence</p> <p>The Secretary provided a financial report covering the following:</p> <p>a. Finance. Accounts were distributed prior to the meeting and are attached at the end of these minutes. Examining Income and Expenditure for the Benevolent Fund for 2020 first, the Fund had a total income of £60,120. This, in the main, came from investment income and donations. Total expenditure for the year was £76,472. The main elements of this were for our share of Benevolence payments, Journal costs, Association Secretary’s salary and office running costs. Therefore, in its day-to-day running costs, the Association had an excess of expenditure over income of £16,352 for the year. Had the QRRA been able to hold their One Aim Rally, this deficit would have been significantly reduced or even put the Fund in surplus. Investments increased in value by £56,800 which considering the state of the market because of the pandemic is surprising and Barclay’s were congratulated for their management of our funds. As at 31 December 2020 the total fund stands at £1,573,788. The Chairman is satisfied with the current state of the fund and believe that we can maintain our support for past members for as long as is required.</p> <p>b. Welfare. During the year, a total of 70 cases were submitted and 48 individual grants were approved. Out of the 22 cases not receiving grants, 8 cases had already had the need met by other military charities, 8 cases were declined as they</p> | |

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| | <p>did not meet the benevolence criteria and 4 cases were declined due to the applicants having substantial savings or large disposable incomes. 1 case did not provide verification of service and the final case was withdrawn. The majority of cases received grants for household items (10), first rent payments (7) and funeral costs (5). 5 cases received a grant for basic needs, 4 for priority debts and a further 4 for white goods. Financial assistance was also provided towards rent arrears (2), removal fees (2) and course fees (2). We also provided grants for an EPV (1), a riser/recliner (1), a stairlift (1) and a hearing aid (1). Final grants were provided for bankruptcy fees (1), a burglar alarm (1) and a bicycle (1). The Queen's Regiment Benevolent Fund paid out £20,327 as individual grants and the ABF contributed a further £18,039 in general grants.</p> | |
| 7 | <p>Reports from the Branches Each of the Branches provided a report of their activities during the year. The main points to note were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. All Branches are maintaining contact with their members by phone, email, and social media. b. Membership is holding steady in most branches with some actually increasing. c. Some branches were able to arrange socially distanced meetings and picnics/BBQs after discussion with local councils. d. Funerals, where possible, were supported and when requested by families Standards were paraded. e. Remembrance events were supported where permitted and individual acts of Remembrance took place as well. f. All branches reported plans for meetings this year once restrictions are eased and it is safe to meet. Members are requested to contact their local branches for details. Contact details are on the website and in the last Journal. g. The Drums are in need of a new place to practice. Col Powell kindly said that he would speak to the CO 3 PWRR to see if a temporary use of a part of Leros Barracks would be possible. Steve Parsons also offered the use of the QRRR Clubhouse when complete. h. The Queensman Lodge kindly invited anyone interested in discovering a bit more about Freemasonry to attend what is termed a 'Blue Table' dinner which it is hoped will be held in the not-too-distant future. Contact John Edwards i. Steve Wall offered to examine the possibility of running a Branch from Spain encompassing Spain and Portugal at this stage to give a voice into the Association for those living abroad. He will report back. j. Col Ward mentioned that the QRS are aiming to hold a commemoration parade on Putney Heath at the memorial commemorating the 360th Anniversary of the raising of the Tangier Regiment on 14 October. Details will be sent out later. | <p>Col Powell QRRR</p> <p>Steve Wall</p> <p>Col Ward</p> |
| 8 | <p>Museums Henry Thomas, Museum Curator gave the following update on the Museums:</p> <p>2020 was a difficult year for the PWRR and Queen's Museum, as it was for everyone else: the museum was only open for 17 weeks of our summer season. It re-opened on the 4th of July in line with the rest of Dover Castle. It had technically closed on weekdays for the winter season on the 2nd November before government guidelines obliged the museum to shut on weekends as well, and in line with</p> | All |

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| | <p>restrictions has not re-opened.</p> <p>This summer season, there were 63,579 visitors. This is only 4,485 less than the same period (July to October) last year –benefitting hugely from the Castle’s marketing push over the summer. Along the way, 35 litres of hand sanitiser have been used, and over 200 hours were spent cleaning the museum to keep it safe for visitors.</p> <p>In line with emergency procedures, staff have continued (as we did in the previous lockdowns) to visit the castle at least twice a week to check the site.</p> <p>The Museum has been able to contribute two objects on Walter Tull, to Barbados Museum’s current online exhibition. Working with the Computer Science Department at the University of St Andrews, photogrammetry models of two star objects have been created: the Somme Football, and the uniform jacket of Lt Deeves MC, who trained alongside Tull in the Middlesex Regiment. These models will allow members of the public to view these objects in ways they never have before, in 360-degree high definition.</p> <p>Deeves’ uniform jacket was given on loan to Manchester United Museum in Old Trafford in February as part of a touring exhibition on Tull, which was due to go to Barbados Museum in future (Tull’s father was Barbadian). It is hoped that in future, will be able to loan Deeves’ jacket will be able to be loaned to Barbados Museum once restrictions ease.</p> <p>The exhibition can be found at: walmartullexhibition.org.</p> <p>The Surrey Infantry Museum said a fond farewell to its Museum Manager, Steve Johnson, last year; we wish him all the best in his retirement. A new Collections Officer is being recruited a to look after the collection but have had to pause the process for the meantime while lockdown continues. We look forward to having our candidate in place in 2021. In the meantime, volunteers have continued to work with the collection and to put a new display in at the Surrey History Centre. Volunteers also squeezed in an outreach session with the public in the summer.</p> | |
| 9 | <p>Social Media</p> <p>The Chairman was hoping not to bring up this particular item again, but he wanted members to be aware that there was one incident during the year of abuse on social media. The person involved made allegations amounting to slander against both the Trustees and the QRRA. As a result, he was suspended from the Association until he had withdrawn his unfounded allegations and apologised to both groups. This apology was accepted, and he has been reinstated. Branches were asked to ensure that all members are reminded that this type of behaviour will not be tolerated and will be dealt with.</p> | All |
| 8 | <p>Northern Ireland Inquests</p> <p>Col John Powell briefed the inquest into Op DEMETRIUS involving 2 QUEENS and the Paras is complete. The Coroner has not yet reported since she awaits a judgement from the Supreme Court concerning relative weighting of 40-year-old evidence. It is known that other inquests covering Op BANNER are being contemplated. He also reiterated that if anyone is contacted by the Coroner’s office for any reason to do with the ongoing inquests that they inform the QRA Secretary straight away so that support can be</p> | |

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| | arranged. | |
| 9 | <p>Reunion</p> <p>It is not possible to hold a reunion at the UOTC later this year because of its commitments. However, 5 March has been provisionally booked for 2022. In terms of this year, it is suggested that members attend the QRRR One Aim Rally and use that as the vehicle for a reunion this year. Not only does this meet the requirements for a reunion but it also supports what can be the Benevolent Fund's major fundraiser.</p> | |
| 10 | <p>Memorial Service</p> <p>It has been suggested that a Regimental Memorial Service be held to remember all those who died during the Covid pandemic. It was decided that the Association would see what National arrangements are being made in terms of post pandemic memorial. The Chairman's view was that we remember absent friends every year at the AGM/Reunion. This year has not seen an increase in the number of our members dying and so it is suggested that those who have died will be remembered at next year's reunion and certainly, if relevant, it will be noted that the individual died as a result of COVID.</p> | |
| 11 | <p>PWRR Update</p> <p>Col Powell gave the following update with regard to the PWRR:</p> <p>Changes at the top:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 July – Brigadier James Coote DSO, OBE becomes a Deputy Colonel of the Regiment vice Colonel Adam Crawley. • 15 December – Brigadier James Martin DSO, OBE, MC becomes Colonel of the Regiment vice Lieutenant General Doug Chalmers DSO, OBE. • 15 December – Colonel (for Brigadier) Mike Cornwell OBE becomes a Deputy Colonel of the Regiment vice Brigadier James Martin DSO, OBE, MC. <p>There are no changes to the roles of Colonel Patrick Crowley DL or Colonel David Mogg TD, VR as Deputy Colonels.</p> <p>At RHQ a there is a new Area Secretary with responsibility for commemorations and remembrance – Mr Rob Withall who previously worked in London District.</p> <p>CinC</p> <p>There has been no direct interaction with the Colonel in Chief during the COVID crisis but incoming COs to 1 & 3 PWRR have received letters of welcome whilst the outgoing COs received letters of thanks and the presentation of a small photograph of Her Majesty.</p> <p>Next year sees Her 50th anniversary of Her accession to the throne of Denmark coinciding with our own Queen's 70th anniversary of accession).</p> <p>1 PWRR</p> <p>The 1st Battalion remains in Cyprus under the command of Lt Col</p> | |

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| | <p>Andy Wilde. In addition to duties in Cyprus, they have a platoon deployed in Bahrain on security duties. During the COVID crisis, they were instrumental in helping civilians move across the Green Line, work for which they received many plaudits.</p> <p>The Battalion moves to Woolwich this summer where they will remain for four years.</p> <p>2 PWRR</p> <p>The 2nd Battalion remains a Spec Inf Battalion based in Aldershot. It has approximately 30% of its strength deployed on operations (mainly around Africa) at any one time. It is a popular posting and getting into the Battalion is now via a selection cadre.</p> <p>Both battalions are nearly fully manned – in addition, officer recruiting is very buoyant with four or five applying for one of the eight places available in the regiment each year.</p> <p>3 & 4 PWRR</p> <p>Dealt with together since their roles are similar. Recruiting is going well and given that 4 PWRR is only four years old it is making a name for itself. Many soldiers from the battalions have been mobilised in support of COVID testing; like 1 PWRR they have received many plaudits in their work which was firmly in the public eye.</p> <p>Benevolence</p> <p>Col Powell made a plea for more QRA veterans to support the Regimental Family by subscribing to the Regimental Lottery and supporting the Amazon Smile and Give As You Live initiatives.</p> <p>Integrated Review</p> <p>As ever during reviews, rumours abound. Recent press speculation has not been helpful, but it is likely that battalions will be cut. Which battalions will be will ultimately come down to a political decision. Though it is a worrying time, Col Powell urged everyone not to indulge in speculation about the future of the Regiment.</p> | <p>All</p> <p>All</p> |
| 12 | <p>Future of the Journal</p> <p>Once this year’s Journal is produced, the Chairman believes that, in its current form, it may have run its course and achieved all that he had intended and more in its 8 years of production. He recognised that there is a strong groundswell of opinion in its support.</p> <p>However, as a Journal and amplifying historical record, it is only as good as the depth and range of articles and anecdotes that it contains. The fountain of contribution is drying up. The ball is therefore in the membership’s court: it is a publication of the highest quality and that means expense. He does, however, believe that, with the active membership the Association has, that we will need an annual publication in some form, and he would welcome views on the possible options.</p> | All |
| 13 | <p>Fundraising</p> <p>The need to continue fundraising still exists. The Chairman asked that all to try and do something towards raising funds for the Benevolent Fund whether it is just by organising a small event or by passing the bucket round, remembering that if cash donations into the fund are sent to the Secretary, so long as none exceed £30, Gift Aid can be claimed and an extra 25% can be raised from the Government.</p> | Branches |

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| 14 | Amendment to the Rules and Regulation A new list of Branches has been made which requires a change to the Association Rules and Regulations. | |
| 15 | Date of the next Reunion / Meeting The next Reunion/Meeting will take place on 05 March 2022 at the London UOTC subject to confirmation | Secretary |
| 16 | Any Other Business The meeting having completed all business closed at 12.50hrs | |

Alasdair Goulden

A M Goulden
Association Secretary

Encl: 2020 Accounts

Distr:
Executive Committee
Website

**QUEENS REGIMENT
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

| | 2020 | 2019 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| INCOME | | |
| Donations | 7,323 | 21,445 |
| Investments Dividends | 43,703 | 61,588 |
| Deposit Acct Interest | 3 | 4 |
| Coins | 5,627 | 0 |
| Reunion Income | 1,267 | 1,174 |
| Journal | 2,197 | 0 |
| | 60,120 | 84,211 |
| EXPENDITURE | | |
| Investment Management Fees | 3,233 | 3,154 |
| Welfare Grants - RBL & SSAFA | 20,327 | 21,345 |
| Grant - Association Branchs | 2,150 | 3,539 |
| Remembrance | 850 | 200 |
| Presentation Costs | 304 | 0 |
| Journal and Postage | 9,975 | 17,241 |
| Queens Reunion Functions | 2,295 | 2,454 |
| Digitise Archives | 0 | 0 |
| Memorial Wall | 0 | 1,709 |
| Memorial Event | 0 | 200 |
| Stock Purchases Cartoon Books | 0 | 0 |
| Corps of Drums Events | 0 | 373 |
| Coins | 2,788 | 0 |
| Small Equipment | 0 | 0 |
| Data Base & Web site | 4,333 | 6,103 |
| Postage and Office Expenses | 362 | 1,642 |
| Travel Expenses | | 559 |
| Association President Expenses | 115 | 357 |
| Association Secretary Fee | 24,555 | 31,423 |
| Association Secretary Expenses | 450 | 1,200 |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 0 | 0 |
| Advertising and Marketing | 406 | |
| Insurance | 23 | 23 |
| Accountancy Fees | 4,075 | 5,114 |
| Membership Fees | 231 | 0 |
| | 76,472 | 96,636 |
| NET EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR | -16,352 | -12,425 |
| Gain/Loss on Revaluation of Investments | 56,800 | 203,994 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | 40,448 | 191,569 |

**BALANCE SHEET
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

| | 2020 £ | 2019 £ |
|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Investments | 1,567,058 | 1,510,258 |
| Bank | 6,730 | 6,988 |
| Debtors | 0 | 0 |
| Prepayments | 0 | 0 |
| Accrued Income | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 1,573,788 | 1,517,246 |
| Liabilities | | |
| Creditors | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 0 | 0 |
| Net Worth of Fund | 1,573,788 | 1,517,246 |
| Investment Reconciliation | | |
| Value at start of year | 1,517,246 | 1,328,252 |
| Investment Sales | -9,000 | -15,000 |
| Investment Gain | 65,542 | 203,994 |
| Value at end of year | 1,573,788 | 1,517,246 |

**QUEENS REGIMENT
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020**

| | 2020 | 2019 |
|------------------------------|---------------|---|
| INCOME | | |
| Donations | 7,323 | 21,445 |
| Investments Dividends | 43,703 | 61,588 |
| Deposit Acct Interest | 3 | 4 |
| Coins | 5,627 | 0 |
| Reunion Income | 1,267 | 1,174 |
| Journal | 2,197 | 0 |
| | 60,120 | 84,211 |
| EXPENDITURE | | |
| Investment Management Fees | 3,233 | 3,154 |
| Welfare Grants - RBL & SSAFA | 20,327 | 21,345 |
| Grant - Association Branchs | 2,150 | 3,539 |
| Remembrance | 850 | 200 |
| Presentation Costs | 304 | 0 |
| Journal and Postage | 9,975 | 17,241 |
| Queens Reunion Functions | 2,295 | 2,454 |
| Digitise Archives | 0 | 0 |
| Memorial Wall | 0 | 1,709 |
| Memorial Event | 0 | 200 |
| | | Total Welfare Grants from the whole Benevolence Fund £58951 |

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|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Stock Purchases Cartoon Books | 0 | 0 |
| Corps of Drums Events | 0 | 373 |
| Coins | 2,788 | 0 |
| Small Equipment | 0 | 0 |
| Data Base & Web site | 4,333 | 6,103 |
| Postage and Office Expenses | 362 | 1,642 |
| Travel Expenses | | 559 |
| Association President Expenses | 115 | 357 |
| Association Secretary Fee | 24,555 | 31,423 |
| Association Secretary Expenses | 450 | 1,200 |
| Repairs and Maintenance | 0 | 0 |
| Advertising and Marketing | 406 | |
| Insurance | 23 | 23 |
| Accountancy Fees | 4,075 | 5,114 |
| Membership Fees | 231 | 0 |
| | 76,472 | 96,636 |