

QRA/AGM

11 March 2019

See Distribution

MINUTES OF THE QUEEN'S REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE LONDON UNIVERSITY OFFICER TRAINING CORPS 09 MARCH 2019

Attendance:

Chairman Colonel Anthony Beattie
Secretary Major Alasdair Goulden
Association Members 72

Serial	Issue	Action
1	<p>Chairman's Opening Remarks</p> <p>The Chairman welcomed those present, especially our five Chelsea Pensioners. He also welcomed Bob Jeffrey, Secretary of our new branch, The Queen's and PWRR Golf Society.</p> <p>The Chairman noted that this year there were 172 attending the reunion, equalling 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 2018 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 headstone for Cpl Raymond 'Plod' Spencer was dedicated at a moving ceremony in the summer. A full report was given in the Journal. The Vipers, Hastings and Eastbourne have been removed from the Order of Battle following the amendment of the Association Rules and Regulations last year; the Vipers at their own request and Hastings and Eastbourne because they have folded. The new list of branches has been published on the website and is the subject of the amendment to the Rules and Regulations.</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 that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 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 raising money. They combined this with a fund-raising trip to War and Peace Rally presenting the Benevolent Fund with a record £17,272.73 - a quite magnificent sum. The Chairman reminded members that the rally is not just attended by the biking community it is also open to everyone and he urged everyone to come to the next one being held over the weekend of 5-7 July. b. The Drums have been performing during the year and have raised over £1,000 this year. They are beginning to get quite a reputation and they are to be congratulated for the efforts they have made to spread the name of the Regiment. They have recently increased their numbers by 3 including the ex Drum Major of 3 PWRR which is a great coup for them. Fundraising efforts by The Queensman Lodge and the London Branch were also noted. c. The Association has increased its overall numbers with more registering with the Association than are falling off the end so the QRA now stand at 2,598 members - up 62 on last year. It means though that there are still some 7,500 ex Queensmen out there who are not registered. Members were encouraged to contact any person they know who isn’t registered so that the Association can keep in touch. d. The website continues to be developed with the fantastic support of Lindsay Parsons. Grateful thanks to her were recorded. e. The Association Database is working well but the Chairman requested members to note that if they unsubscribe from emails they will not be informed of members’ deaths or other information that goes out on a membership distribution f. A number of trips have been made to commemorate forebear comrades who fell during the First World g. Members were asked to inform the Secretary of anyone who is recognised by a State award in either the Birthday Honours or the New Year’s Honours Lists and to recommend anyone they thought was deserving of an Honour. 	
4	<p>Finance and Benevolence</p> <p>The Secretary provided a detailed brief on the Queen’s Regiment Benevolent Fund Income and Expenditure Account. The Association had a total income of £71,770. This was in the main from investment income and donations. Total expenditure for the year was £91,675. The main elements of this were for our share of Benevolence 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 £19,905 for the year. The investments decreased in value by £103,151. As at 31 December 2018 the total fund stands at £1,332,676. The President expressed satisfaction with the current state of the fund.</p>	

	<p>The Secretary explained that there had been a change in the way the accounts were compiled following changeover of account holders which resulted in elements of the accounts being placed in different headings. This will be corrected for the 2019 accounts.</p> <p>Benevolence</p> <p>During the year a total of 97 cases were submitted and 70 individual grants were approved. Out of the 27 cases not receiving grants; 5 were declined because service was either not verified or did not meet the qualifying length of service, 6 cases were declined as they did not meet the benevolence criteria and a further 4 cases were declined due to the applicants having substantial savings or large disposable incomes. Finally, 6 cases had already had the need met by other military charities and 5 were withdrawn by the caseworkers. If nothing else this emphasised the need for proper checks to take place before benevolence is handed out. The Secretary reminded Members that the Benevolent Fund is there for our members who are in need.</p> <p>The majority of cases received grants for household items (17) and OT reports/mobility items (9). 8 cases received a grant for basic needs and 8 for priority debts. Financial assistance was also provided for 6 funerals and 6 individuals for rent arrears.</p> <p>The Queen’s Regiment Charity also provided grants for 5 individuals for house maintenance and 4 with deposits and initial rent payments. 3 people had assistance towards training costs and a further 2 received assistance towards improving their self-employment prospects. One case was highlighted and regarded a member who had been injured in Northern Ireland. As a result he required an orthopaedic boot which had to be made especially for him. This has allowed him to continue working. This was brought to the attention of the Secretary by a member who lives on the other side of the world and that it showed the care and compassion of members throughout the world for their fellow Queensmen. Without the initial report to the Secretary, the recipient is likely to have lost his job because he could no longer work and would now be destitute. If nothing else it illustrates the requirement for us to maintain our funds and keep them going. The final grant was for the continuation of a community care alarm. The Secretary requested that if members hear of anyone who needs our assistance that he be informed straight away.</p> <p>A total of £99,756 was authorised for payment. The Benevolent Fund paid out £29,998 as individual grants, the ABF contributed a further £28,245 in general grants and the remaining £56,505 was sourced from other funds.</p>	
5	<p>Social Media</p> <p>The Chairman reminded members that the Association was an organisation that cared for its members and that instances of members being abused on Social Media would not be tolerated and warned members that if anyone was found to be abusing another member they would be expelled from the Association.</p>	

6	<p>The Journal</p> <p>The theme for the 2018 Journal is “Northern Ireland”. 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 members’ memories are recorded now. The idea is to record memories from each one of the 29 roulement and residential tours or service with the UDR/R IRISH. All members were requested to support the Secretary/Editor and provide any particularly amusing stories about their time on the various tours the Regiment served.</p>	All
7	<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. We have a major problem with the structure of the Museum but this will have to be solved by English heritage. 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.</p>	All
8	<p>Amendment to The Association Rules and Regulations</p> <p>An Amendment has been made to the Association Rules and Regulations reflecting the list of official branches that now form part of the Association. The list is now as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 QUEENS Chichester Branch East Kent Horsham London Middlesex Queensman Lodge 2694 Queen’s Regimental Riders Association Queen’s and PWRR Golf Society Wessex West Surrey Camberley and Frimley Cadets 	Secretary
9	<p>Ballymurphy Inquest Update</p> <p>Col Powell gave an update on the Ballymurphy Inquest and assured members that the Regiment will support anyone who is either written to by the Coroner or summoned to appear. The Chairman explained that he had refused the Coroner access to the Association database and had taken legal advice on the position in so doing which had been supported. He also stated that he had raised the issue with his own MP, Mr John Glenn, who had promised to raise the matter with the Secretary of State.</p>	

10	Branch Reports Each of the Branches provided a report of the activity that had taken place during the year and provided a forecast of events.	
11	PWRR Update Col Powell, Regimental Secretary of the PWRR, gave an update on PWRR Activities.	
12	Diary of Events 2019 The Diary of Events 2019 was detailed at the back of the Journal. Contact should be made directly with the organisers of the event.	All
13	Combined Irish Regiments Association March The Members were informed of the invitation by the Combined Irish Regiments Association Cenotaph March on 9 June. The Secretary informed the meeting of the details.	
14	Date of Next Reunion 7 March 2020 at London UOTC subject to confirmation	Secretary
15	Any Other Business. Steve Barden noted that although the President had made mention of the work that Lindsay Parsons had done on behalf of the Queen's Regimental Association and had recorded his appreciation, he felt that the Association should make a further acknowledgement of her assistance. This was unanimously agreed by the meeting and the President informed the meeting that an appropriate gesture would be made. There being no additional business raised the meeting closed at 12.50pm	President

Alasdair Goulden

A M Goulden
Association Secretary

Distr:

President
Secretary
Branch Secretaries
Website

Attachments:

Income and Expenditure Account Year End 31 Dec 18

QUEENS REGIMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018	2017
INCOME		
Donations	24215	13,331
Drums Donations	0	1,500
QRS Charities - Grant Tigers 25	0	4,000
DCMS Memorial Grant	0	0
Investments Dividends	46824	40,584
Deposit Acct Interest	11	4
Reunion Income	670	2,992
NAM Memorial Tickets	0	0
Journal income	50	0
Stock Sales Cartoon Books	0	269
	71,770	62,680
EXPENDITURE		
Investment Management Fees	2091	2,192
Just Giving Fees	0	161
Welfare Grants	29988	29,722
Branch Grants	2677	0
Grant - Farnham Branch	0	0
Grant - Middlesex Branch	0	964
Grant - Chichester Branch	0	600
Grant - Horsham Branch	0	1,325
Grant - 3 PWRR Adv Trg	200	600
Grant - 4 PWRR	16	
Grants - misc	0	275
Remembrance	566	695
Membership Fees	145	0
Presentation Costs	246	76
Journal and Postage	19813	19,514
Association Website Hosting	5847	185
Queens Reunion Functions	972	3,024
Memorial	0	0
Memorial Event	0	0
Corps of Drums Uniforms	0	1,200
Tigers 25	0	10,895
Database	0	6,733
Travel Expenses	1814	122
Association President Expenses	442	284
Small equipment	178	0
Association Secretary	20742	24,340
Association Office Running Expenses	4734	2,952
Repairs & Maintenance	500	0
Insurance	217	131
Accountancy Fees	487	240
	91675	106,230
NET EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR	-19,905	-43,550
Gain/Loss on Revaluation of Investments	-103,151	94,317
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	-123,056	50,767

QUEENS REGIMENT BALANCE SHEET YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

	2018	2017
Assets		
Investments	1328242	1,446,394
Stock - Paddy Ryan Books	0	542
Bank	4434	1,549
Debtors	0	76
Prepayments	0	0
Accrued Income	0	0
Total	1,332,676	1,448,561
 Liabilities		
Creditors	0	0
Total	0	0
 Net Worth of Fund	 1,332,676	 1,448,561
 Investment Reconciliation		
Value at start of year	1,446,394	
Investment Sales	15,000	
Investment Gain	-103,151	
Value at end of year	1,328,243	

Benevolence Summary

97 cases were submitted of which 70 were successful

£99,756 was authorised for payment out of which £29,998 came from the Benevolent

Fund, £28,245 came from the ABF and the remainder was sourced through other organisations.