



## *Airborne Signals Old Comrades Association*

### Minutes of a meeting held at the Holiday Inn Barnsley at 1700hrs Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2022

**Members:** J Griffin, J Aspinall, J Campbell, R Stanley, P Whitehead, G Richardson, K Weller, R Porter. **Co-opted** W Haslam, M Finn  
(Apologies received from J Griffin, G Richardson and W Haslam)

1. **Opening Address.** The Acting Chairman opened the meeting by thanking all members of the OCA for their attendance.
2. **Previous Minutes.** The minutes of the 2018 meeting were discussed and passed as a true record of proceedings.
3. **Matters Arising.** There were no matters arising
4. **Election of Officers.** There being no candidates for election it was proposed by Alex Wilson and seconded by Geoff Guy that the current incumbents be re-elected for a further 2 years and that Tony Giles takes over from Robin Stanley the organising of the OCA Reunion – next scheduled for 2024. **Carried**
5. **Treasurer's Report.** J Aspinall gave a Summary on the financial status of the OCA, which was well received – copy attached for information. Bernie Thomas asked if it was still possible to donate to the OCA by direct debit and was informed that it was, with the relevant information available from the Treasurer.
6. **Future of the Website.** Keith Weller introduced the topic and future funding of the Website and was seeking an individual to 'shadow' him and to manage the site in the fullness of time. Proposed by Keith Weller and seconded by Norrie Clanachan that the website is funded for at least a further 2 years. **Carried**

A discussion then followed about the long-term future of the Website and it was agreed that a shadow site manager be sought to work with Keith and to ultimately take over the running of the site. All agreed that this was the way forward and would safeguard the longevity of the site. On a separate subject, which became linked, it was recognised that a major effort is required to encourage younger members of the Airborne Signals brotherhood to join and support the OCA.

**Dougie Craig** has agreed to be the linkman between the old and the not so old and to start an initiative to bring some of the younger guys into the fold.

All members are asked to give this their maximum support when and if appropriate and/or requested by Dougie.

It is also hoped that an appropriate shadow website manager could be found from the younger element and JJ Walker's name was mentioned as a potential contact. Along with Dougie's efforts the Secretary will approach this topic via the 216 Facebook page.

It was also generally agreed that a link between the Website and the Facebook page be added to both sites and Steve Margison agreed to take this on along with Keith Weller.

**Secretary's note: For the time being, there appears little appetite to entrust our website to any third party**

7. After a short discussion it was proposed by Bob Patterson and seconded by David Beattie, that we introduce individual name tags for future reunions and that the type and content be agreed by the Committee.  
**Carried**

#### **AOB**

8. Several minor complaints were aired in relation to standards within the Holiday Inn. In response, it was also stated that the hotel, along with the rest of the hospitality industry, is battling hard to recover from covid etc and should therefore be given some time to affect a full recovery. Tony Giles has agreed to address any such issues ahead of the next reunion.
9. Proposed by Robin Stanley and seconded by Ralph Porter that the OCA Reunion continues to be held at the Holiday Inn Barnsley for the foreseeable future. **Carried**

10. Proposed in his absence by the Chairman and seconded by Mick Lungair that consideration be given to change the frequency of the Reunion from two years to One. **Not Carried**
11. The Secretary reminded all members of the importance of keeping the OCA aware of any changes of circumstances, address/email/phone etc

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 1745hrs**

**J J Campbell**  
**Secretary OCA**

#### **Distribution**

Committee for Confirmation  
Then Website and File

#### **Action Points Arising**

1. Develop hyperlink(s) between OCA Website and 216 Facebook page – **Keith Weller** and **Steve Margison** with assistance as necessary from F/B admin guys
2. Drive and initiative to encourage more of our post '76 airborne signallers to become members of the OCA and to identify any potential website managers for the future. **Dougie Craig** with assistance as required from **all committee members**
3. Identify with the Holiday Inn, and notify the Secretary, of available dates, costs etc for the 2024 Reunion. **Tony Giles** and **Jim Campbell**
4. At the appropriate time address concerns over standards at the venue with hotel management. **Tony Giles**
5. Identify and present to the committee a suitable style name tag for wearing by individuals at the 2024 Reunion. Organise and run the 2024 OCA Reunion. **Tony Giles**
6. Design, produce and distribute necessary proforma to all members for the 2024 Reunion. **Tony Giles** and **Jim Campbell**

7. Continue the initiative of provision of OCA Commemorative Kneelers for possible placing in Caythorpe Church. **Treasurer**
  
8. Organise a Committee Meeting for May 2023 in order to check progress on all of the above and to adjust actions accordingly. **Jim Campbell**