

**MINUTES OF THE RAF CHAPLAINS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AFCC AMPORT HOUSE – 24th OCTOBER 2012**

Item	Discussion & Decisions	Action
1. Opening Prayer.	The Chairman opened the meeting with prayer and a silence was observed in memory of members who had died in the past year. Members noted with regret the deaths of Joseph (known as Jay) Payne and Ron McCleod.	All.
2. Apologies for absence.	Apologies were received from: Martin and Philippa Loveless, Pauline Parnell-Hopkinson, Dennis and Hilda Clark, Christine Mortimer, Chris and Elizabeth Ledgard, Andrew Butcher, John and Yvonne Hetherington, Mary Renowden, Molly James. Robin and Janet Noble apologised for not being able to stay for the AGM as they had to leave early.	Secretary
3. Minutes.	The Minutes of the 2011 AGM were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Malcolm Weisman, seconded by Tom Goode, passed nem con.	Secretary
4. Matters arising.	The Secretary stated that matters arising would be dealt with under items on the Agenda.	
5. Chairman's Report.	The Chairman thanked Brian McAvoy, treasurer, and David Mackenzie, secretary, for making the arrangements for the reunion and AGM.	Chairman
6. Secretary's report and news of members.	The Secretary reported that Membership stands at 75 ordinary members, with 14 widows honorary associate members. Of these only 21 are not on email. All serving chaplains were written to via the Chaplain-in-Chief's office and those who had recently retired. This produced only 3 new members: John Hetherington (retired) and his wife Yvonne, Ashley Mitchell (serving), John Carvosso (retired) and wife Ruth. By personal contact – Pat Holland (nee Billington) Chaplains' Assistant and Bill. The following members have resigned Richard Stevens, Bridget Kidd – Chaplains' Assistant, Jack Leeming. Of the 75 ordinary members there are 6 serving chaplains.	Secretary
7. Treasurer's report.	The Treasurer informed the meeting that the Association's financial year now runs from 1 October to 30 September each year. This enables a good picture of the funds to be given at the AGM in October. The Association has received a donation of £1,000.00 from the Chaplain-in-Chief for the specific purpose of a Welfare Discretionary Fund. The Treasurer recommended that £3,000 be transferred to a higher rate of interest account. Proposed by Brian Lucas, seconded by Malcolm Weisman, passed nem con. The Treasurer stated approximately £875.00 needed to come from funds to pay for the reunion, which would leave a balance in the account of about £1,500.00.	Treasurer
8. Constitution amendments and Election of officers.	Ratification was needed for last year's decision that the incumbent Chaplain-in-Chief be the President and the Venerable Herbie Stuart be an Honorary Life Vice-President. Proposed by Robin Turner, seconded by Malcolm Weisman, passed nem con. The Committee suggested amendments to the Constitution that the only officers of the Committee be the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary and no individual's names be in the Constitution. Proposed by Ray Hubble, seconded by Malcolm Weisman, passed nem con. Election of officers. Howard John proposed the current officers, seconded by Ray Pentland. There being no other nominations the current officers were re-elected nem con. No officer shall serve more than three years consecutively. Proposed by Ray Hubble, seconded by Brian Lucas, passed nem con. Welfare Member. The AGM in 2011 had agreed to enable Tony Fletcher to act as its Welfare Member. Unfortunately because of his wife's continuing ill health in 2012 he had been unable to fulfil this task. Robin Noble had been approached and was willing to take over this task on behalf of the Association. Discussion took place that members should contact the Welfare Member about those who are ill in order that they may receive the concern of the Association. All members present agreed that they would like their contact details to be made available to other members. The Secretary was tasked with contacting all members seeking their approval for this information to be made known to other Association members.	Chairman Welfare Member Secretary All
9. Regional Prayer services for the armed forces	Prayers for Heroes are being held in various venues including Melton Mowbray, Southwell Minster, Balderton, and soon to start in St Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh. The Chaplain-in-Chief will place copies of an Order of Service used by Brian McAvoy in the trays of all the bishops at November's General Synod.	All
10. Wreath laying at Menin Gate and Runnymede	A request had been made for the Association to fund the wreaths laid by New Entrant chaplains at the Menin Gate, Ypres and the RAF Memorial, Runnymede. This will provide another valuable link between the Association and currently serving chaplains in the RAF Chaplain's Branch. Wreaths should cost in the region of £75.00 per annum depending on the number of new entrant courses. Proposed by Robin Turner, seconded by Brian Lucas, passed nem con.	Treasurer

11. Any other business	A request was made for some resources about the Branch and its current commitments. The Chaplain-in-Chief is able to supply pictures but stressed that it is very much about an individual telling their own story. The current recruiting campaign is "Be part of the story". Care should also be exercised in preserving the personal security of those serving in dangerous situations. Thanks were expressed by the meeting to the Committee for an excellent reunion. It was agreed that an extra half hour's overtime be paid to extend the dinner night from 1830hrs to 2030 hrs in future years. The Chaplain-in-Chief was requested to pass our thanks to Nick Barry for speaking the previous afternoon about his experiences at Camp Bastion Hospital on his recent Out of Area Operations deployment. Members expressed their thanks for being able to share in the worship the previous afternoon when New Entrants had been licensed and welcomed into the RAF Chaplains' Branch. This would also happen at our next reunion if the dates coincide.	Committee Chaplain-in- Chief
12.	The next reunion and AGM will take place at the Armed Forces' Chaplaincy Centre, Amport House Tuesday 22 - Wednesday 23 October 2013. (Secretary's note: These dates have been confirmed by AFCC)	All

Robert Bailey Chairman	David Mackenzie Secretary
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