

**MINUTES OF THE RAF CHAPLAINS' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AFCC AMPORT HOUSE – 23th OCTOBER 2013**

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 Ian Smith, Geoff Prenton and David Barnes.	All.
2. Apologies for absence.	Apologies were received from: The Chaplain-in-Chief and Christine, Glen Bowie, John Carvosso, Graham and Edna Corduroy, John Daimond, Tony Fletcher, Ian and Melanie Greenhalgh, Des and Jean Harvey, Pat and Bill Holland, Mike Hucker (who sadly tendered his resignation), Gareth Jones, Richard Lee, Chris and Elizabeth Ledgard, Brian and Joy Lucas, David Maple, Christine Mortimer, Mary Renowden, Don Wallace. Ashley Wilson, and Alistair and Helen Davies who had to leave the reunion to return to work before the meeting.	Secretary
3. Minutes.	The Minutes of the 2012 AGM were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Robin Turner, seconded by Malcolm Weisman, 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 said that he had nothing to report as the work during the year has been done by the Treasurer and Secretary. He mentioned that on a visit to the National Arboretum he had noticed there was no memorial to Service Chaplains. He will raise the matter with the Chaplain-in-Chief for discussion with the heads of the Navy and Army chaplaincies. <i>(Note from the Chaplain-in-Chief - The plan is mid stage for an RAF Chaplains' Branch memorial. We are in discussion with the artist but the current plan is for a large copy of the wings and cross in marble or similar (about 6 feet approx). It is hoped that this will stand in the slight hill above the RAF section, in a symbolic gesture of looking after our people. The cost with an agreement for on going care of the memorial (to all who served) is around £22000 and donations are welcome - cheques made payable to the RAF Collections Fund (CofE). If our plans come to fruition it is likely we will hold a dedication serve in May to which all will be invited - especially those who have contributed.....)</i>	Chairman
6. Secretary's report and news of members.	The Secretary stated that there had been a poor response from members allowing their personal details to be circulated within the Association. He said that members wishing to contact other members should do so via him if they wished to. He reported that Membership stands at 71 ordinary members (a net reduction of 4 on last) year, with 14 widows honorary associate members. Of these only 18 are not on email. There are 6 serving chaplains – no change. Discussion took place about raising new members from within the Chaplains' Branch. The Chairman will speak with the new Chaplain-in-Chief when he is in post.	Secretary All Chairman
7. Treasurer's report.	The Treasurer reported that he was investigating a better rate of interest for the account. The accounts for the year are available on the RAF Chaplains' Association website. He stated that if a member withdraws giving sufficient notice, having paid for the annual meeting and dinner, then the Treasurer will refund the money. Proposed by Ray Hubble, seconded by Malcolm Weisman, passed nem con.	Treasurer
8. Welfare Officer's Report	The Welfare Officer, Robin Noble, has been in touch with a number of members by telephone and this contact has been much appreciated. He has been unable to make contact with some members and he will continue to pursue this. At last year's meeting copies of the menu were signed and sent to David Barnes who was dying and a close friend of his informed the Welfare Officer of the great comfort and pleasure that these had given David in his last days.	Welfare Officer
9. Constitution and Election of Officers	To facilitate the handing on of expertise in the role of the Officers so that all three officers do not change at the same time Brian McAvoy tendered his resignation. Martin Loveless was nominated and readily accepted the invitation to be Treasurer. Proposed by Brian McAvoy, seconded by Malcolm Weisman, passed nem con.	All
10. Regional Prayer Services	It was reported by members that regular services praying for the Armed Forces take place in Southwell Minster, Market Harborough, Melton Mowbray and Salisbury Cathedral.	All
11. Any other business	It was stated that last year's meeting had agreed to an extension of the time for dinner to 2030hrs. The Committee apologised for the oversight and will rectify the error next year. It was agreed that the speaker at the 2014 meeting will be the Revered Peter Lee, a former RAF Chaplain, and now lecturer at the Department of Air Warfare at RAFC Cranwell. His topic will be on the subject of the use of unmanned aircraft (drones). Ron Hesketh reminded the meeting of the work of the Naval, Military and Air Force Bible Society and that material for the Centenary of World War 1 may be obtained through the Society or by contacting him	Committee All
12.	The next reunion and AGM will take place at the Armed Forces' Chaplaincy Centre, Aampton House from Thursday 23 to Friday 24 October 2014.	All