

**Minutes of meeting of Lincoln Branch of the**

**Submariners Association**

**held on 13th Mar 2022.**

1. **Chairman Opening Remarks**:- The Chairman opened the meeting at 1235 and thanked all those for attending.
2. **Members Present**: - There were 8 members present.
3. **Apologies**: - Bungy Williams, Graham Sheppard, Steve Maden, Steve Unwin, Terry Eynon Roger Frankish.
4. **Obituaries**: - Before the Chairman asked for a Minutes silence for those who had recently Crossed the Bar, the Secretary explained that the normal list of CTB’s was not available at present. This was due to the In Memorial page on the National website being updated.
5. **Minutes of the last meeting**: - After a vote the Minutes of the previous meeting we accepted.
6. **Matters arising**:-
	1. NCC Recommendation 1 – What is The Submarine Family (TSF) Document: The secretary explained that this agenda item had been included a result of the release of the “What is the Submarine Family” document by the NMC. Some members felt that the content, and wording of the document, changed our understanding of what we voted on at the previous meeting. Also, members had concerns regarding membership fees to the other charities which are joining TSF and felt they would have to resign.
	2. During the healthy debate, the Chairman was able to provide a great deal of useful background information to the origins of the document, what had been happening with the NMC and the experience of the RNA. He agreed that the document was “dictator” and probably should not have been released. He stated that it is totally up to individual members regarding their continued support of the Friends of the Submarine Museum, We Remember Submariners and RNA and commended those who are still doing so.
	3. His main concern, which was shared by many members present, was that another Branch would put forward an alternative proposal which would result in the demise of national membership fees in favour of a larger annual grant. If this happened, and it was passed, then he would be forced resign from the NMC and SA and, indeed, the Lincoln Branch may also need to consider its position. As he was representing the Branch at the NCC, he needed to understand the way which the Branch wished him to vote.
	4. After several votes the following was agreed:
		1. The release of the “What is the Submarine Family” document did not change what we voted for at the previous meeting and therefore the Branch still supports Recommendation 1.
		2. The Branch does not support any alternative proposal which results in the demise of membership fees in favour of a larger annual grant from TSF.
7. **Chairman's Report**: - The Chairman briefed that the NMC has appointed a new Webmaster to revamp the SA Website. This was previously going to be handed over to Mindworks (who are contracted to the RNRMC), but it was felt that the SA would lose control of the content and costs if we needed to change anything. The National website will remain “as is”.
8. **Correspondence**: - The Secretary had received the following correspondence which he will enclose them with the minutes:
	1. A thankyou letter and certificate from the Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance for our recent donation of £150.00.
	2. A flyer from the RNA regarding a forthcoming “Falklands 40” event.

1. **Secretary's report**: - Nothing to report.
2. **Treasurer's Report**: -
	1. Monthly Statement Mar 21:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Opening Bank Balance** | **£3003.83** |
| Payments Received: |  |  |
| Members Collection (Feb) | 24.35 |
|  |  |  |
| Outgoing Payments: |  |  |
| Nil |  |
|  |  |  |
| **Balance at Bank** |  | **£3,028.18** |
| Liabilities:  | Air Ambulance Donation (cheque pending) | £150.00 |
| 2022 Diary Payment to National | £15.75 |
|  |  |  |
| Debtors: | Member's Dairy payment due | £2.75 |
| **Branch Balance** |  | **£2,865.18** |

* 1. £30.65 had been collected at this meeting.

1. **Standard Bearer: -** This is a new agenda item to let members know what Bungy has been up to with our Standard.
	1. Bungy reports that the Branch Standard will be paraded alongside those of the RNA and National Ganges Association Standards at the funeral of S/M Ron Brinkworth. Although not a Submariner, Ron was a WWII Veteran who joined the RN in 1941 for war service. He was also the oldest member of the Ganges Association at the age of 99. He attended the last GA reunion in 2019. He was a regular attendee at the Veterans Breakfast and Camaraderie Clubs in Lincoln. Along with all our dwindling number of WWII Veterans, his service to the country in its time of need should be fully recognised and respected at the hour of his 'Final Departure'. Ron's funeral is at Lincoln Crematorium on Tuesday, 29th March at 1430. His sons will be in attendance - aged 80 and 77.
	2. He also reports that he’s bought a new Sash to wear as the old one was looking tatty. He didn’t wished to be reimbursed for the cost of it.
	3. The Chairman stated that Bungy will be attending the opening of the new Memorial. He would liaise with David Willcock regarding seating for other guests.
2. **Social Secretary's Report**:- The Social Secretary briefed members of the results of his investigations from the last meeting. The company who ran with boat trips out of Newcastle has collapsed and there is no suggestion that they would restart. Access to Faslane Naval Base is still not possible unless it so for operational purposes/Covid. He had sent around an email with information/ideas about places for mid-week lunches and after some discussion and diary checking, a date of 30th March at the Nosey Parker was agreed. (This may have changed by the time these minutes were produced)
3. **Welfare**:- The Vice Chairman stated that he had called on Alex’s widow and she had not been well, but was on the mend. As she didn’t want flowers or anything like that it was agreed that he would organise a card to be sent on behalf of the Branch.
4. **AOB**:-
	1. Jack Hobson: Jack commented that it had been his intention to continue paying subscriptions once he became a Life Member of the SA age of 85. He may change his mind if a different proposal where we do not pay fees get passed. The chairman reminded everyone that even if the recommendation 1 is passed (retain fees, but join the family), that you will still be encouraged to donate to TSF. Jack stated that he honestly didn’t like the idea of TSF and doesn’t think he would want to pay into their Headquarters with the setup as it is now. The Chairman explained that there will be some items which needed to be ironed out once we have joined TSF.
	2. John Horton: John asked the chairman whom on the NMC did he speak to that could do things for him. The Chairman explained that he speaks with several Vice Presidents and that, although they were unable to vote on NMC matters, most had been in favour of Recommendation 1. He also went on to explain what has been happening within the NMC and the good work which is being done by the new Chairman as well as the voting process goes at the conference.
	3. Dave Bussey: Dave asked in anything had come out regarding Armed Forces Day? The Secretary stated that all he heard was from Bungy that there seems to be no impetus to get this going this year, so it looks unlikely to go ahead.
5. **Meeting closed at**: - 1350
6. **Next meeting:** 1230 on Sunday 10th Apr 2022. 1-week early owing to Easter.

Please be advised that these notes of the meeting cannot in any way be regarded as the official minutes until they are approved and accepted at the next meeting.