

CIRCUIT OF SERVICE LODGES

MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD AT FREEMASONS' HALL GREAT QUEEN STREET LONDON 23rd OCTOBER 2009

Present

WBro. A J C MacLachlan	Chairman – RAF Lodge 7335
WBro. R G Simpson	Secretary /Treasurer (Certa Cito)
WBro. D M Swain	Vice President – Navy Lodge No. 2612
WBro. A J M Smetham	Nil Sine Labore 2736
WBro. Thurlo C Haile	RNVR 3923
WBro. C Armstrong	RAF Lodge 7335
WBro. L Myers	Ubique Lodge 1789
WBro. Mal Weobley	Navy Lodge 2612

Apologies were received from:

WBro. Ian McRobbie Elthorne and Middlesex 2094
WBro. R. Porter Middlesex Imperial Yeomanry 3013
WBro P Moss Nil Sine Labore 2736
WBro P Sharpe (away on Metropolitan business)

Opening remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting at 1400 hours, giving Peter Sharpe's apologies that he was in Guernsey representing the Metropolitan Grand Master on official business.

Minutes of the AGM on November 2008 having been circulated were accepted

Matters arising

WBro M Weobley asked that his apologies be recorded for 2008. Celebration of Anniversary of Battle of Waterloo as a focal point for charity was discussed. WBro D Swain gave a resume of the success of Navy Lodges success in celebration Battle of Trafalgar and indicated he had written to all Naval Lodges for support – the appeal raising some £25,000; he indicated this had needed some determination and would possibly require a small committee of 3 people to see the project through. After some discussion it was felt that Victoria Rifles No.822 would be the correct vehicle for this project and that the sensible target for the charity would be Help the Heroes and Combat Stress

WBro Tony MacLachlan would bring this up with the Victoria Rifles committee and David Swain would be happy to advise. **Action AJCM**

Election of Chairman and Officers.

It was proposed that WBro. P Sharpe President be re-elected
Proposed by WBro. Smetham and seconded by WBro D Swain

It was proposed that WBro D Swain be re-elected Vice President
Proposed by WBro M Weobley and seconded by WBro Armstrong

It was proposed that WBro A J C MacLachlan was re-elected as Chairman
Proposed by W Bro Armstrong and seconded by WBro Weobley

It was proposed that WBro R.G. Simpson be re-elected Secretary and Treasurer
Proposed by WBro Swain and seconded by WBro Weobley

All proposals were confirmed unanimously

There was some discussion about the re-election of WBro R Stuart-Paul as Vice President as the Secretary had not received any indication from Bro Stuart-Paul that he was willing to stand – a vote was passed that should he be willing to stand for a further year the Committee would be delighted to confirm his re-election – it was agreed that the Chairman would ask WBro Peter Sharpe to approach Bro Stuart-Paul and obtain his agreement. **Action AJCM/PS**

Representatives addresses and contacts.

WBro Armstrong reported that the RAF Lodge secretary had changed and was now WBro Sqn Ldr Geoffrey Bakewell PProvSGD (Bucks)
222 Wendover Road
Weston Turville
Aylesbury
Bucks HP22 5TJ
01296 612309 geoffrey@bakewell232.freemasonry.co.uk

Action AJCM

WBro J C Eversfield of Certa Cito had indicated that he was standing down as representative of Certa Cito and the lodge had appointed WBro R.G. Simpson as their representative.

SECRETARY AND TREASURERS REPORT.

There had been continued interest in the website since the last meeting and it was shortly to be updated with new Email addresses and other lodge details, Lodges are encouraged to inform the Chairman should they wish to post information on the website.

The Bank balance had only had minor movement during the period – it currently stood at £561.51 A bill for the annual costs of the website £21.94 was paid to WBro D. Swain.

CIRCUIT EVENTS AND PROGRAMME

There had been an abortive attempt to organise a Circuit event in Portsmouth during this year but it was cancelled due to lack of support. WBro M Weobley reported similar lack of success with Royal Marine Band events as they proved to be too expensive as we were unable to claim a military charity status.

The view of the meeting, following discussion, was that London was the best venue to obtain support for such events and that the format of a lunch was probably the best - tied to some other visit or event.

WBro L Myers offered to approach to Mayor of Westminster to obtain permission for a Cocktail party in the 28th floor Mayors Parlour and Trophy room in Westminster which if he could arrange - it would be a prestigious location alternatively he has received an offer from Rules Restaurant, 35 Maiden Lane, Covent Garden - the oldest established restaurant in London (estb1798) as an event to support Help for Heroes following a raffle, this could be held on Armed forces day. The committee was asked to consider and advise him as soon as possible. **Action AJCM**

WBro Myers also reported that Navy Lodge No.1 in Washington DC held an open invitation to all military masons to visit – contact could be made via their website.

WBro Swain stated that Navy Lodge was considering having a demonstration team at their May meeting.

It was suggested that the Secretary emailed all lodges for events and send details to WBro Swain for inclusion in the Website (together with requests for one page histories to be submitted). **Action RGS**

Circuit Website

It was reported that the web site had received 2,000 visitors from 61 countries mainly UK Canada USA and Australia. 60% of visits came from search engines, while 20% came direct to website and 20% came via links from other sites. Most people looked at an average of 3.3 pages of the 6 available.

If members click on the logo for RAF and Navy Lodge on the site they will find that they can access the History of the lodges – if other lodges wish this facility please forward a one page history to D Swain.

We are endeavouring to add all Military Lodge Masonic promotions to the website but unfortunately Porchway cannot be relied upon to give up to date SLGR LGR LR promotions and is woefully out of date.

It was considered that now the website had been revamped that it was the best vehicle for our Newsletter information

Any other business

WBro L Myers returned a quantity of unused circuit badges.

Date of Next Meeting

Friday 1st October in conjunction with Navy Lodge meeting at Freemasons Hall

The secretary would book a suitable committee room.

Action RGS

The meeting closed at 3.15 pm