

**ROYAL NAVAL WRITERS' ASSOCIATION (RNWA) MEETING THURSDAY
20TH SEPTEMBER 2018 AT THE GOSPORT & FAREHAM RNA AT 19:10**

Present: - Colin Hughes President (CH)
Les Heyhoe BCAv Secretary (LH)
Pat Prior BEM QVRM Treasurer (PP)
Mike Moncur Committee (MM)
George Mytom-Hart BEM Committee (GMH)
Tony Webber Committee (TW)

Apologies: -

David Kelly Member (DK)
David McQuitty Member (DM)

1. Minutes

The minutes of the 19th July 2018 were taken as read and agreed.

2. Deaths

As is customary when a member 'Crosses the Bar', a minute's silence was held in respect of Mervyn A. Mortimore MVO - RIP 31/08/2018. As advised and made aware by the family, no service was held, therefore no RNWA representation was made.

3. Treasurer's Report

As at 20/09/18 a total balance held was £6,294.44 however this comprised of £2,2520.00 received in payment for the 131st Reunion Dinner being held Friday 12th October 2018.

4. Membership

Membership as at the date of the meeting comprised of: -

Honourary Members: 3
Life Members: 30
Members: 250
Total Membership 283

i. New members September – Eric Thorp of Corfe, Dorset / Gerald I. Williams of Knaresborough, N. Yorks. / Peter White of Derriford, Devon / Wtr. Rebecca Young of RNAS Culdrose.

5. Any Other Business

i. RNWA 131st Reunion Dinner Friday 12th October 2018 at the Royal Beach Hotel – the final close off date is the day following the meeting (*no exceptions*) and to date 84 were attending. Due to ill health and personal reasons, 3 who had previously requested to attend have had to withdraw i.e. Messrs Sir Miles Huntington-Whiteley VRD (£30.00 no refund required as advised to use money to subsidise RH Chelsea Pensioners attending) and Andy & Christine Baldwin (refund of £70.00 made). A list of all those attending will be placed on the website for information/interest.

ii. LH proposed, and it was agreed that a place was set at the Dinner for 'Absent Friends' and a few words said and spoken / menu to be updated– Action: LH / CH.

iii. An AGM Agenda will be issued via the website and in place at least 7 days prior to the event for all attending the dinner to see and notification placed requesting that AOB items are with the RNWA Secretary by Thursday 4th October 2018.

iii. GDPR forms continued to be returned after the close-off date but now as sufficient time had passed, a comment and note would be placed on the website and mentioned again in the next newsletter stating all forms of media would be used unless advised.

iv. The cost for a tree and plaque to be placed in the National Memorial Arboretum (NMA) on behalf of all the Writers who have fell in conflict from the RNWA's formation in 1867 is approximately £700. Prior to proceeding, a viewing of the area was discussed however PP would send through some RBL photos held as an example recently published in newsletters and magazines. This was to be discussed at the AGM for a proposed date of Spring / Summer 2019.

v. Post meeting, a letter from the solicitors Kingswell Berney Ltd handling the estate of former Life Member Lt. Albert John Parsons RN (Rtd) who 'Crossed the Bar 10/10/17' has left the legacy of £100.00. Subject to the outcome of the discussions and agreement of the AGM it is proposed that this sum is put towards 5iv.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 20:15.

Date of next meeting, after the AGM and RNWA Reunion Dinner, *19:00 Thursday 15th November 2018* at RNA Gosport & Fareham Branch. Please forward apologies if unable to attend.

Les Heyhoe BCav
RNWA Secretary & Membership
23/09/2018