

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

**Submariners Association**

**held on 15th Aug 2021.**

1. **Chairman Opening Remarks**:- The Chairman opened the meeting at 1130 and thanked all those for attending. This was the first face to face meeting since the Covid began and he thanks those that had taken part in the Zoom meetings. Although attendance was light, we still had a quorum.
2. **Members Present**:- There were 6 members present.
3. **Apologies**:- Roger Frankish, Mick Brockelsby, Graham Sheppard
4. **Obituaries**:- Before asking for a minutes silence for those who had recently Crossed the Bar, the chairman stated that he and Rick Elrick had intended to attend the funeral of Ken Nicholas. However, even though they set off with a few hours to spare, they were unable to make it due to the volume of traffic on the day. He had written to his Widow and Daughter on behalf of the Branch to apologise and pass on our condolences.
5. **Minutes of the last meeting**:- After a vote the Minutes of the previous meeting we accepted.
6. **Matters arising**:-
7. Opening of the Submarine Memorial – Branch Attendance. – It is intended that the new Submarine Memorial at the Arboretum will be unveiled in May 2022 (Date TBC). The NMC are seeking if Branches/Members wished to be represented. If so and they have previously donated to the Memorial fund they should contact the National Secretary. The Branch Secretary will promulgate the actual date when known in case members wish to be visiting the Arboretum by co-incidence.
8. The Chairman stated that there had been some changes to the design of the new memorial albeit it still does not resemble the winning design. It will now be cast in bronze and mounted on a hill to represent a surfacing submarine. A case had been put forward to incorporate the VC plaques from the old memorial into the new design but this had been rejected. They will be refurbished and placed in the Friends of the Submarine Memorial Garden as previously planned.
9. Proposed donation of £5000 from National Funds to the Memorial Fund. This recommendation came about as a result of the changes made at the last National AGM which restricted the NMC to release large sums of monies without approval by the wider SA membership. The NMC recommendation was to donate a further £5000 to the SM Memorial fund as well as encouraging Branches to donate. The Chairman explained that as results of the changes to the design, the cost of the new memorial had increased. After some discussion and vote, the recommendation was “Supported”. The Secretary will let the National Know. It was decided not to propose a Branch donation at this time.
10. Election of Branch Officials: The Chairman asked for votes to re-elect Branch Officials as below:
    * 1. President:

Rick Elrick – Re-elected

* + 1. Vice President:

John Horton – Re-elected

* + 1. Chairman:

Sandy Powell – Re-elected

* + 1. Vice Chairman:

Mick Brocklesby – Re-elected

* + 1. Treasurer:

As no volunteer had come forward, the Secretary undertook to take on the responsibilities of the Treasurer. An audit of the accounts and Hand over from Mick Brockelsby will take place before the next meeting. The intention is to retain Mick a signatory for cheques for logistical purposes.

* + 1. Secretary:

Ade Green – Re-elected

* + 1. Social Secretary:

Dave Bussey – Re-elected

* + 1. Welfare Rep:

All – The Chairman explained that all members are in effect Welfare Representatives.

1. **Chairman's Report**:- The Chairman stated that he would be making some changes to his affiliations which will leave him with more time to concentrate on the Branch Chairmanship role.
2. **Correspondence**:- The secretary reported that no correspondence had been received.

1. **Secretary's report**:- The secretary stated he would be contacting members to try and get better attendance at future meetings.
2. **Treasurer's Report**:-
   1. Monthly Statement Aug 2021:

Opening Balance £2,403,18

Payments Received: Nil

Outgoing Payments: Nil

Balance at Bank £2,403,18

1. **Social Secretary's Report**:-
   1. Christmas Dinner: The Social Sec reported Hemswell was all booked. He had sent out draft Menus and that any Member which had any specific dietary requirements should contact him. He re-iterated that menu choices would not be required until a month before the event. Payment, however, will be required at the November Branch meeting. He will also send out a request seeking those who require accommodation for the evening. Circa £110 Per room.

* 1. He undertook to resurrect the mid-week lunchtime socials and investigate Woodcocks and report at the Next meeting.
  2. The secretary suggested that, as the Gosport trip had become problematic owing to Covid but also the diverse accommodation requirements and references, that in future the trip be planned on the basis of Independent travel and accommodation. That will leave the Social Sec with just the requirement to arrange evening socials on either side.

1. **Welfare**:- The Chairman advised the meeting that Alex Last had crossed the bar. Mick Brockelsby was in contact with his Widow, Margarete, and we await funeral dates etc. He was intending to attend with the Branch Standard and would also arrange the White ensign as requested by the family. The Secretary stated that WRS had been informed and they were sending the usual wreath and Molly Pins.

David Willcock asked if the date could be promulgated when known as he knew people who were close friends of Alex and Margarete and would like to attend the Funeral. The Secretary undertook to provide the date when known.

1. **AOB**:-
   1. John Horton: John stated that Alex Last had been one of the founding members of the Branch. Alex, on hearing there was another ex-submariner in town, invited him to the Navy Club within 2 weeks of his arrival in Lincoln and they had been friends for a long time.
2. **Meeting closed at**:- 1230
3. **Next meeting:** Sunday 19th Sep 2021

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.