

MINUTES OF NO 3(F) SQUADRON ASSOCIATION AGM HELD ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON THURSDAY 20TH OCTOBER 2022 AT 7PM

Attendees (All on MS Teams):

Mr Phil Ward – Chairman
Air Commodore Ian (Cab) Townsend CBE RAF – President
Mr Clive Handy – Vice Chairman
Mr Dave Ellis – Treasurer
Mr Phil Wilsher – Membership Secretary
WO Glen Hadgraft – 3(F) Sqn Mentor
Mr Vic Lorriman
Mr Eric Chamberlain
Mr John Todd
Mr Bob Farrell
Mr David Perry
Mr Keith Grumbley
Mr Duncan Olsen – Secretary

Apologies:

Gp Capt Syd Morris
Wg Cdr Frankie Buchler - OC 3(F) Sqn
Mr John Ford
Mr Dave d'Souza

Item 1 - Chairman's Opening Remarks

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7pm and welcomed all attendees.

Item 2 - Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Chairman reported that the minutes of the last AGM held at Barnsdale Lodge Hotel on Saturday 23rd October 2021 at 10am had been circulated and no comments had been received. The minutes were proposed by Clive Handy, seconded by Phil Wilsher and carried unanimously as a true and accurate record of the 2022 AGM.

Item 3 - Election of the Committee

Duncan Olsen was welcomed to the committee as Secretary to replace Dave Perry. The rest of the committee has offered to remain in post. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Dave Perry for his input over many years. The members of the committee were proposed by the President, seconded by Keith Grumbley and carried unanimously.

Item 4 - Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented the following report:

'Since the last AGM, the Association's activities have been focussed on the memorial project. The project was launched following the legacy left to the Association by the late Bob Barckley, funding began last Autumn and soon after we received a substantial donation from Thelma East, widow of our founder Alan East.

With guidance and recommendations from Roger Gault on how to develop a suitable design I researched other RAF projects already sited at the NMA. The NMA's response was 'we have more than enough black granite thank you.' It was agreed that green granite with gold lettering was appropriate and my own design was met with general approval. After much discussion and thorough research by our historian Vic Lorriman, the wording was agreed to be accurate and did not contain any unsubstantiated claims.

The location for the 3(F) memorial was agreed with the NMA and that it would be placed adjacent to another senior squadron and would be separated by the RAF Police memorial.

Remarkably we have achieved our funding target of £24,000, which includes the NMA's long term, insurance, care and maintenance package. The final donation to complete the funding came from the RAF Historical Society via its President Sir Richard Johns. It is possible that further funding will be required for the dedication event, so payment of overdue subscriptions would be most welcome. Remarkably, there are still a significant number of members who have not yet contributed to the memorial fund.

The Squadron's 110th anniversary was celebrated in fine style in May at Woodhall Spa followed by a station visit, kindly arranged by current OC3 Frankie Buchler. Vic Lorriman must be congratulated for successfully arranging for Philip Brooke Popham, son of the Squadron's first OC, to attend the station visit. A former RN pilot and aged 94, he agreed to try out the Typhoon Flight Sim and carried out a successful sortie which included taking out two hostiles.

It was proposed that we should consider moving our annual reunion date from October to May to coincide with the Squadron's anniversary. Since the memorial dedication at the NMA is planned for Friday May 12th 2023 (May 13th was unavailable) it was convenient to take advantage of this occasion, so the reunion dinner will be held at the Hilton in Burton on Trent.'

Item 5 - Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the following report:

'The accounts for FY 2021/22 were completed and independently checked. Main points from the year's accounts showed that the newsletter cost has been dramatically reduced this year. We had an operating loss of **-£967.40** of receipts over payments but this was due to the payment of **£1000** for the NMA application fee. An overall balance of **£17542.84** carried forward to FY 2022/23. The 2021/22 accounts were proposed by Dave Ellis, seconded by John Todd and carried unanimously. The Statement of Account for FY 21/22 is attached.

The accounts to date are healthy with a current surplus of **£1892.04** of receipts over payments and a total balance of **£22772.00** comprising **£3691.17** in the current account and **£19080.93** in the Memorial account. After payment of the NMA application fee and the stonemason's deposit we have a memorial liability of **£22028.18** and we are **£3142.87** short of the target. This is currently covered by the main fund but that will leave just **£548.30** in the current account if no further donations are received. So far this FY **£629.21** has been paid in membership subscriptions. However, the numbers on the books paying annual subs remains disappointing.'

Clive Handy proposed a vote of thanks to the Treasurer for his continued excellent work on the Associations finances. All attendees were in agreement.

Item 6 - Membership Report

The Membership Secretary presented the following report:

'To start I have the sad news that since the last AGM 10 Members of the Association have passed away, they are: -

002	Mr M LINE	09/03/22 (Sabre Geilenkirchen, 1954-56)
007	Mr B SCOTFORD	25/06/22 (Sabres & Hunters Geilenkirchen, 1954-56)
127	Mr JE PIDGON	(Canberra, Geilenkirchen 1963-66), partner Val now 127H
257	Mr AWA WRIGHT	31/01/22 (Vampire & Sabre, Geilenkirchen, 1951-54) partner Shelia now 257H
275A	Mr WJE HAWKINS	07/22 (Typhoon 1943)
283	Mr DMJ LEE	(Harrier, Gutersloh 1985-89)
	Mr R CHADWICK	05/08/22 (Harrier 1975-78) partner Carol now 516H

As of 19th October 2022, we have a total of 281 Members of the Association, this is up by 28 from last year. This is a breakdown of the membership:

Honorary Members -	28 (of this number 22 are dependents of past members)
Associate Members -	10
Full Members -	243

Of our total membership, 73 members have been kind enough to assist with our costs by contributing to our membership payments this year and I would like to thank

all concerned, it has helped a great deal with running the Association. It would be very helpful to the Association if all members contributed. The costings for printing and postage of issues 92-94 of the 'Three's Company' newsletter was £30.24. I have reduced printing costs by printing the postal versions of the newsletter myself and this year I have not had to purchase any paper or ink cartridges. Postal membership is now 13, up a few from last year.

Just to remind everyone the Association Membership year runs from 1st April each year, and any membership fees paid after 1st January of that year automatically count for the following years membership, so please help and keep up your payments.'

Item 7 – AOB

Membership Subscriptions. The AGM discussed the situation with membership subscriptions. It was decided that the Association did not want to ostracise the membership with constant reminders for payment but needed to ensure that the Association was financially viable. The upcoming dedication of the Squadron Association memorial at the NMA would provide a memorable occasion which could encourage subscription. This subject would be looked at again after the event at the NMA.

Dedication of the Memorial at the NMA.

Recce The members of the committee along with the Sqn Mentor will visit the NMA on 17th November 2022 to carry out a recce with respect to the site of the memorial, available catering options, available space for ceremonial and dedication, etc.

Event

The Dedication of the 3(F) Sqn Association Memorial will take place at the NMA on Friday 12th May 2023.

Invitations

The President will send an email invitation to the event to former Squadron Commanders and VIPs. At the same time a 'Save the date' email will be sent to all Association members which will include details of the NMA event and the Reunion Dinner.

As requested, the Secretary has provided email addresses of former Squadron Commanders to the President.

Donation. The Chairman informed the meeting the Mrs Long had donated the last 12 of Jack Long's Book, Three's Company, to the Association.

Newsletter. Clive Handy informed the meeting that he would be sending out the next Newsletter by Christmas. Any articles, photographs or anecdotes would be gladly received for inclusion.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm.

Signed

Duncan Olsen
Secretary

Attachment 1 – Statement of Account FY21/22

3(F) Squadron Association Fund

Receipts and Payments Account for the period from 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

RECEIPTS

Subscriptions	931.46
Regalia Sales	135.42
Reunion Raffle	212.00
Other Income/Donations	0.00
Sqn Memorial	753.25

TOTAL RECEIPTS £2,032.13

PAYMENTS

Newsletter costs	30.24
Web site fees	175.00
Advertising	180.00
Regalia costs	333.22
Other expenditure	497.82
Sqn Memorial	1773.25

TOTAL PAYMENTS £2,989.53

SURPLUS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS -£957.40

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD AS AT 01 APRIL 2021 £5,756.51

BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD AS AT 31 MARCH 2022 £4,799.11

REPRESENTED BY:

Lloyds - Treasurers account	1799.11
Lloyds - Savings account (Memorial Fund)	15743.73

£17,542.84

Outstanding Payments Cheque no.

0.00

£17,542.84

Signed 
DG Ellis
Hon Treasurer


P Ward
Chairman

In my opinion, based on the information given to me by the club's officers, this statement provides a correct record of the clubs receipts and payments for the year to 31st March 2022 and of its balances carried forward at that date.

Signed 

16 May 2022

S. R DALTON