

**MINUTES OF NO 3(F) SQUADRON ASSOCIATION AGM HELD ON MICROSOFT TEAMS ON TUESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023 AT 7PM**

**Attendees (All on MS Teams):**

Mr Phil Ward – Chairman  
Air Vice-Marshal Ian (Cab) Townsend CBE RAF – President  
Mr Clive Handy – Vice Chairman  
Mr Dave Ellis – Treasurer  
Mr Phil Wilsher – Membership Secretary  
Mr Vic Lorriman – Historian  
Mr Bob Farrell – Webmaster  
Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Johns, GCB, KCVO, CBE, FRAeS  
Air Chief Marshal Sir Clive Loader, KCB, OBE, ADC, FRAeS  
Mr Eric Chamberlain  
Mr Don Fennessey  
Mr Roger Gault  
Mr Keith Grumbley  
Mr David Mackenzie  
Mr Paul O'Reilly  
Mr Richard Patounas  
Mr Phil Pinney  
Mr Pete Simpson  
Mr Duncan Olsen – Secretary

**Apologies:**

Gp Capt Chris Moon  
Gp Capt Syd Morris  
Mr Mike Butler  
Mr Richard Collins  
Mr Ian Hudson  
Mr Brian Moore  
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 on Microsoft Teams on Thursday 20th October 2022 at 7pm had been circulated and no comments had been received. The minutes were proposed by Clive Handy, seconded by Paul O'Reilly and carried unanimously as a true and accurate record of the 2022 AGM.

### **Item 3 - Election of the Committee**

The Chairman commented the current committee made a very strong team and had a successful year with the commissioning and dedication of the memorial at the NMA and the subsequent reunion dinner. As there have been no offers from the membership to take up any of the positions on the committee and the current committee were happy to remain in post there were no changes that required a vote.

### **Item 4 - Chairman's Report**

The Chairman presented the following report:

'This year's main event was the completion of the memorial project at the NMA. The response to raising the funds has been remarkable with the amount of money required being achieved in a very short time. Generous donations from relatives of late Squadron members and the current membership formed the basis of the fund with additional funds from the RAF Historical Society via Sir Richard Johns, BAE Systems, and the Worshipful Company of Pewterers.

The journey to completion involved some unexpected deviations, which were successfully negotiated by members of the committee, in particular some creativity by our Treasurer Dave Ellis. We do have a particularly strong committee at the moment, including guest input from Vic Lorrigan whose tenacity for seeking out accurate historic detail is outstanding. The committee members are to be complimented on their professionalism.

Our President AVM Cab Townsend was tireless in his communications with the RAF officials, 3(F) Squadron, the industry and the civilian dignitaries. His input is a valuable asset to the Association, and he should be congratulated on his recent and well-deserved promotion.

The memorial dedication coincided with the Squadron's 111th anniversary so it was agreed that we should hold our annual Reunion locally at the Hilton near Burton on Trent. In 2024 we will be returning to the Golf Hotel in Woodhall Spa on the evening of Friday May 10th. A visit to the Squadron has been requested during the day on the 10th and noted by current OC3 Frankie Buchler and the plan will be passed on to his successor.'

### **Item 5 - Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer presented the following report:

'Since we last met this has been a very busy financial period with normal business running alongside the Memorial Appeal.

**Current Account** – We had an operating loss of -£758.94 of receipts over payments with an overall balance of £977.07 carried forward to FY 2023/24.

**Memorial (Savings) Account** – With more donations coming in we had a gain of £27167.24 of receipts over payments. After payments to the stonemasons and deposits to the dinner and NMA reception were paid an overall balance of £14846.38 was carried forward to FY 2023/24.

After final payments for the successful installation of the Squadron Memorial and celebration dinner there was a final balance of £80.47.

The [Statement of Account for 2022/23](#) and [Memorial Account Statement](#) were completed and independently checked. They are available to view on our [website](#) and can be found in the Governance pages.

These were proposed for acceptance by Dave Ellis and seconded by Duncan Olsen - Carried unanimously.

**FY 23/24** – The accounts to date remain healthy with a current balance of £2602.95 comprising £596.55 in the current account and £2006.40 in the savings account. So far this FY £520.00 has been paid in annual subscriptions. This is just 21% of the eligible membership so the payment of subs remains disappointingly low.

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:

'Earlier on this year the committee did a well overdue scrutiny and update to the membership list, updating emails and telephone numbers etc.

As of today, 10th October 2023 we have a total of 277 Members of the Association, this is down by 4 from last year, after the adjustments. This is a breakdown of the membership: -

Honorary Members –	28 (of this number 24 are dependents of past members).
Associate Members –	12.
Full Members –	237.

Next, I have the sad news that since the last AGM 5 Members of the Association have passed away, they are: -

009 Mr D NURSAW – Informed Deceased February 2023 (Hunters Geilenkirchen 1956-7).

- 021 Mr & Mrs PC VANGUCCI – Informed Deceased Early 2023 (Hunters, Geilenkirchen 1956-7).
- 032 Mr CE NEILL – Informed Deceased 20 April 2023 (Sabres, Geilenkirchen 1953-56).
- 190C Air Marshal JH THOMPSON - Informed Deceased 15 March 2023 (Harriers Gutersloh 1983-6)

Tertius Primus Erit

Of our total membership, only 72 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 all helps to run the Association. It would be very helpful to the Association if all members contributed. Because of this lack of funding, the postal copies of the Association's newsletter 'Three's Company' are only sent out to Full and Associate Members with no email address that have paid their membership.

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 that year's membership, so please help and keep up your payments.

#### **Item 7 – AOB**

**Membership Subscriptions.** The subject of the payment of Membership Subscriptions was highlighted in both the Treasurer's and the Membership Secretary's reports. At present only 21% of the membership pay their annual membership subscription of £10. To ensure that the Association was financially viable members are requested to consider paying this year's subscription and setting up an annual standing order from April 2024. A link to the details on the Association website is [here](#).

**Annual Reunion.** The Annual Reunion will take place at RAF Coningsby on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024 followed by the Annual Dinner at the Golf Hotel in Woodhall Spa. Full details will be sent out by email shortly.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm.

Signed

*Duncan Olsen*

D OLSEN  
Secretary  
3(F) Sqn Association