



**RECORD OF DECISIONS - NMBVA NEC MEETING**  
**Held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018**  
**Tillington Hall Hotel, Stafford**

**Item 1** Meeting Opened at 08:57 hrs. by National  
Chairman Mr Malcolm White

**Item 2** **Members Present:**  
Malcolm White (Chairman), Grahame Bamford (Vice Chairman),  
Ted Williams (Secretary), Bob Roberts (Membership Secretary),  
Dick Richardson (Treasurer), Annie Burden (Webmaster & Regalia  
Officer), Valerie Nisbet NEC Member & Overseas Co-ordinator), Brian  
Roche (NEC Member & Postal South Co-ordinator), Clive Boyles  
(NEC Member and Postal Central)

**Item 3** **Exhortation:** Mr Grahame Bamford (National Vice Chairman).

dinner

**Item 2** **Welcome & Report by the National Chairman**  
**Mr Malcom White**

Welcome to you all and thanks for attending. I would like to welcome Grahame back onto the NEC committee. This is my first meeting as Chairman, however I have worked with you all as a committee member and as the National Vice Chairman, and I am sure that due to our experiences there will be no problem that we can't overcome. The AGM went quite well, there was only approximately 50 members, this reflects the age of members, unfortunately a number have taken their last posting, others no longer able to travel. While some are baby-sitting for their grandchildren. We had a rose bowl suitably engraved to thank Brig General Kamerol Said, to show our appreciation for his work on behalf of the association. Regrettably he was called back to Malaysia and his tour of duty in the UK is coming to an end, so Ted arranged, a luncheon in the Union Jack Club at which I presented him with the rose bowl on behalf of the Association. There were representatives from various Branches present. The Brigadier was most grateful and presented the Association with a shield (Chairman showed the shield around). Unfortunately, the Association I believe have had a number of trophies but where to display them? Ted suggest we could display them at the AGM Gala

**Item 3**      **Apologies:** All members in attendance

**Item 4**      **NEC meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2017.** The committee went over the minutes, there were no matters arising

**Item 5**      **Acceptance:** Proposed by Mr Dick Richardson seconded Mr Bob Robert that minutes be accepted as a true record.

**Item 6**      **Treasurers Report by Mr Dick Richardson**  
The Treasurer issued all members with an income and expenditure account, Assets Stand at £2748.96, Today I have received cheques from Postal North, Central and South, suffice to say that we are well in the Black. Ted thanked Dick for a very comprehensive report, at this time of the year the accounts change fast due to income coming in etc. Therefore, the next NEC meeting in August we will have the end of the financial year report, which will be far more meaningful

**Acceptance** Proposed by Mrs Annie Burden seconded by Mr Roberts

**Item 7**      Motion by Mrs Annie Burden. Reference the increase of annual National subscription from £7 to £10 agreed at the 2017 AGM. I propose that spouses/partners of fully paid up members are exempted from the increase, they do not get The Keris or the newsletter and only jointed to support their husbands/partners many of which would not attended the meetings without their spouse, husbands/partners, this has come from members of Colchester members, if this is not approved we will lose members The Chairman I propose that we create another category of membership "Affiliative Members" members who's subscriptions be fixed at £7  
Dick; I agree because if they are living together they both pay the full amount, which is unfair. Ted; I disagree the AGM voted that the annual subscription went up to £10 full stop, If another category of membership is created we should consider their rights i.e. should they have full voting rights, if they are not paying the full subscription as an ordinary/associate member The Chairman argued that the association saves money by that fact that the affiliated would not receive the Keris or newsletter, and being members should have full voting rights. This became a lengthy debate, and was proposed that the association create another category of membership, only opened to those members living with a fully paid up member called "Affiliate Member" who will only pay £7 per year

Votes for 7 against 2 This is subject the approval by the AGM

**Item 8** Membership of the Association since the AGM

	Oct 2017	Feb 2018	Diff
A: Members on the database	1468	1423	45
B: Paid up Members	1343	1298	45
C: In arrears	183	125	58
Membership is made up of			
A: Associate Members	140	143	3
B: Honorary Members	18	17	1
C: Ordinary Members	1368	1263	105

**Recruitment since last AGM**

A: associate members	12	4
B: Ordinary Members	28	6
C: Returning Members	34	10

We have lost since the last AGM

A: Deceased	48	24
B: Lost Touch	100	50*
C: Resigned	38	5

Breakdown of the branches with members who have not paid their subs for 2018/2019.

1St Lincolnshire 10

North Kent 21 have not been in touch after the closure of branch

North Wales 20

Pontypridd 4

Southern Area 12

Surrey 14

Thames Valley 7

Tyneside 8

Ted;. Since we change the system and date of the fiscal year, there as appeared to have been an elapse by some of the Branch. It was agreed that all branches would come into line, thereby paying notational subscriptions for the next financial year, by the 30<sup>th</sup> June this makes both the Membership Secretary, and National Treasures easier. it was also agreed that members paying by standing order would retaining the same date. Dick; it is a laborious job trying to keep track of non-payees, and to present an accurate account at the AGM. Dick also stated that he was experiencing difficulties

in getting some members to increase the amount they pay, he has sent out reminder letters. This developed into a lengthy debate, Ted suggested that we re-schedule this topic for the August NEC meeting, when we should have a better idea of figures. This was agreed.

Chairman thanked Bob Robert, for a very precise report, and requested Dick to bring full figures on those paying by standing order on the next NEC meeting in August.

**Item 9**

Overseas Membership by Mrs Valerie Nisbet

I have sent out copies of the Kris Magazine by e-mail to all members, one member came back and said it was a great magazine. I have not heard from any once since Christmas

**Item 10**

Postal Central by Mr Clive Boyles MSM, I have had all the documentation from Bob and Brian. I have 97 who pay by Standing order the rest pay annually by cheque I have one-member Maurice Mann, who according to the documentation should pay by cheque, but according to him he pays by standing order. Brian; you have 2 Mann's one pays by cheque the other by standing order. Ted; all you have to do is clarify this with the National Treasurer or Membership Secretary. Treasurer it's Mr Mann 6061 pays by Standing order Maurice Mann pays annually; Clive I had a telephone call from a Mr Basil Twist (1185) to say that he had sent the National Treasure a cheque for £17, £7 for last year £10 for this year, have you received Dick? This has been received. I received a message form a Mr Williams requesting a new membership card, I have got some off Bob and set him one. Another one for Dick, I have paid out £56 on postage £8.75 envelopes and £11.74 for an ink cartage, Do I take this money out of the £100 postage I was given up front? Dick no I top up the postage, any other expenses please send an expenditure pro-forma with recipes. Comments from National to save time at the meeting most of the above could have been resolved before the meeting.

Postal South Brain went over the figure for Postal South, which thanks to Brian is running very smoothly

Postal North, again running very smoothly thanks to Bob

Clive Boyles; When I get alterations to membership, do I change my database? Ted; No the only person to change the database is Bob, who will send out up to date periodically

**Item 11**

Recruiting Campaign, Ted: there are a lot of other military associations closing down, why don't we try and recruit some of these veterans as associated members. Grahame, the RBL are losing members and he knows a number who served in Malaya and they are not interested. There appeared to be a lack of interest in the idea. Ted; said unless we show some

emphasise we shall just waste away. Chairman we should put this to the AGM

**Item 12**

Strategy for the future, National Chairman,  
We are getting to the time when we should start thinking about the future and making plans, I think we have three to four years to go financially.

Dick a lot will depend on the viability of the NEC, we are all getting older and there is a lack of volunteers. Mal I am thinking of the financial side

2<sup>nd</sup> stage cut the size of the NEC and use of skype for meetings  
Reduce the size of the annual magazine to A5 i.e. the same size as the Christmas letter

Mal, they are just a few thoughts. At the next NEC meeting we'll draw up a frame work

**Item 13**

Regalia Officers Report, Mrs Annie Burden  
We have run out of Blazer badges, Ted is getting some made.  
Ted; Unfortunately, we have run into a production problem, hopefully I should receive them next week.  
Annie; we have only got blue ties in stock. Good news the stock of Christmas cards is gradually going down  
Annie went over stock held, Chairman perhaps at the next meeting we can have a written list of stock, this would be far more meaningful than listen to numbers  
However, I wish to thank Annie not only looking after our regalia, but also her dedication to the Association and taking care of the Association website. I believe we all seek her advice at times

**Item 14**

Communications  
e-mails; Chairman, we invariably send e-mail and get no acknowledgement (there are programme which we automatically do this) however, would all NEC members please acknowledge receipt of emails, a simple roger, would suffice, It would be nice if we could find a provider with a box we could tick for an automatic service. It was agreed that we would carry on using the present system, and members will send an acknowledgement Ted; it is not unusual for an e-mail to go straight to my spam folder or even the trash box. Mal I sometimes have the same problem, even when I tick the "Not spam box", therefore we must be aware of the problem Annie, if you use "Use Outlook" this would help to solve the problem.

Skype: Mal, I have already mentioned this, I have only used person to person, I don't know the complications if you use for a conference, and how hard it would be to control. Ted the Guards Para association use it, I shall enquire how successful it is and report back. Mal; before the next meeting Annie, Ted and I will carry out a trial.

**Item 15**

Keris Magazine, this is the ninth edition, and it's getting hard to find suitable material and even harder to get a balance between the services. I do believe

members appreciate our publications. If you have any articles if possible with photographs, please send them to me. Brian our publications are the cement that glues to the association together, in particular to postal members which is the only communications with the association. Mal emphasized that publications are only sent out to paid up members

**Item 16** Approval of the amended Constitution

The National Secretary has rewritten the constitution to reflect changes made to the procedures for the election of Association Office and new subscriptions. The committee went over constitution word by word. The 2017 constitution is now on the website and can be down loaded. For ease of scrutiny all amendments are written in Italics. Thanks to Valerie for making the corrections

**Item 17** Protocol

Dear Secretary,

I write to you on a matter of some importance. It has been brought to the attention of the NEC that there are a number of association members and some branch secretaries who are failing to comply with the recognised rules of protocol and procedures. This could, and sad to say in some cases has, caused offence or embarrassment.

Therefore, to avoid such situations, one must adhere to this golden rule: 'At all times the first and only point of contact must be the National Secretary on all matters regarding the association and on no occasion should you make a direct approach to the association president'. We must always keep in mind the president is an extremely busy gentleman with very little free time.

So long as we all use the proper channels it avoids having to send out this type of missive.

This should be brought to the attention of all members there are only people with direct access to the President, that is the National Chairman or National Secretary

**Item 18** Review of Awards, National Chairman the National Secretary has suggest that that we gave some form of award recognition of service to Branch Secretaries Treasures and outstanding Services.

Without the dedication of these members the Association would cease to function it was decided, after a long discussion it was decided to present Branch Secretaries and Treasures NEC member with a certificate at 5 years' interval, and also a certificate to those who make an outstanding contribution to the Association.

It was also agreed that would start making presentation first to those already in position with long service.

**Item 19** Any Other Business

**Item 20** Dick Richardson A member of my ranch is organising an appeal for Blind Veterans. I have brought some badges and a box giving members here an opportunity to contribute

**Item 21** Grahame asked how many vice presents could we have? Ted as many as we would like, it's an award in recognition for outstanding service to the Association. Grahame I propose that we make David Neil a life time vice president for his service to the Association  
This was carried unanimously

**Item 22** The meeting closed at 1147, the Chairman wished everyone a safe journey back home.

Next NEC meeting same location on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2018