



**RECORD OF DECISIONS - NMBVA NEC MEETING**  
**Held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2016**  
**Tillington Hall Hotel Stafford**

Meeting Opened at 09:00 hrs.

**Members Present:**

David Neil (Chairman), Malcolm White (Vice Chairman), Ted Williams (Secretary), Dick Richardson (Treasurer), Annie Burden (Webmaster & Regalia Officer), Valerie Nisbet (NEC Member), Brian Roche (NEC Member & Postal South Co-ordinator), Clive Boyles (NEC Member & Overseas Postal Co-ordinator)

**ITEM:**

The National Chairman Mr David Neil opened the meeting at 0857

**Item 1 -** **Exhortation:** Mr Malcom White (National Vice Chairman)

**Item 2 -** **Welcome by the National Chairman**

David Neil, National Chairman. Welcome, and thank you all for coming. Unfortunately Bob cannot be with us having taken a nasty fall. However he is back home and progressing slowly. The Chairman emphasised this was a very important meeting, having a lot to discuss on various topics. He thanked all members for their loyalty and hard work, saying he is sure most members do not realise how much hard work goes on behind the scenes, and going by my own Branch we will always get criticism, but let's continue the good work until the AGM in October and see what pops out of the hat.

**Item 3 -** **Apologies:** Bob Roberts (Membership Secretary & Postal North coordinator), having sustained some nasty injuries due to a fall. All members of the NEC send their best wishes to Bob for a full and speedy recover.

**Item 4** **Record of decisions** made at NEC Meeting held at the Tillington Hall Hotel on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015

**Item 5** Proposed by Malcom White seconded by Valerie Nisbet that the minutes be accepted as a correct record.

Vote: - Unanimous

**Item 6** **Matters arising.** No Matters arising

**Item 7**

**National Treasurers Report: Dick Richardson**

Dick issued all present with a copy of the Assets & Liability account and revenue account and went over the accounts. Stating that we are well within budget, he pointed out the increase in the capital account is due to the fact that he closed the Britannia account in January and transferred it to the Capital account. (This was agreed to in a previous meeting because a) this was the old St Paul's Fund, which was difficult to administrate due to location. We were running 2 St Paul's funds, which was a cause of confusion. This also gives us the option of being able to get at the money without a great deal of difficulty for the current St Paul's project.

Taking the St Paul's project into account we should still end the financial year in a healthy state.

Acceptance of Treasurers report proposed by Valerie Nisbet seconded by Mal White – Carried

**Item 8**

Regalia: Annie Burden.

The National Chairman had introduced NMBVA Coasters hopefully to be sold at the Gala dinner and Mansion House. Annie confirmed with the Chairman, that there would only be a limited number made and they would be primarily made to order, therefore Annie would make a pro-forma to enable her to take orders. Colours it was decided to go for a standard green. It was also agreed that the selling price to include box and label would be £12.

**Item 9**

Website: Annie Burden.

The company who have supported us since start-up of our site are no longer in the position to continue. She has found another company who are prepared to support us indefinitely; regrettably in the transfer of information from one system to another we lost all the information, therefore this has to rebuild the site. A lot of the important information is back on, however she would like to put the rebuilt site back on in one go.

Mal:- Annie, once the site is rebuilt could you kindly let me know the size and I shall make a backup copy to try and ease the situation if a similar problem should ever arise in the future.

**Item 10**

Membership Secretary:

Ted issued all committee members with a copy report. Dick suggested that a copy of this should be sent to all Branch Secretaries. Ted pointed out this report will be incorporated in the NEC report which will go out to all Branch Secretaries and posted on the Association website.

**Membership Secretaries report - NEC Meeting 2 April 2011**

**1:** Recruitment has gone well again this year with 72 new members and 22 returning members. Once again these figures have been offset with posting upstairs, lost or resigned. This year's winter weather has taken its toll again. Once again Solent Branch recruitment has been good, branch membership now stands at 81. We are also appealing to another generation as we have two associate members who are the grandchildren of a member.

**2:** Associate membership is

	Oct 2014	Oct 2015
A: members on the data base	1754	1682
B: Paid up Members	1553	1502
C: in arrears	201	180

**3:** Membership made up of

A: Associate members	124	137
B: Honorary members	19	19
C: ordinary Members	1611	1526

**4:** Since the last AGM

We have recruited

A: Associate members	21	44
B: Honorary members	1	
C: Ordinary members	43	28
D: Returning members	69	22

We have lost

A: Deceased	36	47
B: lost touch	21	10
C: Resigned	57	40

**5:** Once again I would ask branch secretaries to try and determine why a member has not renewed their membership. It gets embarrassing when I ring a member to try and win them back only to find that they had passed away some time ago. So far I have been in contact with 90 members who are in arrears with their annual subscriptions with quite a good response. Technically, according to the Constitution, any member who has not paid their subscriptions by the 1<sup>st</sup> October is deemed to have resigned. So secretaries please try to help me.

Dick considering the antiquity of some of us we are holding out nicely.

Proposed by Dick Richardson seconded By Clive Boyles that the report be accepted. This was agreed

**Item 11** Overseas Membership: Clive Boyles

Clive issued all members a database of the overseas members with written comments.

In January, I sent the Christmas newsletter on mass, the first time I have used this technique. I waited a little while, but got no replies. I therefore called in Gillian who has more computer knowledge than I. We then sent out the same information using PDF. 33 e-mails sent out, 7 rebounded, one wished to pay by bank card (Dick has details) and 2 others. I have a list, but I am wondering what all the codes mean:

Code = P Pay by cheque; B = Pay via Branch; S0 = Pay by Standing Order; NTR = Paid Direct to National Treasurer.

There was a discussion, where it was suggested that Clive contacts Bob for clarification. Clive also stated that he would like to write a letter to all overseas members with a return form. (Clive pointed out that he was given £100 2 years ago of which he has only spent £14). Chairman, I suggest that we defer this to the August meeting, when hopefully we will have all the necessary information too hand.

Brian, not on the agenda, But I feel is worthwhile informing members Postal South out of 140 anticipating fee payments I have had 126 returned to date, all agreed this was a very good response.

**Item 12** Journal 2016 – 2017: led by Malcolm:

Not a lot to report at this stage. I have given Tony a number of articles for the journal. We will be meeting up at St Paul's. Tony will also be taking photos of the Gala Dinner, St Pauls and the Mansion House. He will be combining these with an article for the journal. The Journal should be out June/July time, Mal will oversee the distribution.

David Neil, I have spoken to Tony, who is a little disappointed in the support he has had from other service organisations, nevertheless we have had, as you will see on the issue of the journal, good support from the higher echelon.

**Item 13** Preparation for the AGM:

Ted to ensure that every member got the necessary paper work including nomination pro-forma to become a member of the NEC and a proposal pro-forma. I am confident that all members who were on the database have received a full set of paperwork.

He asked members what their intentions were, so if necessary he could put out a special advert. By the next meeting in August I should have compiled all the necessary paperwork and will be sending it out to all members. I have secured the use of a franking machine which will cut the cost of postage down dramatically.

**Item 14**

Ted, we have to try and save money, we have already reduced administration cost radically. According to the constitution we have to hold 3 NEC meetings per year. With the diminishing membership and the use of modern technology, do we need 3 a year? I suggest we have 2 per year. This was discussed at length and it was agreed but we would have to be careful how we reschedule the meetings to get best value from them. Due to the date of the AGM it was suggested that we keep the one at the beginning of August, do away with the one in November.

- 1) We will put a Proposal to the next NEC that we reduce the number of NEC meetings from 3 to 2 per year, with the proviso we always call a third meeting if events warrant it.  
Proposed by Ted seconded by Dick.

**Item 15**

NMBVA Annual Spring "Get Together": By popular request we are using the "Tiffany Hotel", dates are Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2017. This was extremely successful in 2015, everyone appeared to have enjoyed it. Booking forms have already gone out from the IOW tours.

**Item 16**

St Paul's Cathedral: Outline by David Neil (National Chairman)  
Everyone has got the gist of the event, there has been some minor alterations due to the fact that we have more than anticipated members coming for the one night only to attend the Gala, St Paul's and go home directly after the Mansion House.

Mal: How many are we anticipating for the Gala Dinner

Ted: 200

Mal: St Paul's, is entry by ticket

Ted: we are jumping ahead, nevertheless number at St Paul's 340-50, yes entry will be by ticket. Ted explained the only people with named seats are the Lord Mayors and wreath laying parties the rest are in blocks i.e. VIP's, Guests and members. There will be ushers to guide members of the congregation to their seats.

National Chairman and secretary went through the event line by line in terms of NEC Members duties - no change from previous meeting.

Tickets: There will be one ticket only to cover the complete event however in the right top corner there will be a series of coloured dots indicating what the ticket covers.

Commemorative Mugs: It was agreed that only VIP and paid-up members of the association would be presented with a mug on leaving the Mansion House, however these can be purchased at £8.50 each, they are a limited addition.

Transportation: Coaches are laid on to take members on full package form the hotel to St Paul's, St Paul's to Mansion House. There will be one additional Coach to take VIP's and those with walking difficulties that are only attending St Paul's and Mansion House.

A Guide will be sent to all those attending with tickets, please note tickets will be numbered and not changeable and must be produced on request.

Meeting closed at 1200hrs

Next Meeting Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2016

Minutes Approved

By National Chairman.....Date.....