



RECORD OF DECISIONS - NMBVA NEC MEETING
Held on 30th March 2012 at Yew Lodge Hotel Kegworth.

Members Present:

Tex Pemberton (Chairman); Malcolm White (Vice Chairman); Ted Williams (Secretary); Dick Richardson (Treasurer); Ian Williams (Membership Secretary); Brian Roche (NEC Member and Postal Coordinator South); Bob Roberts (NEC Member and Postal Coordinator North);

ITEM:

Item 1 - Exhortation: The Chairman and members paid Homage.

Item 2 – Welcome and Budget update: Chairman welcomed Members to the meeting and asked the Treasurer to give a current budget update to start the meeting. It is clear that the Revenue account is running very close between income and expenditure with little room for manoeuvre.¹

Item 3 – Apologies for unavoidable absence: Mike Hawkins (NEC Member); Annie Burden (Webmaster and Regalia Officer).

Item 4 - Record of Decisions: The Record of the Meeting of 27th January 2012 was accepted as a true record.

Item 5 - Matters arising from 27th January:

- a. Item 26b - Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal. Following the January meeting, our President undertook to address the issue of the Queens Diamond Jubilee medal with the Chief of Defence Staff but has reported back that he has had no luck. Chairman said that he would now seek to address the issue in political circles.

ACTION: Chairman.

- b. Item 26j - Swansea Branch. The National Secretary reported that he is to meet with the present Chairman of the Swansea Branch to determine future intentions.

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 6 - Revised Joining Application Form: NEC agreed the need for a revised form, primarily to bring discounted joining payments into line with the revised

¹ Details of the budget can be obtained by any Member from the National Treasurer but because these Records go on our public website we do not publish details.

'payment date' of 1 July annually. Details will be discussed at the Delegates Meeting on 31 March 2012 and reported there.

Item 7 - Control and Recording of Membership Information: A database update control system was introduced in the past year but usage, primarily by the Treasurer and Membership Secretary, has identified a need for change to simplify. Changes were agreed and the Vice Chairman will make the flow-chart adjustments; circulate to NEC Members; and arrange replacement on the website.

ACTION: Vice Chairman

Item 8 - Cost of Postage:

- a. The Postal North Coordinator said that the cost of postage was rising on 30th April 2012 to 50p second class and to 60p first class. In order to make savings it was agreed that some pre-purchase of stamps at today's prices may be made and postage registers maintained to account for usage: Postal members North, South, and Membership Secretary 200 stamps each; Treasurer 100 stamps; The cost of postage will of course affect the cost of distributing the Keris magazine and annual Newsletter and the Editor-in-Chief will distribute Keris before the end of April 2012 to make another saving.

ACTION: Treasurer.

- b. Arising out of the postage cost discussion the NEC could see no reason why we should not encourage Bank Standing Orders on the proviso that Membership numbers are used by the banks to record entries on bank statements. It was recognised that BSOs had been stopped some time ago due to the problems of payee identification by the Treasurer, but if the proviso is successful, BSOs would reduce considerably the cost for postage reminders, primarily to the many Postal members. This reintroduction of BSOs is an administrative matter determined by the NEC. This change would be notified to the Delegates meeting on 31st March 2012.

Item 9 - Update on German Branch viability: The National Secretary has been in contact with the German Branch who are about to hold a further meeting to determine the way ahead for either the Branch or for individual members should the Branch fold. The National Secretary will maintain contact and report back.

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 10 - The Constitution and need for clarification: The Chairman gave a resume of proposed changes to the Constitution brought about by input from Members and the need for some further tidying up. The NEC was in support of the changes which will be reported to the Delegates meeting on 31st March 2012 and recorded there.

Item 11 - Update on the NMBVA Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum: The Chairman gave a detailed briefing to the NEC following the visit of himself and the Membership Secretary to the NMA on 29 March 2012 where they held meetings

with two Stonemasons. The briefing will be repeated to the Delegates meeting on 31st March 2012 and the detail recorded there.

Item 12 - Charity Status: NEC Member Mike Hawkins had submitted a Report in his unavoidable absence that contained the detail of his studies into the possibility of the NMBVA becoming a Charity. His conclusion was that our Association Aims do not have charitable functions and so we do not meet the Charity Commission criteria for charitable status. This finding was accepted by the NEC and will be reported to the Delegates meeting. The issue will be deleted from the 'work in progress' list.

Item 13 - Delegates Meeting Agenda: The NEC concluded preparation for the Delegates Meeting Agenda for 31st March 2012.

Item 14 - Date of Next NEC Meeting: The next meeting, which will conclude preparation for the AGM, will be held at the Premier Inn, Coventry, on the 10th August 2012. This is a change of venue to further reduce costs. Further meetings of the NEC will be held at the Premier Inn Coventry on 16th November 2012; and at the Whitehouse Hotel Kegworth on 22 March 2013.

Item 15 - AOB:

Items discussed under AOB were taken forward to the Delegates meeting on 31st March 2012 and will be recorded there.

Record approved by Chairman: 4 April 2012 and posted on website.