



RECORD OF DECISIONS - NMBVA NEC MEETING
Held on 5th August 2011 at Yew Lodge Hotel Kegworth.

Members Present:

Tex Pemberton (Chairman); Malcolm White (Vice Chairman and Postal Coordinator North); Ted Williams (Secretary); Dick Richardson (Treasurer); Ian Williams (Membership Secretary); Brian Roche (NEC Member and Postal Coordinator South); Annie Burden (Webmaster and Regalia Officer).

ITEM:

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

Item 2 - Apologies: No apologies. All members of the NEC were present.

Item 3 - Record of Decisions: of the Meeting of 8th April 2011 was accepted as a true record.

Item 4 - Matters arising not on Agenda: There were no matters arising

Item 5 - Resume of the Record of Decisions: of the Delegates Meeting of 9th April 2011.

Item 6 - Matters Arising not on the Agenda. There were no matters arising for follow up at this meeting.

Item 7 - Adverts for our Publications: There is scope to increase further the income from advertising in the Keris and to explore advertising for the Newsletter so as to reduce the net publication cost of both publications. It was agreed that our Regalia Officer will invite our shop stock suppliers to take advertisements and for the Secretary to invite Branches to trawl for income. In the meantime NEC Members should continue to trawl for support.

ACTION: Regalia Officer and all NEC.

Item 8 - Branch Notes: Branch notes of activities for publication in the December Newsletter are now invited and Secretary will send a reminder to Branches. Notes should be sent to the Chairman who will edit the December 2011 publication in the absence of the Editor-in-Chief on far away holiday.

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 9 - Branch Standards Registration and Insurance: Secretary reported that all Branch Standards had been registered with him and that all Branches have a Standard. The Association Insurance policy for the period 1 May 2011 to 30 April 2012 cost £1614.78. As an aside, it is noted from the Record of Decision of the Delegates meeting of 9 April 2011 that a Notice of Motion will be brought to the AGM by Grantham Branch that Branches contribute towards this annual cost. The list of Standards will be added to the Association website for information.

ACTION: Secretary and Webmaster.

Item 10 - End of FY Accounts. The Treasurer reported that the Account for FY 1 September 2010 to 30 June 2011 has been Audited and the Auditors report and approval of the accounts will be included in the 'pack' distributed to all Branches and to Members attending the annual reunion in October 2011. A summary will be included in the December Newsletter that will go to all Members of the Association.

ACTION: Secretary and Chirman.

Item 11 - Shop Stock selling price for FY 2012/13: The selling price for each item, which is now set at the time of budget preparation, will remain, for the FY 2012/13, the same as currently shown on the website and in the Keris magazine,. The May 2011 postage increase was absorbed within the overall excess of income for shop stock sales. Stock replacement costs will be monitored to determine any need for future increases.

ACTION: Regalia Officer.

Item 12 - Draft Budget for FY 2012/13: A draft budget for the FY 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2013 was agreed and will be laid before the AGM for approval. It will form part of the 'pack' for distribution to all Branches for comment and to Members attending the annual reunion on October 2011. Details of the final budget agreed by the AGM will be included in the December Newsletter to all Association members.

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 13 - Update on Membership data base and Recruiting: The membership data is being transferred into the latest 2010 Access software which will assist management and security of the information together with determination of Keris and Newsletter distribution to paid-up Members. The Membership state as at the time of the annual reunion in October 2011 will be reported at the AGM. A proposed chart to improve the data flow between NEC members and Branches and improve the membership accuracy state was agreed and will be incorporated on the website for information. The central Recruiting effort stalled with the resignation on health grounds of the appointed member of the NEC, Ray Taylor, but uplift in membership numbers is an aspiration on the other side of the 2011 AGM when there will hopefully be a full NEC! There has been little communication of late with Cardiff and Swansea Branches and the Secretary was tasked to determine current viability.

ACTION: Membership Secretary; Vice Chairman; Webmaster; Secretary.

Item 14 - Welfare: Secretary reported there is currently no welfare case before the NEC. There is however a growing list of deceased members that will be recorded at the AGM and on our website.

ACTION: Secretary and Webmaster.

Item 15 - December 2011 Newsletter: Due to the absence on holiday of the Association Editor-in-Chief, the December Newsletter will be edited by the Chairman. NEC Members were asked to send 'snippets' and humorous copy to the Chairman for inclusion and the Secretary will encourage Branches to submit notes to the Chairman

ACTION: Secretary and all NEC Members.

Item 16 - Membership input to the election of NEC Officers and Notices of Motion: All Members of the Association were invited - in a flyer inserted in our Keris magazine distributed in May 2011- to propose Officers for the NEC to be elected into Office at the AGM in October this year and also to submit Notices of Motion on matters they would wish to be addressed at the

AGM. Four responses nominated new Members for NEC Officer Appointments and one Notice of Motion was received from Tyneside Branch. Details will be included in the 'Pack' distributed to all Branches, and to Members attending the annual reunion in October 2011.

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 17 - Annual Reunion and AGM arrangements 2011: The reunion weekend is 14th to 17th October 2011 with the AGM on 15th October starting at 1000hrs. Chairman announced that His Excellency the High Commissioner of Malaysia and his Lady have accepted our invitation to be our Guests of Honour at the AGM dinner on Saturday 15th October and at the Laying-up service in Coventry Cathedral the following morning. Dress for the AGM dinner will be: either jacket and tie; or lounge suit and tie; or black tie (dinner suits), all with miniature medals and awards. Top table guests will be wearing Black Tie. Some members may wish to attend only the Standard Laying-up service at the Cathedral on Sunday morning starting at 1030 and provision is being made for that. A plan for the service will be included in the 'pack' for distribution to all Branches and to Members attending the annual reunion on October 2011

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 18 - Distribution of papers for AGM: Secretary will distribute, by 26th August 2011, a 'pack' to all Branches and to all Members attending the annual reunion and AGM. The pack will contain: the Agenda and coordinating information for the weekend; the audited accounts and Accountants report for 2010/11; the draft budget for 2012/13 for approval at the AGM; the Plan for the laying up of the original Association Standard at Coventry Cathedral.

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 19 - AGM Notices of Motion: There are eight Notices of Motion to be considered at the AGM as follows:

1. For an increase in annual subscriptions - Ron Blain (Durham) and Maurice Humphrey (Doncaster).
2. That Branches should contribute to the Standards insurance cost - George Reeve (Grantham).
3. To amend the Constitution to incorporate the principle of the 'payment date' - (Treasurer).
4. For a Branch Secretaries Symposium - Chairman and John McAulay (Doncaster).
5. To reconcile the Constitution in relation to the posts of President or Patron and remove Assistant Secretary - Chairman. And to consider a counter proposal by Tyneside Branch.
6. To address in the Constitution the dissolution of the Association, as contingency planning.
7. To consider options for postal voting - Harry Power (Tyneside Branch).
8. To elect NEC Officers for a period of 3 years to exploit experience and enhance forward planning and to spread elections so that not all would be due to stand down at the same time - (Secretary and Treasurer).

ACTION: Secretary with Proposers and Seconders.

Item 20 - Laying-up of the NMBVA original Standard at Coventry Cathedral. This Laying-up which was proposed at the 2010 AGM by the National Standard Bearer Mike Weller, is to go ahead with the agreement of the Coventry Cathedral authority at the morning service on Sunday 16th October 2011 starting at 1030 hrs. The 'plan' will be included in the 'pack' sent to all Branches and Members attending the Reunion. In outline: there will be coaches from the Reunion

hotel to and from the Cathedral (there is a restriction on parking in the Cathedral area); there will be some reserved seating at the front of the Cathedral; the original Standard will be processed to the Sanctuary by the Association Standard Bearer; other Branch Standards will be processed to the appointed places in the Cathedral by Standard Bearers attending; a Lesson will be read by our Patron or the High Commissioner for Malaysia; our Association Padre will play a part.

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 21 - Malaysian Palm Oil Association Memorial: A request has been received for a further contribution towards Phase 2 of the memorial (we contributed to Phase 1 some years ago) but the NEC concluded that the request should be parked until we have a clearer picture of the needs of our own Alrewas memorial. Secretary will respond accordingly.

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 22 - Petition for Diamond Jubilee medal: The Secretary produced details of a Petition in favour of awarding a medal to Veterans. Details are contained on the campaign website at www.medalcampaign.com and details will be included in the December Newsletter and on our website.

ACTION: Chairman and Webmaster.

Item 23 - NMBVA Seasons Greetings card: NMBVA Delegates at the annual meeting on 9th April 2011 agreed a proposal for an Association card and the favoured design was a plain card with the Association logo and ribbon on the front with a simple message inside 'Seasons Greetings.' An order has been placed and cards in packs of 10 should be available at the time of the annual reunion in October and for purchase from the Regalia Officer and through the website.

ACTION: Chairman and Regalia Officer.

Item 24 - Work in progress: The Chairman listed the following as work in progress but in no specific order of priority:

1. Copyright - Chairman
2. A number of medal issues other than the PJM - Chairman.
3. The German Branch viability - Secretary.
4. NMBVA potted history - Chairman
5. Possible attendance of Chelsea Pensioners to annual Reunion - Brian Roche and Annie Burden.
6. Visit to Colchester Branch by Chairman on 24th August 2011 during dedication of NMBVA memorial.
7. Armed Forces Day in Plymouth in 2012 - Chairman.
8. Charity Status for NMBVA and can subscription be Gift Aided? - Chairman.
9. Federation or Affiliation with International NMBVA – Chairman.

Item 25 - Improvements to NMBVA Display Stand: The Stand, which was introduced at the Armed Forces Day in 2010, was used again this year in Edinburgh by the Sponsor Branch, Tyneside, who have recommended some improvements. The Secretary will consider the suggestions and bring forward proposed improvements to the NEC for further consideration.

ACTION: Secretary.

Item 26 - Improvement to the NMBVA National Memorial at Alrewas: A report by the Chairman of Surrey Branch (Chas Timms) was considered and NEC concluded that we are not yet ready to bring a Notice of Motion for improvement to the AGM. However a progress report *will* be a part of the AGM Agenda and possibly with the suggestion of a staged (or phased) approach

to making the improvements, starting with the possible removal of the Kris. As an aside, there is an apparent tendency for work at this high profile National memorial centre to be highly quoted and one such quote for our own proposed improvement was circa £30,000!

ACTION: Chairman with Chairman of Surrey Branch.

Item 27 – Any Other Business:

1. **Annual Reunion and AGM in 2012:** The proposed dates are 19th to 22nd October 2012. The proposed venue is the Royal Court Hotel Coventry if that is the wish of the AGM in October.
2. **Malaysia Tourist Board:** Ron Blain is exploring another alternative Tour operator for visits to Malaysia. More news later.
3. **NEC Cooption in Malaysia:** George McKie, our NEC appointed representative in Kuala Lumpur is returning to live in UK. In accord with the Constitution, on 5th August 2011 NEC co-opted Stuart Wakefield who lives in Kuala Lumpur to replace George McKie. His details will appear on the website and he will join our list of overseas members having no UK mother Branch.

ACTION: Membership Secretary; Postal Coord Overseas; Webmaster.

Item 28 - Date and Venues of future meetings: NEC: 24 February 2012; 10 Aug 2012. Annual Reunion: 14-17 October 2011; 19-22 October 2012. Delegates Meeting (or Branch Secretaries Symposium) 24/25 February 2012.

Record approved by Chairman: 11th August 2011 and posted on website.