



National Malaya & Borneo Veterans Association

RECORD OF DECISIONS - NMBVA DELEGATES MEETING

Held at The Kegworth Whitehouse Hotel
Saturday 23rd March 2013 starting at 1000 hrs.

NEC	Mr David Neil (National Chairman) Mr Malcolm White (National Vice Chairman) Mr Ted Williams (National Secretary) Mr Bob Roberts (National Membership & Postal Coordinator North) Mr Dick Richardson (National Treasurer) Mrs Annie Burden (Webmaster & Regalia Officer) Mr Brain Roche (NEC Member & Postal Coordinator South) Mrs Valerie Nisbet (NEC Member) Mr Clive Boyles (NEC member) Non Executive Member NMBVA Padre Rev. Roger Perry Mr Fred Burden MBE vice President
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Delegates:	<u>Bridgend:</u> Mrs Gillian Bowtell <u>Colchester:</u> Fred Burden MEB <u>Hull & East Yorkshire:</u> Geoff Blanchard & Ken Simmonds; <u>Leicester Branch:</u> John Crossley; <u>North Yorkshire & Dales:</u> Bob Roberts <u>Nottingham Branch:</u> Ivan Glover & Mick Smith; <u>Pontypridd:</u> John Sandiland <u>Surrey Branch:</u> Deborah Lofts; <u>Tyneside Branch:</u> Bill Thorburn
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Meeting Opened at 09:57hrs

The Homage – Vice Chairman Mr. Malcolm White

- Item 1 - Welcome by the National Chairman. Mr David Neil; The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, and hoped the roads will be clear of snow for our homeward journeys
- Item 2 – Apologies: - Carmarthen Branch; Durham: German Brach;
Mid Ulster Branch; Northern Ireland Branch; Mid-Ulster Branch;
North Wales, Branch; North Kent/S. E. London, Branch; Plymouth Branch:

sent Southern Area, Branch: Bristol Branch; 1st Lincolnshire Branch The following last minute due to snow : Mr.Peter Ackroyd, (Doncaster) Mr. Peter Sabin, Mr Owen Lawrence MBE, (Leicester Mr. Terry Parkinson Mr Keith Seaton (Grantham)

Item 3 - Notes of the last Delegates meeting held at Yew Lodge Hotel 31st March 2012
No Matters arising

Item 4 - Branch Delegate's Questions Received

4.1. Bridgend & District: Gillian Bowtell: What our members want to be clear about or have put forward, taking into consideration the amount of work done by associated members are given full voting rights

National Secretary;

- a) Associated members pay full subscription, they are on committees, without them a lot of branch's would not exist
- b) There is nowhere in the present constitution that says that they cannot vote
- c) However Page 8 Para 10. A; *states The Chairman shall ascertain the decision of the Ordinary members present by a show of hands etc* This applies that associated members do not have a vote
- d) If we agree , all we have to do is Add "and Associated member "in the above Paragraph

After lengthy discussion it was agreed unanimously that associated members should be given full voting rights. To be put on agenda for the 2013 AGM

4.2 Hull & East Yorkshire: New Memorial at the National Arboretum and fund raising (Will be discussed at items 9)

Item 5 Update of current FY Budget; National Treasurer Dick Richardson
National Treasurer went through the budget figures, it would appear that on expenditure we are well below budget however there is still three months to the end of the financial year (Secretary will send out figures separately to Branch's

Item 6 Update on membership Bob Roberts
I took over Membership Secretary at the AGM and since have been working on a new database, which is now up and running
We have 1942 paid up members. Since AGM we have had 15 new members 5 resignation, and sadly 24 have gone to new pastures

Item7 Communications Ted Williams/Bob Roberts
Ted; The NEC is very mindful of the importance of communications we produce two publication per year, and a stream of e-mails, but we have very little response, example. In January I sent a letter to all branch secretaries regarding the memorial fund and asking secretaries to confirm e-mail address or member in

Ivan Glover; Our Branch support the Gurkha Welfare Trust, it was agreed unanimously at our last branch meeting we would switch our support to the Memorial fund

Geoff Blanchard Indicated that Hull Branch hopefully will be holding two collection day one in July and one in August to raise funds
The discussion went on: Chairman concluded debate by saying if we all pull together there should be very little difficulty in raising sufficient funds

- 9c Time capsule this was a long debate it was suggested that the following items Potted History, Large number of photos, Kris, Badge, Table Banner Tie, Roll of Honour and PJM Medal, Book of poems, and it has been suggested by Mal White a memory Stick there will be undoubtedly other items, Ted to produce a list for Branches
- 9d Date and Time of Dedication Two dates have been put forward Preferable 4th August alternative 28th of July will have to get confirmation from the Arboretum
- 9e Structure of the Day this was discussed at length
(Since meeting this has been confirmed, please see attached)
- 9f Order of service Rev Roger
- 9g List of Guests, invitations Malaysia High Commission and Military attaché
- 9h Mick Smith Suggested that we produced a list of Hotel and B&Bs
- 9i Brian read out a letter from Carmarthen Branch, reference the Wording on the memorial and use of the Kris Ted went over his reply and subsequent conversation with the Branch Secretary Terry Warner
Conclusion; Regard the wording, they have left it too late, they had the “Option for Change” for some time and the it has been passed at the 2012 AGM The Kris: it was agreed unanimously that a lot of units wore the Kris on their uniform, it became a symbol of the British Army in Malaya, and in recent years a symbol of our friendship with the Malaysians
Chairman: I have instructed the Secretary to draft a letter to be sent to all of Carmarthen Branch
- 10 Kris Magazine; Malcolm White Passed around a copy of the new magazine, telling members it is going out a little earlier this year to avoid the increase in postage. He went over cost of production and postage, requesting members to try and get sponsorship for the magazine
Members expressed their appreciation of the magazine, stress that the magazine along with the newsletter are our most valued tool regarding communications

- Item 11 Armed Forces Day Hosted by Nottingham Branch
Ivan Glove went over the preparations for the Armed forces day
- Item12 AGM 2013 (David Neil National chairman) Guest of Honour His Excellency
Datuk Zarkai Sulong and Mrs Sulong . You all should have received an
information pack for IOW tours, The beneficiary of raffle the Memorial fund
- Item13 AGM 2014; Potentially this has been booked at the Tillington Hall Stafford
Ease access form M6, nearest Railway Station 1 mile, National Express Station
½ mile. Dates 4th-7th October 2014
NEC to have a meeting at the Hotel to decide suitability.
- Item14 Reunion Social week at Blackpool Ted went over the object and programme for
the week
- John Crossley: is there any cost to the association? Ted No this is self financing
and we hope to make a substantial amount for the memorial fund
- Item 15 Any Other Business
- Item 16 Debby Lofts Surry Branch
- Item 16a The Keris magazine. It is understood that the majority are in favour of the
production of the magazine. However it be possible to bring down the
overall cost by sending to all those who have an e-address by e-mail
reducing postage
- Mal White: I did send out to all branches, requesting list of those
members who would accept the Keris by e-mail, I had very few relies.
I had no reply from Surrey Branch
- Item 16b Once overall cost of the memorial has been reached; members should be
advised that the “ring fenced” contribution will no longer be required
- Chairman this will be decide a AGM
- Item 16c What is the NEC proposing to do about auditing the current year’s
accounts
- Dick Richardson (National Treasurer) The accounts have been audited
i.e. all receipts have been checked, books etc. To complete a full audit the
auditor would have to travel to Chelmsford to check the regalia stock, far
too small and far too expensive. Auditor to write a letter of explanation,
which will be published on the web

Item16d

There has been a rumour that it is likely the association will be wound-up due to falling membership, we would like assurance that the existing funds will be returned to existing members.
Chairman, we have spoken about this, but no decision made, but this will have to be decided at an AGM (Please see Constitution page 9 Para. 13 Dissolution of the NMBVA)

Meeting closed at 12010hrs

Date and Venue of next Delegates Meeting Whitehouse Kegworth 22nd March 2014