20210617-IX\_Assn\_Committee\_17 Jun 21\_Minutes-U

25 Jun 21

**MINUTES OF IX(B) SQN ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE TELECONFERENCE – 17 Jun 2021**

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| Present | AM S Evans  Gp Capt I Sharrocks  Gp Capt J Nixon  WO (Ret’d) D A Wood  Mr Mike Pritchard  Mrs Eve Pritchard  CT R Swanson  Sqn Ldr (Ret’d) R James  Flt Lt A Hargreaves | President  Chairman  Vice Chairman  Secretary  Joint Treasurer  Joint Treasurer  Dep Secretary  Historian  OIC Assn Standard |
| Apologies | Air Cdre N Hay  Wg Cdr (Ret’d) P Lenihan  CT Mark Couling | Vice President  Charities Comm Rep  Groundcrew Liaison |
| **Item 1 - Welcome**  1. The Chairman opened the Meeting and thanked everyone for attending.  **Item 2 – Minutes of the last meeting**  2. The minutes of the last meeting (13 May 21) were distributed to all members prior to the meeting and outstanding actions were added to this meeting agenda. These outstanding actions were reviewed as follows:  **Decision:** All other Actions listed in 13 May 21 Minutes that are not agenda items for this meeting were deemed closed.  **Item 3 – Financial Situation**  3. The Treasurers reported the accounts are in a stable position with a current account total of £25,113.47  4. Subs receipts have been forthcoming but the Treasurers reported that some 50 members are still only paying £5 per year. After some debate it was decided that the Treasurers will write via email to all those members informing them of the requirement to change standing orders to £10 per annum.  **Action.** Treasurers to contact Assn members currently paying the lower amount.  5. The Treasurers informed the Committee that the accounts would require an independent check before submitting to the English and Scottish Charity Commissions. The Secretary offered to contact an Assn member known to do similar tasks for several Parish councils to ask if he will be willing to assist the Treasurers.  **Action.** Secretary to contact known individual to request assistance. **Post meeting note:** contact made and individual willing to assist; details passed to Treasurers.  6. HMRC have altered the conditions to benefit Charities in view of the Covid effect. This means that any member who donated their potential refund to an event, and who has provided a Gift Aid (GA) consent, that donation now qualifies for GA, which is an increase of 25 pence per pound donated. The Treasurers are carefully looking through the figures from last year, to see how many such donations were made and to put them onto the GA claim. OIC Assn Standard queried the number of members who are not claiming GA against subscriptions. The Treasurers agreed to inform Committee members via email.  **Action.** Treasurers to email Committee members with number of Assn members not claiming GA against subscriptions.  7. A first quarter interim financial analysis was also presented for Committee awareness.  **Item 4 – Donations from the Assn**  8. The Treasurers questioned the lack of charitable donations made by the Assn. Debate took place around where donations could be made and if a regular donation plan could be formed to make annual contributions to certain charities. The Vice-Chairman suggested the Assn would have to have a formal long-term financial plan in place before the Committee could approve any regular donations.  9. It was proposed to make a £20 donation to the Dutch based website the Historian has used during his research activities, over a number of years, this was agreed unanimously.  **Action:** Historian to make a £20 donation to the Website Manager on behalf of the Assn. **Post meeting note:** Historian transferred donation and received an email of thanks from the Website Manager.  10. A proposal was also made to contact the IBCC to gauge if support from the Assn would prove useful during their current, covid induced, financial difficulties or would indeed be ineffective in changing their situation.  **Action.** Chairman to contact IBCC and judge if any Assn donation would be useful.  11. Due to its close ties to IX(B) Sqn and the Assn, the Bardney Heritage Centre (BHC) was discussed as a possible beneficiary and the Historian volunteered to ascertain what different value donations would be used for by the BHC, if approved by the Committee. His findings will inform the next meeting where a decision will be made regarding a donation to the BHC.  **Action.** Historian to contact BHC to inform Committee decision at next meeting. **Post meeting note:** Historian has made contact and received a fairly detailed breakdown of what the BHC would use donations for.  12. The Chairman suggested that the Assn should look to link itself to a charity from the Lossiemouth area. This was roundly accepted as an excellent proposal and the Chairman volunteered to investigate possible beneficiaries based in that region of Moray.  **Action.** Chairman to investigate charities based in the Lossiemouth area of Moray as potential beneficiaries for Assn donations.  **Item 5 – OC IX(B) Departure Virtual Drinks**  13. As OC IX(B) Sqn has only recently returned from Operations and is in quarantine before his posting overseas it has not been possible to confirm a convenient date and time for the Assn Committee to say goodbye. The Chairman committed to make contact and to try and find half an hour for the Committee to pass on their ‘Virtual’ best wishes.  **Action:** Chairman to find a convenient time for the Committee to join OC IX(B) Sqn for a ‘virtual’ goodbye.  **Item 6 – 2021 Reunion**  14. The ProjO, Alfie Ferguson, updated the Committee via email and in essence there is no change to the position discussed at the last meeting and presented at the AGM. The decision point remains the end of Jun.  **Item 7 – AGM Minutes Review**  15. The AGM Minutes were distributed for review prior to the meeting. All Committee members agreed they are an accurate reflection of the meeting and should be made available to the membership via the website.  **Action:** The Dep Secretary is to link the AGM 2021 Minutes to the Assn Website.  **Item 8 – Reunion Event 2022**  16. Given the remaining uncertainty regarding the 2021 Reunion, this item was deferred to the next meeting.  **Item 9 - OC IX(B) Sqn – Sqn Update**  17. OC IX(B) Sqn has recently returned from operations and having bade farewell to the Committee at the last meeting did not provide an update.  18. It remains uncertain who will be appointed as OC IX(B) Sqn going forward.    **Item 10 – Historian Research**  19. The Historian continues to provide support to those who contact him and is currently continuing research for the Bazin 14 and assisting Mr Shuttler with research about his father. In addition, the Historian is managing email correspondence on a range of research topics involving our forebears and their descendants.  20. The Historian also informed the Committee that there had not been any contact from Sweden regarding the Lancaster parts but suspected this was due to one of his contacts suffering a serious illness; he would make some discrete enquiries with alternate contacts.  **Item 11 – AOB**  21. There were 2 items of AOB:   1. **Purchase of Gauntlets.** The OIC Assn Standard requested the sum of £30.45 to purchase a pair of Standard Bearer gauntlets.   **Decision:** Passed unanimously that the money be allocated for this purchase.   1. **Charity Bike Ride.** The Historian informed the Committee of a charity bike ride taking place in memory of Tornado Force personnel lost during Gulf War 1. Mal Craghill and Martin Wintermeyer would be visiting the graves of the fallen for short Remembrance services throughout this momentous ride. Members of the Committee thanked the Historian for this information and committed to attend the events where possible.   **Item 12 – President’s Remarks**  22. The President thanked the Committee for their inputs once again and requested the Committee plan to reconvene briefly on 1 Jul to discuss the Reunion 2021 decision point.  **Action.** Secretary to schedule Teams session for 1 Jul 21.  **Post meeting note:** Meeting scheduled.  **Item 13 – Date of Next Meeting**    23. Thur 22 Jul 21 at 20:00 via Teams TeleConference. | | Treasurers  Secretary  Treasurers  Historian  Chairman  Historian    Chairman    Chairman  Dep Secretary  Secretary |

D A Wood

WO (Ret’d)

Sec

Approved by Wg Cdr I Sharrocks, Chairman, 27 Jun 21.