

MINUTES OF MEETING-3 DECEMBER 2009

Chairman's Welcome – Barry Beck welcomed everybody to the December meeting indicating it was an excellent attendance and that there was no guest speaker or film show therefore an open meeting. Barry then informed the membership that unfortunately our President, Lt Gen. Sir Anthony Mullens, had passed away the previous Friday and asked that the membership please stand for a minutes silence as a mark of respect.

Apologies – D. Skinner, C. Fox, J. Mitchell, J.& K. Aldis, P.Cushing, D. & J. Alp, L.Dench, J. Dann, R. & S. Elderton, A.Goldspink, L.& A.Mann.

Minutes of Previous Meeting- November meeting minutes were read and accepted as a true record.

Secretary's Report- Ian McCallum read out letters from the Wayland Show with respect to a possible donation to 'Help for Heroes' plus letters from both Flixton Aviation Museum and Swaffham RAFA thanking us for our £50.00 donations following the visit to Wing Commander Ken Wallis. Ian then read out the obituary as posted in the paper on our President. Ian then asked members who had participated in the Poppy Day collections being Tom Blevins who had collected £1630.00 over the period, Dave Hines who collected £415.00 on one Saturday in Diss, Cyril & Marion Salisbury collecting some £300.00 on a Saturday in Southwold and Ian & Carol McCallum collecting £2128.00 in Beccles.

Chairman's Report- Barry Beck advised that consideration would be given with respect to sending a card to the family following the death of our President. Barry also asked that consideration be given to 'absent members' who though age and ill health are not so active and unable to attend meetings or rally events as frequently as they may like. In particular John & Kath Aldis plus our treasurer Peter Cushing were mentioned. Barry then thanked Rodney and Marina Reynolds for yet again another excellent Christmas dinner which resulted in 79 attending, including Father Christmas, with a raffle total of £350 being added to the funds. Reference was then made to the Rally Expenses that had been handed out and members were asked if there were any queries. Mark Broughton had brought two completed Shoe boxes for the appeal and although individuals were prepared to make a cash donation it was considered that members should complete their own boxes wherever possible. Barry then thanked the committee for all their work over the year, especially Richard and Sandra for such a smooth running Rally Season finishing with some small stocking fillers on the top table in the form of Group Badges at £5.00 and Group Mugs at £4.00 each.

Treasurer's Report- June Cushing advised that Peter was sorry not to be present but sends his best wishes to all for Christmas and the New Year. The funds currently stand at £5268.78 and Peter has been busy shuffling money around Christmas dinner payments, petrol reimbursements plus the party goodies for the dinner and still managed to find some left for the Bahamas Christmas trip, only joking! There was then discussion regarding charity donations and after agreement with those present at the meeting it was determined to donate £100.00 immediately to the EDP 'We Care Appeal', plus sufficient funds for Dave and Sue Goddard to make up 50 in total boxes for the 'Shoe Box' appeal. Other charities mentioned were the Salvation Army 'Tins & Toys' Appeal and Nelsons Journey.

Membership Secretary's Report- Bill Purchase advised we have had 1 new member last month before wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year.

MVT Liaison Officer's Report- Ian McCallum advised he had received the September Minutes from the Council of Management and read out selected highlights. Ian also advised he had responded to the Chairman and Area Liaison Officer regarding an item within the minutes where there had been an

application for a new Norfolk Area. Ian then wished the membership all the very best for Christmas and the New Year.

Publicity Officer's Report- Charles Warren indicated he had an interview on 9 November with BBC Radio Norfolk in response to Poppy collections and that he was aware of 2 new radio stations that he would approach. In addition he would now liaise with the EDP 'We Care Appeal' regarding the donation. Charles then thanked the membership and the committee for the support he had received during the year before wishing everyone a Happy Festive Season.

Rally Secretary's Report- Richard Edwards thanked those who had supported both the Drayton Old Lodge and Windmill at Wymondham Help for Heroes events. Richard then advised the Spring Road Run would be on February 28 and a hand out would be available at the January Meeting. Although a Provisional Rally List would be available in the March Newsletter early known events are the 28 March at Langley School, 18th April Halesworth/ Southwold Run and 28 April at the East Anglian Transport Museum. Richard then closed thanking everyone for their support at events and wishing everyone a very Happy Christmas. Barry Beck then thanked Richard and Sandra, plus Rebecca who provides the administrative support, for all of their efforts over the season. Barry then advised that someone is seriously required who is prepared to assist Richard, taking some of the strain from his shoulders on the Rally Field and asked that the membership give this some thought if we are to maintain our impressive commitment to our customers.

Newsletter Editor's Report- David Goddard wished all readers a very Happy Christmas and New Year advising that the December Newsletter was at the back of the room for collection and to please take friends and neighbours copies not here tonight to save on postage. David then indicated that with respect to the 'Shoe Box' appeal there appears to be some confusion regarding recent press coverage. The MOD have not stopped sending these to the front, they only asked that no anonymous donations be sent over the Christmas period and for donations to be sent via formal designated routes.

Any Other Business-

Cyril Salisbury - In response to the item in last month's Minutes on the Stanta Battle Area Cyril indicated that the MOD had recently closed 4 major training areas in the UK so it most certainly would be more difficult to secure a visit.

David Goddard – Advised that a replacement Newsletter Editor had been found in the shape of Mike Pollard and that Sue and he would therefore be standing down following the Spring Edition. David thanked everyone who had contributed over the years and asked they please continue supporting Mike in the same way.

Barry Beck – asked Alan Edwards on the situation regarding a Stoneleigh coach. Alan indicated he had not received favourable comments following last year's event and advised at an earlier meeting he was not prepared to organise the 2010 visit. Following a show of hands to gauge enthusiasm for the Group putting on a coach there was insufficient interest to proceed.

David Hawes – advised on a change in venue for their next 40's event which would be held at the Acle War Memorial Recreational Centre on the 20 March with tickets at £15.00 each. The usual Jonathon Wyatt Big Band will be in attendance with a NAAFI and raffle in aid of Help for Heroes.

John Morter – advised on his trip to Kyrenia in north Cyprus where John Mitchell and he laid wreaths on behalf of their respective units during the dedication of a new memorial to the 371 who lost their lives during the troubles between 1955-59. A full report is contained within the December Newsletter.

Charles Warren – Advised that our Group headed paper will require change following the death of our president.

Barry Beck – advised that there would be a film show at the January Meeting, courtesy of John Dann, entitled 'Beyond the call of duty' before wishing the Membership a very Happy Christmas and all the very best for the New Year

Being no other formal business the meeting closed at 2130