

Royal Naval Association – Portland Branch
Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the Masonic Centre
on Wednesday 1st February 2023

The meeting was opened by the Chairman at 2003. 42 members attended.

1. Apologies were received from 8 members.
2. Chairman's Report: Thank you all for attending the AGM this evening. It has been quite a busy year with people getting used to life after the lockdown and getting used to the new venue.

We have a few Shipmates who have Crossed The Bar during the last year. At this point could I ask you all to be upstanding for a few moments of respect for the following Shipmates:

S/M Annie Robbins

S/M Dick Barton and his wife Anne

S/M Bill Leonard

Thank you Shipmates

On a breezy day in November, six Members of the Branch were invited on board HMS Portland. This turned into a short but enjoyable visit hosted by the DWEO who took us to some interesting places. The ship was delayed getting in, due to the weather and then had to be back in Guz that evening for Family's Day the next day. But it was an enjoyable few hours, and we got the impression of a hard working ship with a happy crew. We look forward to forging our close ties to the ship with the new Captain, Commander Moss-Ward.

S/M Dave Prowse once again did a sterling job on the Social Sec's side, unfortunately the Away Weekend had to be cancelled due to lack of numbers. But I'm glad to say it is going ahead this year so if you have not put your name down yet and you would like to go please see Dave during stand easy.

So I'd like to thank the Committee and the non-committee members that have assisted S/M Dave during the year, making the various functions we have had throughout the year memorable events and to those attending meetings throughout the year.

There have been a few slight changes with re-introduction of guest speakers which we hope to carry on this year. Also the Monthly News Letter which I hope you are receiving. If not please see S/M Karen Miller at stand easy and give her your email address.

The other big change was the reduction of Membership Fees to £10 so hopefully that will encourage more Members to join. This leads on nicely to Membership numbers.

At present we have:

Life Members 6

Full Members 54

Associate Members 35

Affiliated Members 6

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A total of 101 Members

So we are still a strong Branch and the still the best in No 4 Area!

That's enough from me but before I hand you over to S/M Christine to read the Minutes of the last AGM meeting, I would like to thank the Committee and all the Members for the help and support in my first year as Chairman.

3. Minutes of the Last AGM Meeting were read and accepted.

Proposed by S/M Pete Foster

Seconded by S/M Ian Tate

For 37 Against 0 Abstentions 5

Matters Arising: Nil.

4. Treasurer's Report

The Branch Account stands at £12,552.94. The Treasurer S/M Pete Shoemith gave a detailed account of the Branch finances stating that they are in a healthy position. He thanked S/M Bill Gear for examining the Branch accounts. The report was accepted.

Proposed by S/M Ginge Sarsfield

Seconded by S/M Pete Foster

For 41 Against 0 Abstentions 1

Matters Arising: Nil.

5. Election of Officers

Vice Chairman

S/M Nigel Rimell

For 42 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Carried Unanimously

Secretary

S/M Christine Tuck

For 42 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Carried Unanimously

Membership Secretary

S/M Karen Miller

For 42 Against 0 Abstentions 0

Carried Unanimously

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Social Secretary S/M Dave Prowse
For 42 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Carried Unanimously

Webmaster S/M Dave Prowse
For 42 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Carried Unanimously

Conference Delegate S/M Ben Cartwright
For 42 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Carried Unanimously

Area Delegate S/M Pete Shoesmith
For 42 Against 0 Abstentions 0 Carried Unanimously

A mandate was given for the delegate to vote for the Branch as he sees fit at the National Conference.

A mandate was given for the delegate to vote for the Branch as he sees fit at the Area Meeting.

A mandate was given for the Branch Committee to carry out the day to day business of the Branch.

6. AOB
S/M President Ben Cartwright thanked the Chairman S/M Dusty Miller for taking on the office of Chairman and what a wonderful job he has done for the Branch this year.
7. Date of the next meeting is Wednesday 7th February 2024
8. Meeting closed at 20.25

Chairman.....

Secretary.....