

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**609 (WR) SQUADRON ASSOCIATION**

**18 JUNE 2016**

**MAPLE LEAF CLUB, RAF LEEMING**

**PRESENT**

Mr M Farrelly, Mr H Mulligan, Mr D Robinson, Mr K Hobbs, Mrs J Hobbs, Mr J Mateley, Ms M Gadd,  
Mr D Weatherill, Ms C Pasby, Mr M Briggs, Mr A Parkes, Mrs L Parkes, Ms U Granahan,  
Ms D Marshall, Ms J Graham, Mrs R Darley, Mr D Darley, Sqn Ldr J Metcalfe, Mr A Hayman,  
Mr M Foster, Mr P Wilson, Mr A Marsh. Mrs S Marsh, Ms D Thornton, Ms A Hudson, Mr T Overton  
Ms S Mcghin

**APOLOGIES**

AVM S Bostock, Mrs S Milligan, Mrs S Judd, AVM S Hunter, Mr M Voase, Mr P Proudley, Mr A Harper,  
Ms E Senior, Mr K Cothliff, Mr C Goss, Ms J Timmins

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 18 June 2016**

The Chairman opened the meeting at 10:36 and gave a Health & Safety brief to all guests attending, in accordance with RAF Leeming policy.

The Chairman went on to say that the previous evening's social event had been a good night and enjoyed by all who attended

The Chairman requested a minutes silence to remember absent friends and those Association members who had passed on during the previous year:

Sir Joe Atkinson

Sir Ken Adam

Mr Ernie Barker

And also the local MP Mrs Jo Cox who was tragically murdered carrying out her MP Duties..

The Secretary then moved onto the minutes from the AGM at the Maple Leaf Club, RAF Leeming on the 18 July 2015. There were no matters arising from these minutes. The Secretary requested that they be recorded as a true record

Proposed - Maurice Farrelly

Seconded - Hugh Mulligan

## **Chairmans Report**

- The Chairman started off by advising that we were looking to repeat the Battle of Britain 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations at the National Arboretum on the 17 August 2016.
- The Chairman advised that the Squadron's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event at Leeds Bradford Airport on the 10 February went well.
- He advised that he was looking at a possible event in Leeds along with the Council to celebrate the Squadron's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- He advised that he had recently attended a memorial event in memory of Sir Ken Adam at the National Theatre in London, resulting from that the family had donated Sir Ken's memorabilia to the Squadron.
- The Chairman advised that the Association had been invited by Wings of Memory in Belgium to attend an event at Ursel in Belgium in October, he requested Andy Marsh to look at the availability of the Station Community minibus

*Sqn Ldr Jeff Metcalfe*

*Chairman*

*609 (WR) Squadron Association*

## **Secretary's Report**

Began my report by saying yet again had been a fairly quiet year for the Association with the main task being organising, in conjunction with the Chairman, this year's AGM.

I went on to explain that we had had a couple of requests for information, one which was for information on Ernie Barker's time with 609 from his grandson.

I thanked the Committee and the Association members for their support and guidance over the past three years during my time as Secretary.

In finishing I requested approval from the Treasurer for funding to purchase an external hard drive so the new Secretary and I could scan all the past Minutes and Agenda's, this would enable us to have a permanent record and get rid of the paper copies which take up a lot of space and were subject to deterioration over time. **APPROVED**

*Alan Hayman QVRM VR*

*Honorary Secretary*

*609 (WR) Squadron Association*

## **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported that it was quiet on the financial front during 2014 with the expenditure being for 'run and maintain' purposes, e.g. postage and stationary, mileage costs incurred when researching a venue for the 2016 Reunion Friday night gathering and a subsidy for the lunch following the AGM of £260.02.

We received one donation during the year of £200 from Mr Malcolm Fife who had used 609 photographs in the book he was preparing on the history of RAF Drem.

The Treasurer reported that no donations were made by the Association during the previous year.

The financial details for the year were as follows and are as at 31 December 2015.

Total Income	£1,872.50
Expenditure	£ 1,117.02
Cash at Bank	£8, 339.41

The Treasurer reported that we had approximately 80 paying members of the Association , of whom about 75% pay their subscriptions by Direct Debit

*Rosemary Darley*

*Honorary Treasurer*

*609 (WR) Squadron Association*

Proposed that the Treasurer be thanked for her report and that it was a true record

Proposed	Alan Parkes
Seconded	Tom Overton

## **Belgian Report**

### **Presented by David Darley Honorary President**

The Association had contributed towards a retirement gift for General Van Callenberge of the Belgian Air Force, who for years had been an avid supporter of the Association and the Squadron

Albert la Force is well and still going strong

Conrad is working with Wings of Memory in Belgium.

## **Election of Officers**

The Chairman proposed that the Committee be enlarged by the addition of new members:

### **Newsletter Editor Adelle Hudson**

Proposed Jeff Metcalfe

Seconded Dez Robinson

### **New Secretary Sarah Mcghin**

Proposed Jeff Metcalfe

Seconded Hugh Mulligan

### **Squadron Representative L/Cpl John Carruthers**

Proposee Jeff Metcalfe

Seconded Alan Parkes

Current Committee along with the new additions to stand as is until next AGM.

Proposed Alan Parkes

Seconded Maurice Farrelly

Alan Parkes raised the issue of cover if the new Secretary was absent due to deployment/detachment, it was decided that there were enough member's willing to stand in as cover should this happen.

Alan Parkes proposed 1 year Free membership for serving Squadron members

## **Any other Business**

The Chairman proposed a concentrated effort over the next 12 months to attract new mebers:

Consider the following:

1. The newsletter to be in electronic format online.
2. Look at the "Lost Generation" – 1957 – 199 Squadron members, make a concerted effort capture past Squadron members from the 1999 – 2005 era.
3. Upgrading of the website to bring it up to date.
4. He requested that those members who were in touch with ex-squadron members from that period contact

Peter Wilson asked what the cost would be to the Association of allowing current Squadron Members free membership of the Association?

Dez Robinson proposed that current Squadron members pay a reduced membership of £5 p.a.

The Chairman then put the following to the floor:

Publication of the newsletter in a digital format online?

Spending money on promoting the Association?

Alan Parkes Proposed increasing the Association fees for one year by £5, from £15 to £20.

Hugh Mulligan proposed that for the 2017 AGM a subsidised price of £10 for the lunch.

It was decided that Jeff Metcalfe, Adelle Hudson, Sarah Mcghin and Alan Hayman meet to work out costings for upgrading the website, publishing the newsletter in a digital format and publicising the Association and would submit this to Rosemary Darley (Treasurer)

Maurice Farrelly proposed that non- squadron members be allowed to join the Association as

**“Friends of the 609 (WR) Squadron Association”** with no voting rights at future AGM’s and paying full lunch costs if they attended future AGM’s

This proposal was put to the floor and passed by a vote of 10 to 8

It was decided that a visit would be made to Elvington to discuss with the Management what could be done to bring the 609 Display up to date?

Future Locations for the AGM

It was decided that we would look at returning to Elvington for the 2017 AGM provided the previous price and food issues could be resolved with the Management at Elvington.

David Darley (President) was to look at re-instating the annual Stoop meeting in October

Jeff Metcalfe (Chairman) was to look at trips for Association member’s and also look at a possible joint Squadron/Association Families Day

David Darley (President) announced that the book Fighting High would be released in July and would cost £25

### **AGM Date for 2017 - TBA**

A vote of thanks was given to the Committee by Alan Parkes for their hard work and commitment to keeping the Association going.

Meeting was closed at 1255.