

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

609 (WR) SQUADRON ASSOCIATION

18 JULY 2015

MAPLE LEAF CLUB, RAF LEEMING

PRESENT

Mr M Farrelly, Mr G Garriock, Mr H Mulligan, Mr P Bambridge, Mr D Robinson, Mr K Hobbs, Mr M Voase, Ms M Gadd, Mr D Weatherill, Ms C Pasby, Mr P Blayney, Mr J Archer, Mr P Proudley, Mr M Briggs, Mr A Parkes, Ms U Granahan, Ms D Marshall, Mrs R Darley, Mr D Darley, Sqn Ldr J Metcalfe, Mr A Hayman, Mr G Carroll, Mr M Foster, Mr P Wilson, Mr S Bostock.

APOLOGIES

Mr D Guild, Mr S Spencer, Ms A Hudson, Ms R Lloyd, Mr M Ingle, Mr A La Force, AVM S Hunter, Mr D Fielding, Mr B Waite, C.Goss

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 18 July 2015

The Chairman opened the meeting at 11:00 and gave a Health & Safety brief to all guests attending, in accordance with RAF Leeming policy.

At 11:01 the Chairman requested a minutes silence to remember absent friends.

The Secretary then moved onto the minutes from the AGM at St Georges Hotel on the 5 July 2014. 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 the Rededication Ceremony of the RAuxAF Memorial at the National Arboretum would not be going ahead this year.
- Working on the memorial for "Pinkie" Stark – memorial stones would be dedicated annually.
- He advised that there was to be a wreath-laying ceremony at the Leeds Bradford Airport in November.
- With regard to Association property the Chairman was looking at writing a letter to the RAF Museum at Hendon, was also looking to contact Chief of Air Staff to try and get back 3 paintings of 609 (WR) Squadron.
- Maurice Farrelly pointed out that he believed that some of the Squadron Silver went to the Yorkshire Territorial Association.
- The Chairman announce several upcoming events:
 1. Battle of Britain experience day at Middle Wallop on 15 August 2015, this would be a self travel day.

2. Battle of Britain 75th Anniversary at the RAuxAF Memorial, National Arboretum at Alrewas, Staffordshire.
 3. Squadron 80th Anniversary Celebrations.
Formal Dinner at RAF Leeming on 6 February 2016 (subsequently changed to 5 March 2016).
Ceremony at Leeds Bradford Airport on 10 February 2016 followed by lunch at the Stoop.
- The Chairman went on to point out that 609 Squadron has the Freedom of the City of Leeds
 - We are looking at combining the Squadron Family Day with an Association Day and that there would be a Limited edition 609 (WR) Squadron beer produced for the 80th Anniversary.
 - The Chairman reported that the Squadron Standard paperwork had been submitted in 2014 – the Standard had not been approved as the Squadron did not yet meet the criteria.

Sqn Ldr Jeff Metcalfe

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 when George Jaspis received his DFC which was responded to with information provided by Conrad Roumieux and the other was from the daughter of John (Twinge) Payne requesting to purchase copies of photos from the Association, which we have displayed on the website of her late father and his friend Leslie Lindley.

I responded to her that the photos on the website were the best quality we had and I forwarded her the copies that she requested, at no charge as I felt that we should be able to comply with this sort of request from relatives of past Squadron members without having to gain financially from it.

I announced that I would be standing down as Honorary Secretary of the Association at next year's AGM and requested anybody who was interested in taking up this role to let the Committee know.

Alan Hayman

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, i.e. postage and stationary which amounted to £65.00 and a subsidy for the lunch following the AGM of £63.65.

We received one donation during the year from the family of 'Pud' Crowther in appreciation of the Squadron flag being sent to be used at his funeral.

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 2014.

Total Income	£1,430.00
Expenditure	£ 128.35
Cash at Bank	£7,518.93

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
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Seconded	Graham Carroll
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Belgian Report

Presented by David Darley Honorary President

Kurt Pylson organised an event at Ursel in Belgium to which the Squadron was invited.

Unfortunately due to the short notice given the Squadron could not take up the invitation.

Election of Officers

Current Committee to stand as is until next AGM.

Proposed	Alan Parkes
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Seconded	Maurice Farrelly
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Any other Business

The floor discussed the Future of the Association, Alan Parkes put forward the view that he felt that the venue at Elvington was 'Dead' and that future AGM's should rotate between RAF Leeming and Middleton St George.

Des Robinson stated that Leeming should be the priority base for future AGM's.

Phil Bambridge advised that the main reason he attended this years AGM was because it was located at RAF Leeming.

Marcia Gadd advised that food was not the main issue, the venue was more important.

It was suggested by various members that a recruitment drive be run to try and capture lapsed members of the Association.

It was raised that a Friday night Pre AGM Function be re-introduced along the lines of those that use to be held at the Parsonage.

A proposal was put forward by Alan Parkes that for the 2016 AGM an evening meal be held on the Friday night at Leeming Bar or similar venue with the AGM to be held once again at RAF Leeming.

This proposal was put to the floor and the members voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.

Next Year's AGM Dates

Friday 17 June 2016 – Evening Meal – Venue to be Advised

Saturday 18 June 2016 – AGM – Venue RAF Leeming

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 1233.