

Birmingham Medal Society AGM 4.4.2019. Meeting opened at 19.34hrs.

Minutes typed 10.4.19 by C Davies.

1 - Welcome. By President Roger Bragger. Total present 23 including 3 guests.

Apologies as per monthly meeting report.

2 - President's report.

Minutes of last year's AGM 4.4.18 to circulated.

Last year's AGM minutes 5.4.18 were read out, confirmed as an accurate and approved. Proposer C. Newton and seconder P. Handford.

A good range of subjects had been covered since our last AGM. President read out the topic list and thanked all contributors for their skilled presentations and varied talks. Particular thanks were expressed to M. Atkinson for his talk 'Waterloo' which was our Drummond lecture in November 2018.

The full list was as follows:

'100th Anniversary of the RAF' by J.Scott

'Zeebrugge and Ostend Raids' by P. Wilson

'New Zealand airman Fyvie – research project' by K. Weston

'Letters from South Africa 1879-1881 Private Watts 3/60th Foot' by P. Murray

'A Memorial Plaque –the Worcestershire regiment and Salonika' by the late J. Taylor

'Medals to Conscientious Objectors at War' by P. Handford

'Waterloo' by M. Atkinson [Drummond lecture]

'The Crown of England' by M. Harrison

'On the Lines of Communication' by P. Handford

There were two members own meetings in July and December, 2018 which had good numbers of contributors.

Statistics for the year: Based on data from 9 meetings.

Average attendance – 21 [Range 15-27] – Averages for 2017-18 and 2016-17 were 17 and 15-16 respectively.

Average numbers eating – 11.

Average numbers having drink only – 8.

Average numbers staying overnight at hotel – 1.

New members – 4 Phil McDermott [Honorary member], M Keyes, H. Vaugh and D Walters.

One member deceased - J Taylor [in January 2019].

Venue We pay £60 per meeting [Use of room £30 and coffee £30] this deal negotiated with an understanding that members have meals /drinks etc before our meetings or stay overnight at the hotel. Point of information: we only have access to the meeting room from 18.00hrs. Our thanks to P McDermott and Worcester Medals for sponsoring our meetings.

Thanks to M. Harrison for maintaining the website, to D.Rees for updating and maintaining the BMS Facebook page and to C. Davies for producing the meeting notes.

New Proforma – Could BMS members when presenting medals at our meetings add short details? eg recipient's name, number, regiment, which medals being shown as this hugely assists the secretary's notetaking.

Miniconvention This had to be cancelled for June 2018 but has been re-organised by M. Harrison and is set for 21.7.2019.

Proposer J Scott. Secunder D Seeney.

3 - Secretary's report.

Secretary apologised for the lack of notes for the September and October's meetings and talk. Secretary requested that, if possible, to cover his absence a volunteer with legible handwriting [!] could step in to take some notes on the meeting/take relevant photos of any medals or materials – which could then be forwarded to me so that I can produce an entry for the website. Please could they make themselves known to the secretary at some point.

The previous meeting reports are available on the BMS website 'members only' section – this is password protected. This information now goes back some years. Since December, 2018, I have started circulating the meeting notes electronically as an attachment to remind members of our next meeting – The advantages are that those who missed the meeting have the meeting report and an incidental benefit is that I now receive prospective apologies electronically as a matter of routine – My thanks to R Bragger for suggesting this late last year.

Any feedback on the meeting reports is always welcome ie too much detail or too little etc. For your information, I send a hard copy to R Painter who doesn't have internet access and can't attend our meetings.

Proposer J Scott. Secunder D Seeney.

4 - Treasurer's report.

Finance report by Treasurer Mark Platt 18.15-18.30hrs.

BMS account balance approximately £3600. M Platt explained this includes a sum £182.83 which appears to have been drawn incorrectly from the BMS account – [This is currently going through a dispute resolution with our bank Santander]. Income figures mainly subscriptions and book sales were £875 which less expenses, gave a profit figure for the year of £301.

Proposer J Scott. Seconder D Seeney.

5 - Election of Officers. Currently two vacant positions on the Committee.

Two members S Handford and C Newton have volunteered to fill these vacancies. R Bragger invited a block vote to continue the Committee membership of existing Committee members and our two new Committee members. Carried unanimously.

6 – AOB.

None

AGM closed at 19.52hrs

Minutes typed C Davies BMS Secretary 10.4.19