

These minutes were ratified at the 2023 AGM on 30th September 2023

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NO 201 SQUADRON ASSOCIATION HELD AT THE NEWTON HOTEL, NAIRN, ON 2 JULY 2022

The following association members attended the 2022 Annual General Meeting:

Andrew Stewart (Chairman)	Joe Kennedy (Sec)	Neil Campbell (Treasurer)	
Sir Geoffrey Rowland	Lady Diana Rowland	AVM Andrew Roberts	Garfield Porter
Chris Birks	Dick Gould	Chris Igoe	Terry Earl
John Simmons	Michael Buehner-Coldrey	Doug Torrance	Ian Douglas
Sandy Dobbie	Hector Hillman	John Green	Spider Newth
Ivor Gibbs	Geoff Hanson	Pat Reid	Martin Rodgers
Jim Reid	Rosie Hall	Harry Nockolds	Paul Stitson
Bob Hall	Karen Seward	Dave Tennant	Martin Robb
Ben Sola	Richie Williams	Beverley Blee	Paul Warrenner
Phil Hoole	Alan Anderson		

Ser	Lead	Item	Comments
1	Chair/Sec	Welcome. Apologies:	The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the members. Apologies had been received from the following members Air Cdre Mike Blackburn, Chaz & Jackie Counter, Phill & Jane Basey, Ray Parnell, John Bussey, Alison Chesworth, Sheena Baker Al Lonsborough, Simon & Mandy Prior and Laurie Bruce.
2	Chair/Sec	Minutes of Previous Meeting	The Chairman advised that the minutes of the previous meeting held at the 2018 Reunion in Branston had been distributed by email and asked for any corrections. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal approval Ivor Gibbs (P) / John Green (S). Minutes Approved.
3	Chair/President	Committee President	Retirement of 201 Sqn Association President - Sir Geoffrey Rowland. When agreeing to accept the position of President of the 201 Squadron Association, Sir Geoffrey had always planned to resign when 201 Squadron reformed and handover the presidential role to a senior former military officer. The time was now; he considered his task complete. The Chairman led the meeting in recognising the immense support Sir Geoffrey had given to the Association and thanked him, and Lady Diana, for their unstinting support. Sir Geoffrey's resignation was accepted by the meeting. Election of New President. The sole candidate to be President was AVM Andrew Roberts. There was no discussion. Approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Garfield Porter(P) / Bob Hall (S). Approved.

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			<p>Once appointed, AVM Andrew told the meeting that Sir Geoffrey had been a fantastic President at a time when his connections at executive levels in Guernsey proved instrumental in aiding the cause to resurrect 201 Squadron as a flying unit. Sir Geoffrey had been exceptionally supportive at a political level while also attending all the Association reunions – no mean feat from Guernsey and bearing in mind his very busy schedule. The President thanked Sir Geoffrey and Lady Diana for their outstanding service to the Association.</p> <p>In his first action as President, Andrew Roberts decreed that Sir Geoffrey Rowland be appointed President Emeritus for the 201 Association. This decision was warmly welcomed by the meeting with a round of applause.</p>
4	Chair	Chairman's Update	<p>In the Chairman's Report, he reminded the meeting that the planned 2020 reunion in Guernsey had to be postponed due to the pandemic. He had written a comprehensive brief for the new OC 201, and he was privileged to join Wg Cdr Smolak and 201 Sqn members when they retrieved the Squadron Standard from Government House to bring back to Lossiemouth.</p> <p>The Chairman was delighted that of the 9 P8 aircraft now at Lossiemouth, 2 were named in honour of 201 Squadron:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ZP806 "Guernsey's Reply" • ZP807 "William Barker VC" <p>The Chairman noted the success of the 201 facebook page and noted that it was a great success started by Tim Monk. Rosie Hall would update the meeting later.</p>
5	Sec	Sec's Report	<p>In his report the Sec noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership total now stood at 345 although we had lost track of 23 members. • A total of 20 new members had joined the Association since Apr 2018. • Association members Off Task totalled 9 that had been notified to the committee: <p>Air Marshal Sir John 'Win' Harris Wg Cdr Pat Carrol Wg Cdr Jeff Baker Wg Cdr John Channon Wg Cdr Keith Bichard Sqn Ldr Ray Curtis Mr Alan (Ben) Lyon Mr Tony Ruth Mr Ian Witter</p>
6	Treasurer	Treasurer Report	<p>Overview and approval of accounts. The Treasurer explained the main income and expenditures that had occurred since the previous reunion and that the total funds available now stood at £1832.62. The £1,000 deposit paid to the St Pierre</p>

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			<p>Park Hotel in Guernsey for the 2020 reunion had been recovered in full. A £1,000 deposit had been paid to the Newton Hotel to secure the event for the 2022 reunion although this would be recovered at the end of the reunion by agreement with the hotel. Personal contributions by members attending the reunion to offset hotel costs and hiring of buses to Lossiemouth had been received although the bus invoice had yet to be paid. Other expenses included secretary costs of £95.64, annual website hosting fees of £50 plus a £50 donation to the Waddington ATC cadets for the use of their minibus during the Branston Reunion.</p> <p>The Chairman asked for approval of the accounts. Approval of the Accounts: Michael Buehner-Coldrey (P) / Sir Geoffrey Rowland (S). Approved.</p>
7	Chair	Committee Appointments	<p>The Chairman advised the meeting that he wanted to bring in 2 new Committee posts a history member with the post filled by Paul Warrener and an IT Member filled by Paul Stitson. Joe Kennedy, who had been working as the Sec for some time would need to be approved. Similarly, Rosie Hall would take up the post of Facebook Coordinator although she had been working that role already. The Chairman hoped that a Squadron member could be appointed to join the Committee, but this post remained vacant due to lack of people on the Sqn</p> <p>The new Committee would comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Confirmed Joe Kennedy • Treasurer: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Neil Campbell. Previously elected. • History Member: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appointed Paul Warrener. • Social Media Reps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appointed Paul Stitson. ○ Confirmed Rosie Hall • Squadron Member <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Appoint Position <p>Proposal to confirm and approve the relevant appointments. Chris Birks (P) / Karen Seward (S). Approved</p> <p>The Chairman thanked all committee members for their hard work and welcomed the 2 Pauls as new members.</p>
8	Chair	Fb/Website Update	<p>The Chairman explained that he thought there was considerable work to do to make the Association website more user friendly and relevant. It needed to blend better with facebook where most young people tended to gravitate. Rosie Hall gave the figures for facebook members which was an undoubted success. Rosie had now taken over the</p>

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			administration of the facebook page from Tim Monk and she regularly posted information from the Chairman and sec as well monitoring content and approving new joiners, to ensure they had a genuine reason for joining the page.
9	Chair	Newsletter	The chairman explained that a regular paper newsletter in A5 size used to be produced by the committee for Association members. Unfortunately, this ceased some years ago because of the cost of production (Relatively small) and at that time postage costs (high – at about £200). Should we resurrect a newsletter like some other associations do? There was general agreement that this would be a good idea although to be successful members would need to submit articles for publication. Perhaps a sqn member could be drawn into a production team. It was suggested also that book reviews could be introduced. This would be considered a future date
10	Chair	Next Reunion	The location for the next reunion needed to be considered and the time of year. Much discussion ensued and there was a strong preference to return to Guernsey. The Chairman noted that the Sqn would likely return in strength to Guernsey soon and the Association would need to de-conflict when we go. It was proposed and agreed that the Association would return to Guernsey for the next reunion in 2023.
11	Chair	AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of the Pembroke Dock Heritage Trust award ceremony & Plaque Unveiling would take place on 20 July. Andrew Roberts and Bob Hall were due to attend but others were warmly welcome to attend too. • It was suggested that name badges should be provided for members at future reunions. This was generally agreed to be a good idea. • The Chairman explained that for the Church Service the next day there would be reserved places in Church for those attending.
12	Chair/Sec	Close	There being no further business, the Chairman thanked the meeting for their attention and comments and closed the meeting.

Joe Kennedy
Sec