

**NOTES & ACTIONS
OF NO 201 (GUERNSEY'S OWN) SQUADRON
ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE MEETING
19TH OCTOBER 2023 AT 7PM AT THE RAILWAY HOUSE, NAIRN /ZOOM**

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| ATTENDEES: | Chris Birks | CB | Chairman |
| | Neil Campbell | NC | Treasurer |
| | Rosie Hall | RH | FB Rep (zoom) |
| | Paul Warrener | PW | Historian |
| | Joe Kennedy | JK | Secretary(zoom) |

Introduction.

1. CB thanked all for attending and stated the aims of the meeting: to confirm membership numbers (including finding lost links and recruitment); cost of joining the Association; confirm committee members; agree future links to 201 Sqn; affirm comms via FB and a new web-site; and start 2024 reunion planning at Guernsey. Bob Hall was also in zoom attendance with Rosie and any contributions he would wish to make were welcomed.

Finance

2. NC advised that final accounting after the Reunion was to be completed but as advised at the AGM the accounts were in a healthy state. Subscriptions were currently based on life membership at £25 reduced to £20 for senior citizens. The rates had been the same for over 25 years . Although the financial state is good, it was agreed that a modest increase would be appropriate so the cost of joining the Association for life should now be £30, reduced to £25 for seniors.

ACTION: JK/NC to ensure the new rates for life membership of the Association be £30, reduced to £25 for senior citizens, are charged to new joiners.

Membership

3. Of the 370 plus members JK advised of over 20 members who he has lost comms links with. With a higher FB membership it was agreed to advertise lost links on FB and also advertise membership is available to those who are not members but on FB; the constitution allows for partners of current members and partners/close family members of deceased 201 Sqn members to join.

ACTION: JK & RH to liaise and use FB to recruit new Association members and attempt to re-establish contact with members whose comms links are lost.

Committee Membership

4. CB had been advised by OC 201 Sqn that Flt Lt Dave Miles (DM) had been appointed the Sqn's Association representative. The IT member had resigned. Dick

Gould (DG) had volunteered to revamp the Association web-site and would be good replacement as IT Member. It was agreed unanimously that DM and DG should be appointed full Association committees members.

ACTION: CB to ask DG and DM if they would accept full membership of the Association Committee.

No 201 Squadron Links

5. OC 201 Sqn and DM were keen to strengthen the link with the Association now that it had lost its training role and was building up to full operational squadron strength. CB had been invited to provide a brief on the sqn history and Association to 201 Sqn in the week commencing 11th December, tbc. The Sqn would also like to hold a function for the Association during 2024 but we must be wary it does not clash with the Guernsey Reunion in May 24. The Association had visited 201 Sqn last year and planned to again in 2025, but if the Sqn invited members to a Families Day in the latter half of 2024 it may be the best way ahead. It may also attract members in the north of Scotland area who do not attend reunions.

IT

6. RH was happy to continue her current work with FB which attracts a large audience. DG had spoken with CB about revamping the web site, was aiming to liaise with the current administrator, Chaz Counter, and was likely to change the site provider. It was agreed that we should spend funds on a new provider and there was discussion about what the content should be and if there should be a members' only area. It was agreed a zoom meeting would be required with DG, RH, PW and DM primarily to progress the content. CB would liaise with DG to organise. BH said he would forward a VP45 link to show what could be achieved.

ACTION: CB to organize a zoom with DG and others to discuss web-site content.

BH to forward link to VP45 website to CB, DG and PW.

History

7. PW was doing a good job posting sqn history and extracts from F540 entries on FB. To protect his sources the material should be confined to member only web sites; this could possibly be extended to a web-site members only area. CB has an oral history gathering qualification and may, in time, gather members memoirs.

Reunion Planning

8. CB stated that in reaction to his request for a for next year's reunion in Guernsey there was a unanimous vote for 8th-10thMay. He had already approached coach companies to establish a cost for a group tour to Guernsey but no coach company would go to the Island, just to the ferry port. The St Pierre Port Hotel was preparing a ghost invoice to show indicative costs for 2 nights B&B (£156 a night double occupancy, £130 a night single occupancy), meet and greet buffet, room for an AGM and formal three course dinner. Activities on the Island would include

possibly the Liberation Day Church Service and a 201 Sqn Museum visit with presentation of Geoff Baker's logbook by Sheena Baker, as well as other events. Bus company costs would need to be requested and included. Discounts for travel had been requested from Aurigny airline and Condor ferries. Karen Seward would also be asked to assist. As soon as indicative costs are collated CB would write to members requesting commitment to the Reunion.

Any Other Business

9. CB advised that Phil and Jane Basey were progressing proposals for a ladies' equivalent to a sqn tie and would present them when ready.

10. NC requested that there be extra signatories in addition to himself to pay funds. It was agreed he would request the Bank of Scotland to include CB and JK.

ACTION: NC to instruct the Bank of Scotland to include CB and JK as signatories to the Association accounts.

Next Meeting

11. The next meeting will be held in early 2024, date TBD. Meantime e-mail/phone would be used to progress on-going business.