

SOUTH ATLANTIC MEDAL ASSOCIATION (1982)
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE FACILITY
THURSDAY 15TH APRIL 2021 AT 7PM

PRESENT:

Committee:

Tom Herring	Chairman	Joe Locke	Trustee
Andrew Lockett	Treasurer	Chris Howe MBE	Trustee
Derek 'Smokey' Cole	Vice Chairman	Stephen Penfold	Trustee
Paul Holling	Trustee	Tim Lewis	Trustee
Chris Jones	Trustee		

Non Committee Officials:

Joanne Stevens Association Secretary

Members

There were 52 Members in attendance

The meeting commenced at 7pm

1. Meeting brief

- 1.1 Derek Cole gave the meeting brief and explained the procedure should any technical issues arise throughout the meeting.
- 1.2 Prelude music was Kathryn Nutbeam, daughter of Major Nutbeam, Killed in Action in the South Atlantic Conflict.
- 1.3 Explanation of the voting process was given.

2. Apologies

- 2.1 32 formal apologies had been received from members.
- 2.2 Including Kevin MacDonald and Kevin Greathurst.

3. Chairman's Welcome

- 3.1 Tom Herring welcomed all to the first virtual AGM.
- 3.2 The meeting will include our postponed AGM for 2020 and you will hear reports spanning 2 years to bring us up-to-date.
- 3.3 Tom Herring explained that the trustees were present in their homes and that they will not be able to ask for a proposer or seconder from the floor due to technical limitations.

4. One minute silence

- 4.1 Joe Locke asked for one minute silence to remember those who died in the conflict and those comrades who have since passed away. In this week of mourning for His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, he asked you to include him in your thoughts.

5. Loyal Greeting

- 5.1 Stephen Penfold read out the message sent by the President to the Patron, Prince Charles and the Patron's response.

6. Secretaries report for 2019

- 6.1 The secretaries report for 2019 was read out by Chris Jones.
- 6.2 180 members represented the SAMA 82 organisation at the Remembrance Day Cenotaph Parade.
- 6.3 Another standard was purchased which is kept in Scotland for the use of Scotland and northern England. In total the four standards were paraded 20 times around the UK.
- 6.4 170 concessionary flight applications were received.
- 6.5 Area co-ordinators meeting was held at Gibraltar Barracks.
- 6.6 Paul Moore, Charlie McColgan, and team held the first 'Ride of Respect'.

7. Secretaries report for 2020

- 7.1 The secretaries report for 2020 was read out by Paul Holling.
- 7.2 Most events were cancelled in 2020 and SAMA (82) area coordinators were unable to attend many of the activities planned.
- 7.3 Concessionary flights ceased from March 2020 due to Covid-19 and not resumed.
- 7.4 Allocation of concessionary flights may need to be prioritised with preference to those with proven need through stress and trauma where a visit to the islands would be therapeutic. Priority may also be accorded for those who have not returned as a pilgrim before and to those who have returned only once. Of course, anyone who wishes to travel independently is at liberty to do so on a commercial basis.
- 7.5 Remembrance Day Cenotaph Parade was cancelled.
- 7.6 The first 'President's Commendation Award' was awarded to Joe Erskine for his continued support of veterans and his administration of the SAMA (82) members-only Facebook group.
- 7.7 Thanks were expressed for Paul Moore and team for holding the '2020 Ride of Respect'. This was a challenging 8 days, over 2000 miles journey.
- 7.8 Office staff worked from home from March 2020. Joanne and Marie thanked the Trustees for the safe adaption of the office work practices.
- 7.9 Andrew Lockett telephoned over 1300 members to collect missing email addresses; so we now hold a comprehensive membership list.

8. Treasurer's Report for 2019

- 8.1 Andrew Lockett read the Treasurers report for 2019.
- 8.2 The annual report and accompanying account summaries for year 2019 were circulated via email with the calling notices.
- 8.3 Key figure is cash and investment balance at year end 2019 which was in excess £377,000. This includes central funds, the reserves of our three branches and restricted funds. With all reckonable valuables the total balance is just over £400k. This was about £31000 more than in 2018 and is mainly attributable to favourable market conditions in which the Blackrock investment led the way with £52000. The upturn was consistent with the market gains and our long-term benefits from the Armed Forces Common Investment Fund (known as AFCIF) has been of huge benefit for the association over the longer term. The AFCIF is an investment collective of military charities in excess of £300m.
- 8.4 This was quite an active year for the association with membership increasing significantly.
- 8.5 Thanks were made to the Army Benevolent fund for their kind generosity in supporting the preparation and delivery of the newsletter and recognise the generosity of Seafarers UK who ceased their support for the newsletter in 2019.
- 8.6 This was quite an active year for the association with membership increasing significantly. We thank the Army Benevolent fund for their kind generosity in supporting the preparation and delivery of the newsletter and recognise the generosity of Seafarers UK who ceased their support for the newsletter in 2019. You will find a record of activities within the annual report.

9. Treasurer's Report for 2020.

- 9.1 Chris Howe read the Treasurers report for 2020.
- 9.2 The Armed Forces Common Investment Fund has now had a name change to become the Armed Forces Charities Growth and Income A Accumulation. This change was implemented to take advantage of some VAT benefits. The fund performed well in 2020, despite the hostile financial and economic factors, giving the SAMA balance a £31,000 up lift.
- 9.3 Management of the finances has been quite challenging, particularly over the running of the payroll.
- 9.4 The association was able to take advantage of the coronavirus job retention scheme (furlough) and it brought significant benefit. However, it added a testing work-load for trustees. All dealings with HMRC need to be conducted with great care.
- 9.5 At the end of the year our total cash and investment balance reached around £396,000.
- 9.6 With a view to making this money sustain the existence of SAMA82, up until year 2042, we need to maintain sound financial management within our charitable objectives. The rest of the detail is in the annual report and account summary numbered 07, 08, 09.
- 9.7 Thanks were given to those members who committed regular gifts to the association. They are the backbone to our finances.

9.8 For those who do wish to continue to give, and those who may be thinking of starting, please contemplate the use of gift aid for those with taxed income in the United Kingdom.

9.9 The association thanked Tim Parrott for his dedicated inspection and his report on the finances.

10. Voting section 1

10.1 Tim Lewis explained how the vote would take place using the Poll facility on Zoom. This facility enabled collation and sharing if the results.

11. Resolutions

11.1 Resolution 1 -To Agree the Minutes of 2019 AGM.

11.1.1 Minutes had been circulated via email prior to the meeting.

11.1.2 The acceptance is proposed by Paul Holling, seconded by Andrew Lockett.

11.1.3 Resolution 1 was accepted with a majority vote of 93%. 7% abstained.

11.2 Resolution 2 - Appoint an inspector of accounts for financial year 2021.

11.2.1 Proposed by Derek Cole, seconded by Paul Holling.

11.2.2 Resolution 2 was accepted with a majority vote of 98%. 2% abstained.

11.3 Resolution 3 - Accept the annual reports and account summaries for financial year 2019.

11.3.1 These were sent to you as an attachment with the calling notice and numbered 04, 05, 06.

11.3.2 Proposed by Paul Holling and seconded by Charles Jones.

11.3.3 Resolution 3 was accepted with a majority vote of 98%. 2% abstained.

11.4 Resolution 4 - Accept the annual reports and account summaries for financial year 2020.

11.4.1 These were sent to you as an attachment with the calling notice and numbered 07, 08, 09.

11.4.2 Proposed by Chris Howe MBE, seconded by Tim Lewis

11.4.3 Resolution 4 was accepted with a majority vote of 98%. 2% abstained.

11.5 Resolution 5 was a to vote to submit changes to Companies House and the Charity Commission for approval and inclusion in our Articles and Memorandum.

11.5.1 The purpose is to enable the method of holding meetings to extend to the method we are using today and have used for trustee meetings recently. Many charities have been in breach of their governing instruments because of the extended nature of the pandemic. This proposed change brings the association back into compliance.

11.5.2 You have been provided with an updated copy of the proposed articles and memorandum (File 10). The trustees plan to take further action next year to renumber and bring greater clarity to the governing instrument. This has to pass scrutiny by both Companies House and the Charity Commission and may require legal advice for which time is needed.

11.5.3 The following changes are proposed: The Articles Section 1, Interpretation. Insert after the definition of the "United Kingdom", the following: "meeting" means: face to face in the same area or room with the capability to exchange information by voice, expression, documents, displays, graphics and written information, or through a communication medium whereby the participants may each be in any suitable location but can listen to others and communicate using voice, documents, displays, graphics and written information. "meeting" for the purpose of an annual and extraordinary general meeting, may be conducted using a communication medium that enables the trustees to present spoken reports to members, be visible to members, and execute voting on the resolutions and elections as provided for in the calling notice for the meeting, and any updates, including resolutions and proposals by members. "Communication medium" A point to point signalling system enabling the transmission and reception of video and data in near real time. Within the body of the document replace the word "place" in paragraphs 7(3), 10(1),10(2),12(2),12(4),13(4), (13)(5)(b) and (13)(5)(d). Insert "place or communication medium arrangements " Replace the word "time" in paragraphs 10(1)b, 13(4), 13(5)b, 13(5)d with "date, time".

11.5.4 75% of the votes are required to approve changes to the articles and memorandum.

11.5.5 Resolution 5 was accepted with a majority vote of 98%. 2% abstained.

12. Voting section 2 – Election of Trustees.

12.1 Derek Cole sought election. Proposed by Andrew Lockett, Seconded by Tom Herring.

12.1.1 Agreed with a majority vote of 98%. 2% Abstained.

12.2 Paul Holling sought election. Proposed by Tom Herring, Seconded by Charles Jones

12.2.1 Agreed with a majority vote of 95%. 5% Abstained.

12.3 Chris Howe MBE sought election. Proposed by Andrew Lockett, Seconded by Tom Herring.

12.3.1 Agreed with a majority vote of 95%. 5% Abstained.

12.4 Charles Jones was sought election. Proposed by Derek Cole, Seconded by Tom Herring.

12.4.1 Agreed with a majority vote of 95%. 5% Abstained.

12.5 Tim Lewis sought election. Proposed by Paul Holling, Seconded by Andrew Lockett.

12.5.1 Agreed with a majority vote of 95%. 5% Abstained.

12.6 Joe Locke sought election. Proposed by Tom Herring, Seconded by Charles Jones.

12.6.1 Agreed with a majority vote of 98%. 2% Abstained.

12.7 Andrew Lockett sought election. Proposed by Tom Herring, Seconded by Derek Cole.

12.7.1 Agreed with a majority vote of 98%. 2% Abstained.

12.8 Stephen Penfold sought election. Proposed by Paul Holling, Seconded by Tom Herring.

12.8.1 Agreed with a majority vote of 98%. 2% Abstained.

13. Place and Date of 2022 Annual General Meeting.

13.1 The 2022 Annual General Meeting reunion weekend will be on the 1st to 4th April 2022 and at the Mickleover Hotel, Derby and at the National Memorial Arboretum.

13.2 The associated interdenominational service will be held at the SAMA (82) Memorial in the NMA on the Sunday.

14. Message from our President, Commodore James Miller.

14.1 Thank you all for your attendance on-line for our 2021 AGM. I ask you all to keep up to date on the proposed events for the 40th Anniversary next year; this is also the 25th Anniversary of SAMA 82. I commend the Chairman, trustees and supporters for the effective management of the association and the work on the programme for marking forty years since the conflict. I extend my appreciation to our office staff and their dedication to the success of SAMA82. We also appreciate the special efforts of the Air Borne Riders who toured the resting places of those we honour at our AGM. May I wish you good health and good luck this year, and next, and that you will join in with the many events during the important year of 2022.

The meeting ended at 7.30 pm