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| **MINUTES of the HMS BULWARK, ALBION & CENTAUR AGM 2001Saturday 24th February 2001 held at the GI’s Mess HMS Excellent, Portsmouth.** |
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| **Those present:** |   |
| **VADM Sir Patrick Symons** | **President** |
| **Frank Jones** | **Chairman** |
| **Mick Dunnington** | **Vice-Chairman** |
| **John Truscott** | **Secretary** |
| **Bob Cowan** | **Treasurer** |
| **Tim Holt** | **Social Secretary** |
| **Mike Noonan** | **Editor** |
| **Dave Crees** | **Committee Member** |
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| **With 27 Members & Guests Attending** |
| **Apologies:** |
| **Mick Toman** | **Committee Member** |
| **Steve Reed (9)** |  |

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| **The Meeting opened at 12.15hrs with the following items under discussion:** |
| **1.** | **Chairman’s Welcome:**Frank Jones welcomed the President and those present to the AGM and was pleased to note the amount of members that were able to attend.  He handed over control of the meeting to the Vice-Chairman Mick Dunnington as his position was up for re-election.   |
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| **2.** | **Minutes of AGM/EGM 1999:**The Secretary read out the Agenda Items of the AGM/EGM minutes for 1999, there being no matters arising.  Agreed by all present.AGMProp - Tim HoltSec – Frank Jones |
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| **3.** | **Reports:**The Secretary, Treasurer, Editor and Social Secretary presented Reports. The Sec’s report is intended to be published in the next edition of the RO8.TheTreasurer reported that the funds were in a stable condition, but reserves were low. This to be discussed later in the meeting under financial plan. A vote of thanks was given to Mike Noonan the editor for has production of the RO8. Mike stressed the continuing need for members to send in material for the magazine. |
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| **4.** | **Election of Officers and Committee:**The Vice-Chairman asked for volunteers for the Committee in addition to the present committee being prepared to stand. Frank Jones stated that although he was prepared to stand this time it would be for one more term only. There were no additional volunteers and the standing committee was re-elected (*less Vice-Chairman/Social Sec.*) unanimously as follows:

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| **Position** | **Prop** | **Sec** |
| Chairman | Colin Dixon | Dave Crees |
| Secretary | Steve Foster | Bungy Williams |
| Treasurer | Wally Waltho | Bernie Fairbrace |
| Editor | Colin Dixon | Bob Cowan |
| Mick Toman | John Truscott | Tim Holt |
| Dave Crees | Frank Jones | Bob Cowan |

Frank Jones duly re-elected as Chairman took over control of the meeting.  |
| **5.** | **Amendments to Constitution:**The Secretary presented changes to the Constitution for ratification by the AGM. The changes were laid out in the accompanying leaflet to those present.* The change toRule 1 was contested by Wally Waltho who stated that the origins of the Assoc. were founded by HMS Bulwark members and that should be reflected in the name of the Assoc. This was discussed and voted upon unanimously as the following official title:Prop  -  Wally WalthoSec  -  Bungy Williams

 * **“HMS Bulwark, Albion & Centaur Association”**The Secretary proposed that the title “HMS Bulwark Assoc.” should be used for special reference when connected to the affiliation with the new LPD HMS Bulwark. The President and Chairman supported this.  Agreed by those present.

 * The change to Rule 15 was amended to state that the date of the following year’s AGM should be decided at the previous AGM.Prop -  Mike NoonanSec  -  Bungy Williams

 * Those present agreed the remainder of the changes.Prop  -  Wally WalthoSec  -  Frank Jones

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| **6.** | **Financial Plan 2001:**The Secretary presented the financial plan to the meeting which explained in broad terms as to how the Assoc. was to build up it’s funds.  The plan was issued to those present and had been sent to all members.  Wally Waltho expressed concerns over the amount of reserve funds this may create and sought clarification as to how the money was to be spent.  The Secretary explained the rationale for the plan and expenditure from it.Bungy Williams wished to amend the plan from an original £7 per year subscriptions to £8 per year.  This was due to the original plan to have voluntary donations. The plan was amended to £8 to make adequate provisions for funds.Cheyenne Body asked the committee if provisions were to be made to include direct debit/standing order to pay subscriptions, this was confirmed by the Treasurer. Those present agreed the plan.  |
| **7.** | **Membership Fee Increase:**The Secretary presented the amended proposed fee to those present.  This was discussed by the meeting including abolishing the two-year discount and arrangements for overseas members.It was agreed that subscriptions were to increase to £8 per year until further notice and that the two-year discount be abolished. Arrangements for overseas members would allow for any number of year’s subscriptions to be paid at any one time, to allow for the cost of bank transfers.* Fee increase    Prop – Neil Pearson  Sec – Colin DixonAbol 2 yr Dis  Prop – Neil Pearson  Sec – Harry RoddisO/ Seas Prov   Prop - Colin Dixon   Sec – Bernie Fairbrace
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| **8.** | **AGM 2002:**A discussion was opened to the floor to decide a date and location of the next AGM.  Several proposals were put forward for the location with Mike Noonan suggesting that a Hotel Package in another area has worked well for other Associations.  Steve Foster pointed out that it has been traditionally in Portsmouth and that a substantial number of members use the Home Club, further suggesting this as a venue for the next AGM.  Other points raised included provision of coach transport to Portsmouth and the block booking of accommodation in the Home Club.The Secretary asked the meeting for their comments on having the AGM away from Portsmouth and any ideas for suitable locations.  The feeling of those present was that a decision on future AGM’s away from Portsmouth should be deferred to another AGM.* The date of the next AGM and agreed as 20th April 2002.Prop  -  Tim HoltSec  -  John Truscott

The AGM provisions were carried unanimously. The date and location of AGM 2002 will be 20th April at Portsmouth.  |
| **9.** | **Membership of other Organisations:**The Committee sought the approval of the meeting to allow membership of the following organisations:* Home Club
* Federation of Naval Assoc.
* RNEB

This was discussed and agreed, as costs were low, with Wally Waltho requesting a review of FNA membership after one year.* FNA Prop – Wally WalthoSec – Mike Noonan
* RNEBProp – Mike NoonanSec – Steve Foster

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| **10** | **Association Website:**The Secretary outlined the plan to create a Website for the Assoc.  Help had been obtained from Danny Siggers (*Royal Naval Communications Assoc.*) who is willing give us his expertise. It is hoped that this will assist recruiting of new members and contact with all members.  |
| **11** | **Any Other Business:**Wally Waltho enquired as to the whereabouts of the “Golden Wheel Spanner” that was held normally by the in post Chairman, and displayed at each AGM.  Enquiries revealed that Ned Parkinson last held the Spanner and he would be approached.Cheyenne Body brought to the attention of the meeting an article in the Portsmouth Newsregarding preserved pensions for ex-service personnel serving less than 22yrs, before  1975. The Pension Action Group acting for ex-service personnel seek to redress this imbalance.  Cheyenne asked if the committee held a view on this matter.  The committee considered this, but a collective view was not held. Frank Jones gave further information on this issue including the charges levied by the solicitors acting for the Pension Action Group and insurance costs amounting to £235.  |
| **12** | **Association Tribute to Ned Parkinson:**In recognition of Ned’s service to the Assoc. for over 20 years, the Association was pleased to present Ned with a gift. Sir Patrick Symons presented the gift, an engraved cased travel clock, to Colin Dixon on behalf of Ned who was unfortunately unable to attend. The President and Colin gave warm speeches in praise of Ned, which was heartily endorsed by those present.    |
| **13** | **President’s Closing Address:**  Sir Patrick thanked the Committee and those present for their attendance and expressed his personal thanks to Wally Waltho for his previous service as Chairman.   The President expressed his appreciation of the work of the current committee and wished the Association well.  Sir Patrick welcomed the launching of the new LPD’s HMS Albion and HMS Bulwark and was sure that this would be a focus for the Assoc.   |
| **14** | **Close of Meeting:**The Chairman thanked Tim Holt for arranging the venue and thanked the GI’s Mess organisers for the excellent buffet.  Frank hoped that he would be seeing most members and guests at the Social this evening.   |
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| **There being no further business the meeting closed at 14.45hrs.** |

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