

*Regional Colonel (Midlands)*  
MAJOR GENERAL N WELCH OBE

*Deputy (1) Regional Colonel (Midlands)*  
COLONEL R A HEAD MC

*Deputy (2) Regional Colonel (Midlands)*  
COLONEL J H BOWRON DSO OBE

*Herefordshire County Colonel*  
COLONEL A S TAYLOR OBE DL

*Shropshire County Colonel*  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL R N R JENKINS OBE MA

*Birmingham City Colonel*  
COLONEL T F L WEEKS OBE

*Merseyside City Colonel*  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL JJV McEVOY BEM



RIFLES OFFICE  
COPTHORNE BARRACKS,  
SHREWSBURY,  
SY3 8LZ

Tel: Shrewsbury (01743) 842025 or 842030  
Shrewsbury Military (94467) 2025 or 2030

e-mail: [shrewsbury@the-rifles.co.uk](mailto:shrewsbury@the-rifles.co.uk)

*Regional Secretary*  
LT COL A R TRELAWNY

SH/101

See Distribution

23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017

**MINUTES OF THE 29<sup>TH</sup> LI COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT SHREWSBURY TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB ON SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017**

Present	Lt Gen T P Evans CB CBE DSO Brig J H Bowron DSO OBE Brig C M G Elcomb OBE Col D H R Stephenson CBE Lt Col P J Wykeham Maj H L Kennedy MBE Capt I I Foster Capt R W Gittings Lt Col A R Trelawny	Chairman LI Committee Member Chairman LI Club and Member President Buglers Assoc and Member Member Member Asst Sec Fin and Member LI Reunion Coordinator Secretary LI Committee	Chairman     Treasurer Secretary
Apologies	Col B Denney TD DL Mr I McGregor	Member Member	
In Attendance	Mr Alan Tamblyn	Chairman Buglers Association	

Item (a)	Subject (b)	Discussion and Decisions (c)	Action (d)
-------------	----------------	---------------------------------	---------------

Item (a)	Subject (b)	Discussion and Decisions (c)	Action (d)
1	Welcome and Opening Remarks	The Chairman welcomed members to the meeting and thanked Capt Gittings for all his hard work organising another successful Reunion. He also welcomed Mr Tamblyn. Apologies were received from Col Denney and Mr McGregor.	
2	Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Points Arising	The Minutes of the 28th LI Committee Meeting were accepted as a true record. Points arising were covered under other agenda items (below).	
3	Membership Changes	<p>All members present agreed to continue serving on the Committee for the time being. The Chairman undertook to contact Brig Chamberlain and confirm his replacement of Brig Bowron in view of the latter's forthcoming overseas posting. The Chairman also undertook to contact Mr McGregor to ascertain his intentions.</p> <p>Brig Bowron suggested that the views of other ranks, particularly relating to the Reunion, might be better represented on the Committee by the inclusion of some new members. Col Stephenson reported that such representation already occurred on the equivalent committee of the RGJ. Following discussion, the Secretary undertook to approach three former Light Infantrymen (one from each regular battalion) to sound out their feeling about joining the LI Committee.</p>	<p>Chairman</p> <p>Chairman</p> <p>Secretary</p>
4	Finances	<p>The Treasurer briefed that the current value of funds held on behalf of the LI Committee is around £98K, £18K of which has been set aside for the 2017 Reunion. This means that if it is not added to, the remaining £80K would cover three more Reunions (including the more expensive 2018 event), keeping the event going until 2020.</p> <p>At the previous meeting, on 9 Mar 17, it was decided that there were three Courses of Action (COA), which were explained in the minutes of that meeting. COA 1, to levy an admission charge from 2018, in order to keep it going beyond 2020, remains the option favoured by the LI Committee.</p>	
5	LI and Rifles Reunion	<p><u>2017 Reunion.</u></p> <p>Attendance at the stadium on the Friday night was low, perhaps due to the counter-attraction of single battalion events elsewhere. The Chairman agreed with Capt Gittings that thought needs to be given to whether the Friday evening event at the stadium should be continued in future years.</p> <p>The Chairman will contact CO 6 RIFLES and Comdt Shropshire ACF to thank them for their support to the Reunion.</p> <p>The view of the LI Committee, and of those consulted during the event, is that the 2017 Reunion was a success.</p> <p><u>2018 Reunion – Programme.</u></p> <p>The 2018 Reunion will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of the Light Infantry. The programme for the event will, therefore, reflect that anniversary. It is hoped that a Royal Colonel or other VVIP will attend.</p> <p>Members spent considerable time discussing an outline programme for Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018, which is, currently, as below. Timings to follow.</p>	

Item (a)	Subject (b)	Discussion and Decisions (c)	Action (d)
		<p>Shuttle buses from town centre, bars open, background music.  VVIP arrives, meets selected LI representatives (all ranks) in Sovereign Suite.  Normal parade on square, VVIP and other VIPs inspect detachments, march past.  VVIP meets LI representatives in main marquee.  Sounding of Retreat on square.  VVIP departs  Food outlets open (free of charge, probably hog roast), musical entertainment, military reenactments, county songs etc.  Shuttle buses back to town centre.  Association Dinner in Sovereign Suite (tbc)</p> <p>Guests to be invited to attend the Reunion during the VVIP visit are likely to include HM Lord Lieutenant for Shropshire, Mayor of Shrewsbury, Chairman and CEO of Shrewsbury Town FC, COs 3 and 8 RIFLES. There will be no separate Officers' Lunch.</p> <p>Specific organizational responsibilities were allocated as follows:  Reunion Overall – Capt Gittings  Royal/VVIP Liaison – Lt Col Wykeham/Chairman  Musical Coordination – Col Stevenson/Mr Tamblyn  Website and Social Media Information – Maj Kennedy/Capt Foster</p> <p><u>2018 Reunion – Admission Charges.</u></p> <p>Further to the feedback received after the Chairman's letter in the 2017 Newsletter and wide-ranging discussion at the 2017 Reunion, it has been decided that admission charges will be levied at the 2018 Reunion and at subsequent Reunions. The charges agreed by the Committee are as follows:</p> <p>Veterans or serving Riflemen of all ranks - £10  Families (one veteran, partner and up to 2 children/grandchildren under 18 years old) - £15.00.  All other visitors (adult (non-veteran) or under 18) - £5.</p> <p>Details of ticket purchase methods will be circulated shortly. It is intended that tickets will be available with on line payment as well as with postal application/payment for those not using the internet.</p> <p>Former Commanding Officers will be asked to encourage officer attendance at the 2018 (and subsequent) Reunions as it has fallen to an unacceptably low level.</p>	<p>As shown</p> <p>Secretary Capt Foster</p> <p>Chairman Secretary</p>
6	LI Regimental Association	<p>The Secretary and Capt Foster reminded the Committee that there is no centralised LI Association nationwide structure and nor would current members of local (or battalion) branches wish there to be. The methods of communication with former Light Infantrymen will continue to be many and varied, but the value of new media (particularly Facebook) should not be underestimated. That said, a reluctance to embrace the technological revolution should not be penalised, and e-mail and postal communication will continue to play its part.</p>	
7	Website	<p>Maj Kennedy and Capt Foster reported that the issues limiting uploads onto the LI Website have now been resolved.</p>	

Item (a)	Subject (b)	Discussion and Decisions (c)	Action (d)
8	LI Officers' Club	Brig Elcomb informed the meeting that numbers for the Club Lunch at Salisbury on 9th July 2017 are currently around 80 and likely to reach 90. Discussion with the landlords of the premises over previous undercharging continue, but it is anticipated that the matter will be resolved. Numbers for the Club Dinner on 12th October 2017 are low so far but do not normally increase until much nearer the date. There was a very small excess of expenditure over income in 2016/17.	
9	Obituaries	It was noted that a short obituary would be required for Maj Peacock. The Secretary will ask the Yorkshire Office to provide it to Lt Col Wykeham in time for the 2017 Bugle and Chronicle.	Secretary
10	AOB	<p><u>LI Memorial at NMA.</u> Maj Kennedy briefed the meeting on his recent visit to the NMA. Although the NMA acknowledges the receipt of payment for perpetual maintenance, it was unable to produce a copy of the maintenance contract for inspection. It will do so shortly and the contract will be circulated to the LI Committee for perusal and discussion at the next meeting. In the meantime, quotations will be obtained, both from the NMA's sub-contractors and independent craftsmen, for the highlighting of the lettering on the main memorial and for the installation of an "information plaque" in line with the NMA's design guidelines. These will also be discussed at the next meeting.</p> <p>The laying of the wreath at the LI Memorial on or just before 11<sup>th</sup> November each year will remain the responsibility of the Secretary.</p> <p><u>Northern Ireland Veterans Association Service.</u> Maj Kennedy briefed the meeting on the plan for the event at the NMA on 16th September 2017. It was decided that the names of ten (of the 32 Light Infantrymen killed in Northern Ireland) would be read out each year, starting in 2017 and continuing in rotation thereafter. A LI wreath would be laid at the main NIVA memorial and at the LI Memorial, and Light Infantrymen would subsequently join the RGJ veterans at their memorial. The Buglers Association would sound at both memorials. A separate instruction will be circulated.</p> <p><u>Cornwall's Regimental Museum (housing the LI Collection).</u> Lt Col Wykeham briefed the meeting on developments at the museum. A copy of the Director's Report to Trustees is attached to these minutes. Whilst it is hoped that MoD funding will continue until 2030, it is possible that it could be cut before that.</p>	<p>Maj Kennedy Secretary</p> <p>Secretary</p> <p>Maj Kennedy</p>
12	Future Meetings	<p>The next meeting will be held at Peninsula Barracks, Winchester on <b>Thursday 28th September 2017 at 1030hrs.</b> Davies Street is no longer available for meetings.</p> <p>The 2018 Spring meeting will be held at Peninsula Barracks, Winchester on <b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 1030hrs.</b></p> <p>There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 1310hrs.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>

A R Trelawny  
Lt Col (Retd)




Attachment: Cornwall Regimental Museum (LI Collection) Director's Report



Distribution:

External:

Action:

Information:

All Committee Members   
IT Consultant, RHQ RIFLES  **Please post these minutes on the LI website**  
Bodmin Office   
Durham Office   
Pontefract Office   
Shrewsbury Office   
Taunton Office 

Brig R Draper CVO OBE   
RHQ Rifles - Regtl Sec   
- Exhib & Pub Curator 