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LI Committee Secretary
LT COL A R TRELAWNY

SH/101

See Distribution

23rd October 2017

MINUTES OF THE 30TH LI COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT RHQ RIFLES, WINCHESTER ON THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2017

Present	Lt Gen T P Evans CB CBE DSO Brig E J R Chamberlain Col D H R Stephenson CBE Maj H L Kennedy MBE Capt I I Foster Capt R W Gittings Lt Col A R Trelawny	Chairman LI Committee Member President Buglers Assoc and Member Member Asst Sec Fin and Member LI Reunion Coordinator Secretary LI Committee	Chairman Treasurer Secretary
Apologies	Brig C M G Elcomb OBE Col B Denney TD DL Lt Col P J Wykeham Mr I McGregor	Chairman LI Club and Member Member Member Member	
In Attendance	Mr A Tamblyn Mr W Bearham CSjt D Winter Mr C Edwards Mr M Bell and Ms S van Leest	Chairman Buglers Association Representing 1 LI Representing 2 LI Representing 3 LI Our Wilton (Item 2 only)	

Item (a)	Subject (b)	Discussion and Decisions (c)	Action (d)
1	Welcome and Opening Remarks	The Chairman welcomed members and the representatives of the regular LI battalions and the Buglers Association. Apologies were received from Brig Elcomb, Col Denney, Lt Col Wykeham and Mr McGregor. The Chairman stated that the main aim of the meeting was to set out plans for the 2018 Reunion.	
2	Discussion of plans to develop Cophorne Barracks, Shrewsbury	Mr Bell and Ms van Leest briefed the meeting on what the Our Wilton group had achieved at Erskine Barracks, Wilton and the preliminary discussions held with DIO and the planning authorities in Shrewsbury relating to the development of Cophorne Barracks. The inclusion of some social housing and other facilities specifically for military veterans is a real possibility and one of the developers bidding to buy the Shrewsbury site is keen to include a military enterprise zone in its plans. It is possible that a legacy company, to be set up to work with the developers, could direct some of the income generated through the Section 106 agreement to the LI Committee to support future Reunions at the current location. Ms van Leest agreed to give the LI Committee sight of the heritage bid likely to be submitted to the local authority and to keep the LI Committee updated on developments. The Chairman directed Lt Col Trelawny to act as the point of contact.	Lt Col Trelawny
3	Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Points Arising	The Minutes of the 29th LI Committee Meeting were accepted as a true record. Points arising were covered under other agenda items (below).	
4	Membership Changes	<p>Brig Chamberlain has now succeeded Col Bowron as the Rifles Serving Officer on the LI Committee. Messrs Tamblyn, Bearham, Winter and Edwards have kindly agreed to join the Committee meetings in the run up to the 2018 Reunion to ensure that the views of members of the former regular LI battalions are taken into account during the planning process.</p> <p>Maj Kennedy informed the meeting that he is seeking a new member, with responsibility for keeping the LI website regularly updated, ideally in the Winchester area or, if not, in an area with better internet access than he has in South Shropshire.</p>	Maj Kennedy
5	Finances	The Treasurer briefed that the current value of funds held on behalf of the LI Committee is around £88K. The cost of the 2017 Reunion was £17K. It is still intended to charge for entry to the 2018 and subsequent Reunions (see below), but the entry charge could come down if attendance remains high and if additional sources of funding could be found.	
6	LI and Rifles Reunion	<p><u>2017 Reunion.</u></p> <p>Feedback from the 2017 Reunion included proposals to move the date back to the first weekend in June (stadium availability and other local events programme to be investigated for the 2019 and subsequent Reunions), to levy an annual subscription (not favoured by the LI Committee) and to use other parts of the stadium including the pitch (not favoured by the LI Committee or Shrewsbury Town FC).</p> <p><u>2018 Reunion – Programme.</u></p> <p>It will not be known until the end of 2017 whether the 2018 Reunion will be attended by a VIP, but the programme proposed is based upon the assumption that it will. Other guests are likely to be HM Lord Lieutenant for Shropshire, the Mayor of Shrewsbury, the Chairman and CEO of Shrewsbury Town FC and COs 2 and 8 RIFLES.</p>	Capt Gittings Lt Col Trelawny

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		<p>There will be no event at the Stadium on the evening of Fri 15 Jun 18. Separate battalion events are planned and details will be circulated in due course.</p> <p>The proposed programme for Sat 16 Jun 18 is attached to these minutes.</p> <p>The VIP will meet LI representatives in two sessions, firstly on arrival (in the Sovereign Suite) and secondly after the veteran's parade (in the main marquee). The list of those who will be introduced to the VIP will be finalised at the next LI Committee meeting and individuals informed.</p> <p>Specific organizational responsibilities are confirmed as follows: Reunion Overall – Capt Gittings VIP Liaison – Lt Col Wykeham/Chairman Musical Coordination – Col Stevenson/Mr Tamblyn Website and Social Media Information – Maj Kennedy/Capt Foster Social Media Briefing – Bn Reps</p> <p>The Chairman will ask CO 8 RIFLES to provide 4 x riflemen to support Capt Gittings for the whole weekend, with costs being met, if required, by the LI Committee.</p> <p>Col Stephenson will investigate the procurement of a presentation item for the VIP which may also be sold as a limited edition.</p> <p>The admission charge for the 2018 Reunion will be £10 per adult, with children (under 18) free of charge. Admission tickets will be available by post using the application form on the LI Website or in the Spring Newsletter. Tickets will be sent out from the Shrewsbury office and must be ordered and paid for in advance. The closing date for ticket orders will be Fri 1 Jun 18 and for security reasons there will be no admission to the Reunion without pre-purchased tickets.</p>	<p>Bn Reps</p> <p>As shown</p> <p>Chairman</p> <p>Col Stephenson</p>
7	LI Regimental Association	<p>The Secretary reported that although most branches were now using the title "LI and Rifles Association", the number of Riflemen joining was still low. As a result, branch membership continues to fall slowly. Younger Light Infantrymen and Riflemen should be encouraged to join.</p> <p>The Buglers Association continues to provide excellent support to regimental events, including the Reunion, as well as at funerals, Remembrance Sunday services and Rifles Freedom Parades.</p>	
8	Website	<p>Maj Kennedy gave Capt Foster a portfolio of photographs from the 2017 Reunion which will shortly be uploaded onto the LI Website. It is hoped that the website will soon be updated more regularly (see Item 4 above).</p>	
9	LI Officers' Club	<p>The Salisbury lunch on 9 Jul 17 was again a success with almost 100 attending. It is hoped that it will be held at the same venue in 2018, and possibly beyond. Around 110 officers are expected to attend the LI Club Dinner in London on 12 Oct 17.</p>	
10	Obituaries	<p>None to report.</p>	
11	AOB	<p><u>LI Memorial at NMA.</u> Maj Kennedy briefed the meeting on his recent visit to the NMA. He has now obtained a copy of the perpetual maintenance contract which will be signed, in due course, by the</p>	

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		<p>Chairman. It has been decided that the lettering on the main part of the LI Memorial will be painted to make it easier to read and that an information board, probably mounted on a Portland stone base, will be installed in front of the memorial. Discussion with the NMA continues and both additions will be incorporated in the maintenance contract.</p> <p>It is planned that the Cannock Branch of the LI and Rifles Association will lay a wreath at the LI Memorial each November.</p> <p><u>Northern Ireland Veterans Association Service.</u> Maj Kennedy briefed the meeting on the event at the NMA on 16 Sep 17, which went very well. The LI/RGJ contingent was the largest on parade. The names of ten (of the 32) Light Infantrymen killed in Northern Ireland were read out and a LI wreath was laid at the main NIVA memorial and at the LI Memorial. The Buglers Association sounded at both the LI and RGJ memorials. Maj Kennedy has agreed to coordinate the event in 2018.</p> <p><u>The Rifleman's Association Gathering</u> The Secretary briefed the meeting on the Gathering which took place on London on 22 Jul 17. It was an excellent event, which will no doubt grow in popularity, but there is little overlap in style or content with the LI Reunion and, in the Secretary's view, the two events should continue to run separately.</p>	<p>Maj Kennedy Lt Col Trelawny</p> <p>Maj Kennedy</p>
12	Future Meetings	<p>The next meeting will be held at Peninsula Barracks, Winchester on Thursday 15th March 2018 at 1100hrs.</p> <p>There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 1500hrs.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>

A R Trelawny

A R Trelawny
Lt Col (Retd)

Attachment: 2018 Reunion Draft Programme

Distribution:

External:

Action:

Information:

All Committee Members and Attendees
IT RHQ RIFLES (for publication on LI Website)

Rifles Offices Bodmin, Taunton, Pontefract, Durham