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LI Committee Secretary
 LT COL A R TRELAWNY

SH/101

4th June 2019

See Distribution

MINUTES OF THE 34TH LI COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN SHREWSBURY ON 2ND JUNE 2019

Present	Brig T J Gregson MBE Col D H R Stephenson CBE Maj H L Kennedy MBE Capt R W Gittings Mr W Bearham CSjt D Winter Mr C Edwards Mr A Tamblyn Lt Col A R Trelawny	Chairman LI Committee Member/President Buglers Association Member Member/LI Reunion Coordinator Member/1LI Representative Member/2LI Representative Member/3LI Representative Member/Chairman Buglers Association Member/Secretary LI Committee	Chairman Secretary
Apologies	Brig C M G Elcomb OBE Brig E J R Chamberlain Lt Col P J Wykeham Capt I I Foster	Member/Chairman LI Club Member Member Member/Treasurer	
In Attendance			

Item (a)	Subject (b)	Discussion and Decisions (c)	Action (d)
1	Welcome and Opening Remarks	The Chairman welcomed members present. Apologies were received as shown above.	
2	Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Points Arising	The Minutes of the 33 rd LI Committee Meeting were accepted as a true record. There were no points arising.	
3	Membership Changes	Colonel Denney has died since the last meeting. Maj Kennedy will step down as a Committee Member with effect from this meeting. There are currently no plans to replace either.	
4	Finances	On behalf of the Treasurer, the Secretary presented the accounts for the LI Committee. As at the end of 2018, funds available stood at £105K. Support to the Reunion will remain the primary expenditure of the funds in the future. The "average" cost of the Reunion is around £23K, so with around 950 tickets sold for the 2019 Reunion at £10 each, this year's subsidy from LI Committee funds will be around £13.5K.	
5	LI and Rifles Reunion	<p>Although there was a significant (but expected) drop in numbers from the 50th Anniversary Reunion in 2018, the 2019 Reunion was a successful event which was much enjoyed by those who attended. Despite the lack of a band (caused by a last-minute change in overseas deployment dates) the parade took place with an unchanged format and the substitute musical arrangements worked well. The musical entertainment by the Bugler's Association and the Veteran's Band, The Dreams and Holly J was excellent, as were the bar arrangements. Reviews of the food available were mixed.</p> <p>Concerns raised by LI Committee Members included:</p> <p><u>Reviewing Officers</u> – The tasks of Reviewing Officer and Inspecting Officers need to be allocated further ahead. A roster of those LI Officers, serving and retired, of Major General rank and higher, should be set up so that the duties can be rotated in future. The Chairman undertook to discuss this matter with the senior officers likely to be involved.</p> <p><u>Band Availability</u> – Although the substitute musical arrangements worked well, it is preferable to have a marching band and bugles. The Secretary will submit a bid for the 2020 Reunion to provide musical support for the parade, the Sounding of Retreat and the Dinner.</p> <p><u>Bringing in Beer</u> – A disappointingly high number of those attending saw fit to bring in their own beer, bought mainly at the Lidl supermarket. STFC does not charge the Reunion anything for staging the Reunion, relying on revenue from the beer tent to cover its costs. Reunion attendees bringing in their own beer are reducing the beer tent's revenue and creating a situation in which STFC may have to start charging for the facilities provided. Next year, there will have to be increased security to prevent the bringing in of beer, and this will be an additional cost to the Reunion. It is hoped that LI veterans will understand this and resist the temptation to be selfish. There will be a reminder printed on the ticket for next year's Reunion.</p> <p><u>Security</u> – For the second year, the ability of the security staff to check tickets properly has been called into question. It is likely that a different company will be used in 2020.</p>	<p>The Chairman</p> <p>Lt Col Trelawny</p> <p>All</p> <p>Capt Gittings</p>

Item (a)	Subject (b)	Discussion and Decisions (c)	Action (d)
6	Associations	Mr Bearham submitted a report on the activities of the 1LI Association. There was discussion on the setting up of similar Associations for 2LI, 3LI and the TA battalions. It was felt that this was entirely a matter for former members of those battalions.	
7	Websites	Following discussion, it was decided that once information from the relevant pages of the existing LI Website had been transferred to the new Reunion website, the former would be closed down. The expanded Reunion website will include information on the LI Club and on other non-Reunion matters of interest to LI veterans, as well as providing the means to circulate details and permit bookings and payment for future Reunions. Two-way links with SWIFT, the Rifles interactive network, will be put in place. The website will be managed by Capt Gittings with help from a professional website provider.	Capt Gittings
8	LI Officers' Club	Accounts for 2018 were presented. 98 officers and their guests attended the annual lunch at Salisbury on Sunday 15th July 2018. The annual dinner in London on Thursday 11 th October 2018 was attended by 114 officers. Although the dinner was self-supporting, the lunch was not, owing to increased costs. The future of the latter will be kept under review. So far 69 officers and guests have signed up for the 2019 lunch.	
9	Future of LI Committee	The Committee noted an e-mail discussion in the last month between the Chairman and Colonel Stephenson about the future of the Committee. The Chairman was concerned that the purpose of the Committee is unclear and that this lack of clarity leads to confusion. In 2007, when The Rifles had formed, the primary (if not sole) purpose of the LI Committee had been the organization of the Annual LI Reunion but in recent years the Committee had received requests to deal with a much wider range of issues and events. In the Chairman's view, the Committee is neither structured nor resourced to deal with these wider issues. Whilst the Chairman favoured the streamlining of the Committee, the consensus of view around the table was that the Committee needed to become more effective rather than less effective in the future, even if this meant calling for more volunteers and raising further resources. Colonel Stephenson reported that he and Brigadier Chamberlain are willing to draft a paper over the next few weeks suggesting a way forward for the Committee, addressing its purpose and objectives and its composition amongst other things. The Chairman welcomed this offer and it was agreed that all being well the Committee should be able to discuss the first draft of this paper at its next meeting in October. Colonel Stephenson undertook to send a preliminary draft to the Chairman in due course.	Brig Chamberlain Col Stephenson
10	AOB	<p><u>Ballygawley Memorial Shrewsbury.</u> The memorial service will take place in The Quarry on Sunday 18th August 2019 at 1040hrs.</p> <p><u>NIVA Service.</u> The NIVA service will take place on Saturday 14th September 2019 at 1100hrs at the NMA. The take up for the lunch afterwards at Lichfield Rugby Club has been slow so far and LI NI veterans are encouraged to book tickets at £10 per head using the form sent out with the Spring newsletter or by contacting Heather at the Rifles Office in Shrewsbury.</p> <p><u>LI Memorial at NMA.</u> The maintenance contract has been signed and is kept at Shrewsbury.</p> <p><u>LI Plot at the Westminster Field of Remembrance.</u> Brig Chamberlain has reviewed the "Roll of Honour" at the LI Plot and advised that no changes are needed at present. Anybody wishing to have a LI name written on a cross (at no cost) should let Heather know by the end of September.</p> <p><u>LI Collection.</u> The LI Collection remains housed at Cornwall's Regimental Museum in Bodmin. As a Rifles Forming Regiment collection, it currently benefits from a MoD grant. When the date of expiry of this grant becomes clearer the future of the LI Collection will need to be addressed.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>Lt Col Trelawny</p> <p>All</p>

Item (a)	Subject (b)	Discussion and Decisions (c)	Action (d)
10	AOB (cont'd)	<u>Cocoran Cup.</u> The silver cup presented to the LI Committee by Coco Cocoran in 2018 is now held in the Rifles Office, Shrewsbury. Members again expressed their gratitude to Coco for his fundraising efforts. From 2020, the cup will be presented annually, at the Reunion, to somebody who has made a significant contribution to the success of the event.	
11	Future Meetings	The next meeting will be held on Thursday 10th October 2019 (time tbc) at the Cavalry and Guards Club, London. There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 1130hrs.	All

A R Trelawny

A R Trelawny
Lt Col (Retd)

Distribution:

External:

Action:

All Committee Members and Attendees

Information:

Rifles Offices Bodmin, Taunton, Pontefract, Durham