

EAST KENT NARPO

'Of service to those who served'

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Monday 25th April 2022 at 1915 hrs

Present - There were 36 members present

1. Chairman's opening address

Bob welcomed everyone to the meeting, the first one in 2 years held in person due to the pandemic. Work has still continued in NARPO during those two years and some members of the committee have changed.

Ian Drysdale was due to speak at the meeting but unfortunately he is suffering from COVID, but has stated his intention of attending the AGM next year.

Ian Pointon from Unison will speak and it is requested that any questions be asked at the end of his talk.

Bob asked for a period of reflection for in particular for Norman Liggins who died during the last year, also for all those we have lost and for the citizens of Ukraine.

There was a presentation to Dave and Yvonne Ashwell for all the work that Dave has done for the Branch, Dave has been responsible for publishing the Newsletter for over 10 years and arranging the Ashford reunion which is always well attended. Unfortunately, Dave has had to step down from his role due to ill health but considering what he has gone through during the last year it is a miracle that he is still with us. Dave was presented with a framed copy of the first Newsletter that he published in May 2010 and he is also now a Life Member of NARPO. They thanked everyone for their kind words and the flowers.

Bob, the other Kent Branches and Ian (Pointon) have been heavily involved in getting the Force Museum open and running in Faversham,

the Museum is well worth a visit to both adults and children as it is interesting and informative.

Bob spoke regarding the Police Covenant which will raise the level of assistance to serving and retired officers and civilians.

He mentioned the case in the High Court earlier in the month relating to widow/ers who marry or co-habit and the effect this has on their pension. Although this case has been brought by the Fire Service it has been supported by National NARPO and we await the outcome for impact on our members affected.

On Friday 20th May the training Day to be held at the Thanington Community Centre, Ashford Road, Canterbury, it has been organized by Phil Wood, there are guest speakers and a buffet, this is open to any member at no cost. Members attending from other branches will pay £25 per head to cover costs.

Bob then thanked the Committee for their work during the last year, To Malcolm and Helen for their work as Secretary and Membership Secretary it has been a steep learning curve for both of them. Mike and Phil who are responsible for welfare matters for the Branch. John Pears for his distribution of the Newsletter, Graham Galvin who has taken on the mantle of producing the Newsletter, Gary Sutton for his role as Treasurer. Tony and Lynn Bartlett for organizing the last event at Canterbury which was very well attended and the Committee received a lot of positive comments. Tony is looking at organizing a trip to the National Arboretum at Staffordshire, there are no details at the moment. Terry Gabriel for dissemination information following the death of a member.

Bob has held the position of Chairman for 8 years and has enjoyed his time in this role and formally opened the AGM.

2. Apologies for absence

Graham Galvin

Mike Davis

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting April 2021

The minutes of the 2021 AGM had been circulated and were proposed and seconded by John Pears and John Pears

4. Matters arising from the meeting

There were none

5. Secretary's report

Malcolm spoke regarding the NARPO travel Insurance, this is for those members who are above the age of 70. NARPO have just announced a new contract with Arch Insurance (UK). The product is Voyager Insurance Services and arranged by Towergate Health and Protection.

Membership -

We currently have 1275 members and we have received 47 applications for new membership during the last year.

6. Treasurer's Report

This had already been circulated and it was pointed out by Gary that because of the pandemic the expenses were virtually nil for 2021. Gary also explained that it had been agreed by the Committee regarding the Auditing of the accounts that we would no longer be spending money getting them externally audited as this comes at a cost to the Branch of one thousand pound, but two members of the Committee would scrutinize the accounts instead, as Gary keeps comprehensive records.

7. Election of the Executive Committee

It was agreed that the Committee remained unchanged and there are several vacancies which we are seeking representatives

Ashford	Vacant	Herne Bay	Bob Pollard
Birchington	John Pears	Margate	Dave Edwards
Broadstairs	Stuart Turner	Ramsgate	Malcolm Chalk
Canterbury	Tom Whitney	Romney Marsh	Phil Wood
Deal and Walmer	Vacant	Swale	Gary Sutton
Dover	Bill Russell	Tenterden	Vacant
Folkestone	Vacant	Whitstable	Paul Cheeseman

Canterbury Rural	Vacant	Hythe	Graham Smerdon
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Graham Galvin is looking at taking over Mail Chimp from Dave Ashwell

8. Guest Speaker Ian Pointon

Ian has served in Kent Police since 1984 both as an Officer and now the Branch Secretary of Unison. This was a role that Ian was not expecting to take on but having been a Federation representative it is a 'natural fit'.

Ian spoke about the changes that are happening with Kent Police, primarily the move from Sutton Road to North Kent which is a PFI at Northfleet. The Chief Officer team are now based there but a large percentage of staff are now working from home which has come about because of the pandemic and there is no intention of returning them to the 'office environment' at this present time.

The Memorial Garden currently at Sutton Road together with the Memorial which is at the front of Sutton Road and hopefully going to be re-located to Kent Police Training School, which will remain at Coverdale Avenue, Maidstone for the time being.

Unfortunately, due to the changes taking place Ian is very busy in his new role.

WILLIAM THRIFT FUND

1. Apologies for absence

Graham Galvin
Mike Davis

2. Minutes of the AGM April 2021

These had already been circulated proposed by Terry Gabriel and seconded by Peter Reynolds

3. Any other business

Phil spoke regarding the benefits members had gained during the last year. We have given funding for - mobility scooters, stair lifts, wheeled walkers, travel expenses, building work to gain access and egress.

Phil told members present that the William Thrift Fund will normally match fund the Benevolent Funds' contribution.

Both meetings concluded at 2000hours