



In the Yorkshire & North Derbyshire Region

**Minutes of the Regional Retired Members' Association Committee
held at Grove Hall on Tuesday, 11th October 2011
at 10.30am.**

1. PRESENT

George Tutill, Dick Hazel, Bill Hinsliffe, Neil Moore, Barry Christopherson, Jacqueline Tutill, Nick Martindale (part) and Graham Benton (Senior Organiser/RMA Coordinator).

2. APOLOGIES

Stan Bradbury and Lita Southam. (It was agreed to write to Bernard Barron to see whether or not he wished to stay on the committee and if not, see if the branch wished to nominate someone else.)

3. WELCOME

Jacqueline Tutill was welcomed onto the committee.

4. MINUTES OF MEETING 14/6/11

Agreed.

5. MATTERS ARISING

a) BH and DH details passed to Neil Derrick.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

7. TRIPS

a) The Whitby trip was very successful with a number of letters/emails of thanks to NM. A member had collapsed whilst boarding the coach who had to go to hospital but was subsequently reimbursed the fare. NM would be reviewing a different venue for 2012.

b) S99 had trips to Newark, Chester and Southport, all well attended with Christmas lunch organised at the Consort Suite again on 6th December next.

c) GB to check when the balance for Majorca was required.

8. THOMPSONS SOLICITORS

Nick Martindale from Thompsons in Sheffield reminded colleagues that the legal services provided by GMB through Thompsons were still open to retired members as he was conscious little had been done to advertise them. Amongst the complimentary services were free wills, free advice, reduced rate conveyancing, personal injury claims for family members and road traffic accident legal assistance. The free phone number to use is 0808 100 2976 and if any doubt, phone and ask.

BC to contact NM regarding a visit to S99 branch.

9. REPORTS

National Committee: Discussion took place regarding a bi-annual conference which this committee rejected, GT to advise. The venue for the national RMA conference may change to Blackpool due to cost. Noted that there were very few if any RMA branches elsewhere in the country. The proposed rule change regarding retired members holding office was left with Jerry Nelson and Mary Turner to pursue, BC to monitor.

10. GMB@WORK

At the beginning of 2011 the region broke through the 60,000 members barrier for the first time and the regional secretary commented that if we ended the year with over 60,000 members we would have done extremely well given the precarious state of the economy and numerous job losses.

GB reported that the region continues to grow, in the previous 12 months to September 2011 by 2.1% and we were still on track to stay over 60,000 members which meant financially the region was continuing to do well.

11. REGIONAL RMA LONG SERVICE AWARDS

Over 1200 members were identified on the membership system as having 50 or more years' membership who were written to and invited to apply for a certificate and specially commissioned lapel badge. 363 replies were received who were sent the badge and certificate accordingly. The latest regional magazine included an article and photograph of BC with an invitation to those who hadn't received any notification to apply. The exercise had proved a success and consideration would be given to extending the award to those with 45 years plus membership.

GB agreed to check the list for a gender breakdown.

GT and BC commented that this initiative received praise at the RMA national committee and GB should be thanked for undertaking the exercise along with LS.

12. BRANCHES

GB confirmed there was no move whatsoever to reduce the number of branches in the region as a policy. Where branches do close or are merged this would normally be due to there being insufficient post holders (through retirement etc) as per Rule where the regional secretary has absolute discretion.

13. DATE, TIME & VENUE OF 2012 MEETINGS

Tuesdays at Grove Hall commencing at 10.30am as follows:

14th February, 19th June and 9th October 2012.



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